NOTICE OF SECOND PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD AND HEARING FOR PROPOSED FINAL FLYING CLOUD AIRPORT (FCM) ZONING ORDINANCE

The Joint Airport Zoning Board (JAZB) for Flying Cloud Airport (FCM) has developed a Proposed Final Airport Zoning Ordinance for land uses around FCM. The Proposed Final Airport Zoning Ordinance is based on the Draft Airport Zoning Ordinance that was presented to the public in February 2018, but incorporates revisions based on comments received from the Minnesota Department of Transportation (MnDOT). This airport zoning process is being conducted as required by Minnesota Statutes 360.061 – 360.074 and Minnesota Rules 8800.1200 and 8800.2400. The Proposed Final Airport Zoning Ordinance was approved by MnDOT on January 17, 2019. Maps that are part of the Proposed Final Airport Zoning Ordinance show the boundaries for its application and associated restrictions.

The Proposed Final Airport Zoning Ordinance would:

- Limit the height of structures and vegetation out to approximately 2 miles to the west of FCM, and out to approximately 1.5 miles in all other areas around the airport. In most cases, however, the airport zoning height limitations would be less restrictive than maximum heights allowed in the municipal zoning code. There are no changes to the height restrictions that were proposed in the Draft Airport Zoning Ordinance.
- Prohibit the development of structures or land uses that bring together an assembly or persons in JAZB Safety Zone A, which is mostly contained to airport-owned property. The extents of JAZB Safety Zone A have been expanded from the Draft Airport Zoning Ordinance; however, no privately-owned residential or commercial zoned property is included within the expanded JAZB Safety Zone A.
- Implement, in JAZB Safety Zone B, land use controls to ensure low-density development and prohibit the construction of places of public or semipublic assembly or other features which might attract waterfowl or other birds. The extents of JAZB Safety Zone B have been modified to exclude all privately-owned residential and commercial zoned property, along with four (4) airport-owned parcels expected to support non-aeronautical commercial development.
- Remove the requirement from the Draft Airport Zoning Ordinance to require a contiguous open space within JAZB Safety Zone B.
- Prohibit, in JAZB Safety Zones A, B and C, the use of land that creates or causes interference with the operations of radio or electronic facilities on FCM or with radio or electronic communications between FCM and aircraft, makes it difficult for pilots to distinguish between Airport lights and other lights, results in glare in the eyes of pilots using FCM, impairs visibility in the vicinity of FCM, or otherwise endangers the landing, taking off, or maneuvering of aircraft in the runway approach areas. The ordinance does not seek to prohibit the use of rooftop solar panels on homes or restrict the use of FCC-approved amateur radio stations.

THE PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD ON THE PROPOSED FINAL ZONING ORDINANCE WILL COMMENCE AT 8:00 A.M. ON MONDAY, FEBRUARY 11, 2019, AND CLOSE AT 5:00 P.M. ON WEDNESDAY, MARCH 13, 2019. During this period, written comments will be accepted and must be addressed to:

Secretary to the FCM Joint Airport Zoning Board
Metropolitan Airports Commission
6040 28th Avenue South
Minneapolis, MN 55450

Comments can also be emailed to fcm.zoning@mspmac.org

A PUBLIC HEARING ON THE PROPOSED FINAL ZONING ORDINANCE IS SCHEDULED FOR THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 28, 2019, AT THE EDEN PRAIRIE CITY HALL COUNCIL CHAMBERS, 8080 MITCHELL ROAD, EDEN PRAIRIE, MN. THE PUBLIC HEARING WILL BEGIN AT 6:30 P.M. AND LAST UNTIL ALL PERSONS WISHING TO ADDRESS THE BOARD HAVE BEEN HEARD. AN OPEN HOUSE WILL BE HELD PRIOR TO THE PUBLIC HEARING STARTING AT 5:00 P.M. FOLLOWED BY A PUBLIC PRESENTATION FROM 6:00 P.M. TO 6:30 P.M.

Copies of the Proposed Final Zoning Ordinance will be available for review beginning on Monday, February 11, 2019, at the following locations: the Metropolitan Airports Commission’s Main Office, 6040 28th Avenue South, Minneapolis; and the City Halls of the cities of Eden Prairie, Shakopee, and Chanhassen. The Proposed Final Zoning Ordinance is also available for review on the MAC website at: https://metroairports.org/General-Aviation/Airports/Flying-Cloud/Joint-Airport-Zoning-Board-Flying-Cloud.aspx

For further information about the public comment period, the open house or the public hearing, please call Kristin Berwald, Secretary to the FCM Joint Airport Zoning Board, at (612) 726-8144.