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To: [Strysky, Alexander \(EEA\)](#)
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Subject: RE: Hanscom Field North Airfield Development - EEA #16654: L.G. Hanscom Field North Airfield Development ENF
Date: Tuesday, February 14, 2023 3:34:46 PM

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Dear Mr. Strysky,

On behalf of the Concord Historical Commission, I wish to express our deep concern for the integrity of nationally important historical structures, landscapes and diverse cultural features that may suffer from the proposed expansion of Hanscom Field. Concord's history and its historic resources – particularly the North Bridge which is owned by the Town of Concord – are inextricably linked to the historical resources protected and honored by Minute Man National Historical Park which is adjacent to the airfield.

Among our concerns is the increased use of the Battle Road/Rte2A that may arise if this expansion is permitted. This road already suffers from heavy traffic as it serves as a principal entry point into the airfield. What so many fail to appreciate is that a portion of the road that runs through the national park overlays the actual route of the running battle which occurred on April 19, 1775 following the fight at the North Bridge as British troops retreated to Boston; it “set the hook” for the beginning of the American Revolution. Both English and colonial soldiers fought and died along this road. It is a battlefield. The casualties suffered here may not match the carnage of Gettysburg, but their significance cannot be ignored.

Additionally, sensitive archeological sites yet to be investigated, properly researched and protected may be greatly at risk. The likely increased use of the airfield will compound the existing noise and air pollution which affects not only the natural and historical resources of the Minute Man National Historical Park and our town, but detracts from the visitor experience. This region and the national park welcome over a million worldwide visitors annually. Visitors come to experience the park, canoe our rivers, and visit our historic homes to gain a better understanding of this unique area which has contributed so much to the American story.

We strongly oppose this project.

Sincerely,

Melissa C. Saalfield, Chair
Concord Historical Commission