

From: [Neil Port](#)
To: [Gormas, Michael \(OST\)](#)
Cc: [EAS \(OST\)](#)
Subject: Concern about changing Airline servicing the Altoona Blair County Airport
Date: Thursday, July 9, 2020 9:19:26 PM

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Dear Mr. Gormas,

I am writing to express my concerns about the possible change of the Airline that services the Altoona Blair County Airport.

We have been serviced at our airport by Southern Airways since 2014 and their flight completion rate has exceeded 99%.

I understand that one of the reasons for this proposed change was to bring in a faster airplane. However the flights out of Altoona at this time go only to Pittsburgh and Baltimore and a faster plane will only save a few minutes per flight. For the most part, by the time the planes get up to cruise level, they are getting ready for their descents into the arrival airport.

The proposed new airline will provide 12% less seat capacity and will cost \$500,000 more annually. I believe that the price per ticket will go up with this change.

It is my understanding that the final decision re this change will be made by the Department of Transportation—not by the Altoona Blair County Airport Board. I encourage you to take a strong look at this proposed change in light of the reduced seat capacity, the length of the trips and the cost to taxpayers.

I've lived in the Altoona area for many years and am a private pilot with Single Engine, Multi Engine and Instrument Ratings.

Many thanks for taking a look at this proposed change.

Sincerely yours,

Neil Port

Hollidaysburg, PA