



## Office of the City Manager

May 27, 2021

**Dr. Kim Eagle**  
**County Manager**  
**128 West Main Avenue**  
**Gastonia, NC 29053**

**Dear Dr. Eagle:**

On behalf of the Mayor and Council of the City of Gastonia, I would like to update you on the economic benefit of the Gastonia Municipal Airport for Gaston County, the surrounding area, and for general aviation. The North Carolina Department of Transportation's Division of Aviation releases an annual economic report on the positive impact of the state's airports on the economy. The 2021 reports states that the Gastonia Municipal Airport creates annually 50 jobs, a personal income of \$2,280,000, \$261,000 in state and local taxes, and has a total economic output of \$6,400,000 (please see attached NCDOT Division of Aviation Study).

The City of Gastonia has owned and operated the airport for over half a century and has served many citizens and aviators. The airport has served as the home airport for corporations, offered charter plane services, maintained many planes, and has served as the training grounds for many citizens who have earned their pilot licenses.

The City looks forward to partnering with the County, State, and Federal governments to make substantial improvements to this facility in the future. The City has already invested over \$1,000,000 in the last five years for improved safety features and other items. In the near future the airport will feature a self-serve fueling station. The City is also working with NCDOT in studying how the runway can be lengthened to over 5,000 feet so that the airport can host additional jets and larger airplanes.

Should you have any questions or need additional information, please feel free to contact me via phone or email at [michaelp@cityofgastonia.com](mailto:michaelp@cityofgastonia.com).

Sincerely,

Michael C. Peoples  
City Manager