

July 25, 2018

U.S. Department of Transportation  
West Building, Ground Floor  
Room W12-140  
1200 New Jersey Avenue SE  
Washington, D.C. 20590-0001

*Delivered electronically via [www.regulations.gov](http://www.regulations.gov)*

**RE: DOCKET NO. FAA-2018-0432 PROPOSED POLICY: POLICY ON THE TEMPORARY CLOSURE OF AIRPORTS FOR NONAERONAUTICAL PURPOSES**

The National Air Transportation Association (NATA) is the public policy group representing the interests of aviation businesses before Congress, federal agencies and state and local governments. NATA's nearly 2,300 member companies are a vital prerequisite for a vibrant general aviation sector providing fuel, aircraft maintenance, parts sales, storage, rental, flight training, Part 135 on-demand air charter, and fractional aircraft program management. Thus, our members are impacted by the FAA's proposed policy on the temporary closure of airports for nonaeronautical purposes and we appreciate the opportunity to submit comments.

NATA believes the FAA's proposed policy formalizes a process that accounts for safety, efficiency, tenants, and financial responsibility associated with non-aviation use of airports and will be a valuable tool for airport sponsors to maintain compliance with the FAA Airport Sponsor Assurances.

In addition to the items the airport sponsor must prepare in its Safety Plan, NATA advises the FAA to add an emergency response plan that includes, but is not limited to, incident command structure, responsible agencies, emergency contact personnel, and mutual aid and evacuation routes, depending on the scope and scale of the event held at the airport.

NATA also recommends the FAA provide an overall schedule of submission for sponsors to follow when requesting a temporary closure. As noted in the proposed policy, Form 7460 outlines a 120-day notice prior to the event; however, the advance meeting with the local FAA office as well as the application for temporary closure does not indicate a recommended timeframe.

The proposed policy should also include an expected timeframe for agency approvals on requests for a temporary closure of a ramp, taxiway, runway or an entire airport for a nonaeronautical event. If the agency provides expected approval times on certain closures, sponsors and tenants will be better able to prepare for such events.

Thank you for the opportunity to share our views. We appreciate the agency's efforts on this important issue and look forward to our continued work together.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "John McGraw".

John McGraw

Director, Regulatory Affairs