

March 27, 2019

Peter Schlactus
Chairman
Westchester County Airport Advisory Board

Dear Mr. Schlactus:

On behalf of the Business Council of Westchester and the Coalition for Westchester County Airport, I am raising an issue of deep concern we have with your role as Chair of the Airport Advisory Council.

It has come to our attention that recently you have been personally calling on residents at their homes in Rye Brook and perhaps other communities to solicit support for the Coalition to Prevent the Expansion of Westchester Airport. As its name makes clear, this organization is comprised of organizations including the Citizens for a Responsible County Airport, founded and overseen by Airport Advisory Board Vice Chair Jonathan Wang, that are in varying ways openly and assertively opposed to the operations of the airport. These groups are widely and not unreasonably viewed as opponents of the Westchester County Airport.

While we recognize and accept the right of private citizens to pursue express their personal opinions and be involved in and support organizations of their choice, your active and open efforts to bolster this group are in clear conflict with your role as a member and chair of the Airport Advisory Board. As an advocate for the positions of this group, you forfeit any pretense of neutrality on issues involving the airport. In fact, you appear to be using your role with the Advisory Board as a platform to espouse and pursue the agenda of the opposition groups.

Based on the above, we call on you to make a choice: End your activities with the Coalition to Prevent the Expansion of the Westchester Airport (and any other opposition groups) or resign from the Airport Advisory Board effective immediately.

The same lack of impartiality applies to Mr. Wang, who continues to play the leading role in organizing and espousing the agendas of the major airport opposition groups. As a result, we are calling on Mr. Wang to resign from the Airport Advisory Board effective immediately.

Respectfully,

John Ravitz