



# THE TAOS NEWS

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## Letters

### An exercise in asininity

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The airport expansion has become an exercise in asininity! A minor concern about occasional wind direction has blundered into a current example of commercial expansionism vs. rural, organic integrity.

Some inconsistencies: With the project permit still legally unapproved, why has work begun, with enthusiastic \$\$\$ support from the feds? Why, after decades of town/county feuding, do the commissioners remain ignorant on vital statistics about scheduled commercial flights, types of planes to be using the runway, noise and noxious jet-fume pollution, property values and frequency of flights?

Why are other potential negative impacts never explored? Will the local airport be able to enforce pre-selected standards, or will the feds begin to dictate future regulations? After funding the project will they demand FEMA or military access for their own whims or "exercises"?

How can biased Town officials promise "safety" in view of the national rise of unpredictable runway takeoff and landing disasters?

The town clearly values increased revenue and commercialization over indigenous ecological respect and human peace of mind. I venture that the desire to achieve a "Nuevo Santa Fe" or "Aspen South" tourist mecca ideal in Taos forever undermines the simple, original elements that made it a desirable place to live in the first place. "Build it and they will come."

The incriminating, disastrous results of big-money interests, sprawling over-development, indiscriminate resource harvesting, and honoring capitalistic ethics over humanistic ones can be seen worldwide. Why allow it to flourish until we lose any option to oppose it here?