

STATE OF MINNESOTA
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

IN THE MATTER OF:

Docket No. 61
Order No. 638

The approval of zoning regulations for
the Duluth International Airport

**FINDINGS, CONCLUSIONS AND
ORDER**

FINDINGS

1. The Joint Airport Zoning Board of the Duluth International Airport has drafted the "DULUTH INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT ZONING ORDINANCE" and supporting record including a detailed analysis that explains how the proposed custom airport zoning regulations addressed the factors listed in Minnesota Statutes, Section 360.0656, Subd. 1 to provide a reasonable level of safety.
2. The Joint Airport Zoning Board of the Duluth International Airport provided notice to the commissioner of their intention to establish and adopt a custom airport zoning ordinance under the regulations of Minnesota Statutes, Section 360.0656.
3. A public hearing on the proposed "DULUTH INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT ZONING ORDINANCE" was held on September 24, 2020 giving parties in interest and citizens an opportunity to be heard. Notice of this hearing was published three times during the period between 15 days and 5 days before the hearing in an official newspaper, a second newspaper of wide circulation in the area affected by the proposed regulations and on the Joint Airport Zoning Board's website. No notices were published in the legal section of either newspaper.
4. Notice was sent by mail at least 10 days before the hearing to persons and landowners where the location or size of a building, or density of population, will be regulated, and to persons or municipalities that had previously requested such notice.
5. A copy of the notice and a list of the owners and addresses to which the notice was sent was attested to by the responsible person and made a part of the records of the proceedings.
6. The Joint Airport Zoning Board of the Duluth International Airport submitted the proposed "DULUTH INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT ZONING ORDINANCE" and supporting record to the commissioner for review on November 10, 2020.
7. The commissioner examined the proposed "DULUTH INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT ZONING ORDINANCE" and, within 90 days of receipt of the proposed regulations, objected on the grounds that the proposed regulations did not provide a reasonable level of safety.

8. The Joint Airport Zoning Board of the Duluth International Airport responded to the objections of the commissioner and submitted a revised “DULUTH INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT ZONING ORDINANCE” and supporting record to the commissioner for review on August 11, 2021.
9. A second public hearing on the revised “DULUTH INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT ZONING ORDINANCE” was held on July 21, 2021 giving parties in interest and citizens an opportunity to be heard. Notice of this hearing was published three times during the period between 15 days and 5 days before the hearing in an official newspaper, a second newspaper of wide circulation in the area affected by the proposed regulations and on the Joint Airport Zoning Board’s website. No notices were published in the legal section of either newspaper.
10. Notice was sent by mail at least 10 days before the hearing to persons and landowners where the location or size of a building, or density of population, will be regulated, and to persons or municipalities that had previously requested such notice.
11. A copy of the notice and a list of the owners and addresses to which the notice was sent was attested to by the responsible person and made a part of the records of the proceedings.
12. The proposed “DULUTH INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT ZONING ORDINANCE” was made available for public inspection on the Duluth International Airport website from July 6, 2021 to the date of the hearing.

CONCLUSIONS

1. Adoption of the proposed “DULUTH INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT ZONING ORDINANCE” is necessary for both the operation of the Airport and the safety of both the public frequenting that airport and the occupants of land in its vicinity.
2. The proposed “DULUTH INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT ZONING ORDINANCE” and supporting record evaluate the criteria under 360.0656, Subd. 1 and provide a reasonable level of safety.
3. A bona fide effort to comply with the requirements of Minnesota Statutes, Section 360.065, Subd. 1, was made prior to the approval of the proposed “DULUTH INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT ZONING ORDINANCE”.

Based upon the foregoing Findings and Conclusions, the substantial evidence contained in the record, and the applicable law, the Director of the Office of Aeronautics of the Department of Transportation of the State of Minnesota, issues the following:

ORDER

The proposed “DULUTH INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT ZONING ORDINANCE” is hereby approved.

**BY ORDER OF THE DIRECTOR OF THE
OFFICE OF AERONAUTICS OF THE DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
OF THE STATE OF MINNESOTA**

**Cassandra
Isackson**

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Cassandra Isackson
Director Office of Aeronautics
Minnesota Department of Transportation

DATE: _____