January 9, 2017

Dear Tenants of Bayport, Aerodrome and Civic Association:

Since the New Year is upon us, we wanted to take a few minutes and provide some information regarding topics that have been discussed with the leadership of Bayport Aerodrome and Civic Association, and share our thinking regarding these infrastructure, operational and other matters.

As many of you may already know, the Town of Islip and Town Supervisor Carpenter is committed to retaining and upkeeping the Bayport Aerodrome. It is an asset to Long Island and a piece of our Long Island aviation history. To maintain this facility our goal is to continue to operate the facility so it can be self-sufficient.

Over the past year, the runway has suffered from lack of water due to repairs needed for the sprinkler system. Funding became available due to revenues at Bayport, and in the spring of 2017, the airport will repair and replace sections of the sprinkler system.

Earlier this year the airport applied for federal funding to rehabilitate the turf runway at Bayport. After many discussions with tenants who regularly use the facility, it was determined that the runway was in good condition. However the taxiways need repair. Based on this new information, the airport withdrew their application for runway rehabilitation, and will apply for federal funds to rehabilitate the taxiway system. This project will include environmental documentation, engineering, design and construction to complete the project. Each phase is generally funded separately.

Several operators have requested the airport look into keeping the airport open for aircraft with skis during the winter. Specialized grooming and packing equipment would need to be purchased, personnel to monitor, groom and pack taxiways, as well as runway surfaces would be needed to meet the requirements for safe operations. Until such time that resources become available, the airport will continue close for the winter.

The (APAP) was destroyed in the fall. After careful consideration, the airport will not be replacing the unit at this time. Many operators indicated they did not routinely use the equipment as a visual guide. To reconstruct the equipment, there is a substantial cost. Once completed the airport purchases from the Federal Aviation Administration, a flight check would be needed to verify the accuracy of the units. These flight checks must be performed routinely to ensure the safety of those using the equipment which is an ongoing cost to the airport.

There are several buildings and hangars located on the property. Many of these are in need of repair. Since they are listed on the register of historic places, work on the structures must comply with State Historic Preservation Office protocol for restoration when performed by a Federal agency. However, if an individual chose to restore the premises, more latitude to restoration
requirements would be available. If anyone is interested in investing capital into the "butcher building" or hangars on the south side of the airport in exchange for a term on a longer lease, please contact our office.

Wishing you and your families a very happy New Year.

Sincerely

Shelley LaRose Arken
Commissioner of Aviation and Transportation