



TOWN OF LA POINTE
MADELINE ISLAND

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Dear Pilots and Friends of 4R5 on Madeline Island,

Most of you know me and many of you have received airport emails from me in the past from my personal email address. I am Leslie Lille Mack, mostly known around here as Mack, and I am writing to introduce myself as the new Madeline Island Airport Manager.

First of all, thank you to all who supported me in this endeavor. I have learned that I can't fix the world, but I do look forward to the chance of making one corner of it that I have an affinity for a better place. I believe this starts with an open line of communication. I am open to your input and, hopefully, your help as well, to make this airport a better functioning, safer and more user friendly place.

Your input on what you see the priorities as being is of the utmost importance to me.

The Bureau of Aeronautics requires that owners of airports submit a Statement of Intentions outlining proposed projects and associated funding required to complete the projects every six years. The Town of La Pointe's previous six-year Statement was through 2014, so we must prepare a new project funding petition in order to be eligible for state and federal funding. Because federal funding requests will be considered and approved in the very near future, we need to move quickly on this.

"Notice is hereby given that the Town of La Pointe, WI will hold a public hearing at 5:15 P.M. on Tuesday, February 14, 2017 at the La Pointe Town Hall. Additional written testimony may be filed with the Town of La Pointe, WI if received by 4:00 P.M on Monday, February 13, 2017."

So far, The Town of La Pointe is considering petitioning the State of Wisconsin, Department of Transportation, for state and federal aid to undertake the following development at the Major Gilbert Airport:

2017: Crack fill and sealcoat airport pavements; update Airport Layout Plan (ALP)

2018: Clear and maintain runway approaches as stated in Wis Admin. Code Trans 55

2019: Conduct wildlife site visit and assessment; design perimeter/deer fence

2020: Install perimeter/deer fence

It is my personal opinion that the 500' runway extension that was previously approved in 2002 and/or overruns should at least be assessed at the same time as the deer fence. More importantly I would like the opinions of the users of the airport (yours that is) to be heard at the public hearing.

In order to get this funding we also need to submit information; that I would like to gather from you all. This is what we would like your input on:

- Estimated total annual landings, passengers and pounds of cargo?
- Type of aircraft and type of pilot (student, instrument rated,etc)?
- List of pilots who would use our airport, or use it more if it were improved?

I am going to schedule a conference with anyone available to participate by phone (or perhaps Skype) in order to get preliminary ideas for the “Information in support of Airport Petition” for the week of February 5th. To paraphrase a great pilot: “hearing others responses can stimulate ideas.” I can also accept any written answers for those who find this a more convenient way of communicating. If you are interested in participating a conference call let me know please.

Let’s all be optimistic about the upcoming changes to the services, attention, and the terminal building. Its been a very icy year so far and I have been filing NOTAMS on a regular basis. I have met with the AWOS service to get that working fully. I am catching up on the town’s technology and political policies. I hope in the very near future to see crack sealing maintenance and to make sure we have the ability to keep the runway clean and safe. There is also a dialog beginning around the possibility of a town owned terminal building.

I hope all this information is not too overwhelming and that we can accomplish this under the time restraints. Be sure to contact me if you have any questions or recommendations. May the future of 4R5 be an improved and safer one!

Thank you all,

Leslie Lille Mack
Madeline Island Airport Manager
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