

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## Tweed-New Haven Airport Hosts Annual Ward 18 Community Meeting Focused on Community Well-Being and Environmental Updates

New Haven, CT – Today, Tweed-New Haven Airport (HVN) held its annual Ward 18 Community Meeting at Nathan Hale School, gathering residents, airport leadership, and local officials to share updates and answer questions directly from the community. This year's meeting focused on public health, neighborhood quality of life, and proactive environmental and safety investments.

The conversation included key updates on the airport's efforts to enhance community well-being, including the installation of additional noise and air quality monitors, the deployment of air purifiers to nearby homes, and the introduction of new traffic calming measures, such as a proposed traffic circle, to reduce congestion and improve residential safety. The airport also highlighted its ongoing coordination with local law enforcement to manage parking and enhance public safety around the airport and nearby streets.

"We're listening closely to what our neighbors are experiencing and moving towards action," said Michael Jones, CEO of The New HVN. "These are real investments in public health, safety, and quality of life. From air monitors to traffic improvements, air purifiers, and enhanced police presence, we're committed to making Tweed's growth a benefit for everyone."

The airport's environmental and safety efforts are part of a broader strategy to balance modernization with community care. Last month, HVN submitted its environmental permit applications to the Connecticut Department of Energy and Environmental Protection (DEEP), a major step in advancing its Expansion and Environmental Mitigation Plan. The plan includes:

- Extending Runway 02-20 to 6,575 feet to accommodate larger aircraft and improve fuel efficiency
- Building a new 80,000-square-foot East Terminal and access road within the airport's existing footprint
- Restoring over 32 acres of tidal wetlands and protecting 25 acres of grassland bird habitat
- Constructing elevated infrastructure designed for extreme climate resilience
- Rerouting airport traffic through commercial corridors to reduce neighborhood impacts

"The community's voice is an essential part of this project," said Robert Reed, Chair of the Tweed-New Haven Airport Authority. "We are grateful to the residents who attended, asked

questions, and helped shape the conversation. Our goal is to grow responsibly and collaboratively—delivering real benefits for New Haven and the region."

A formal Q&A session was held during the meeting, allowing residents to inquire about a range of topics including traffic flow, noise levels, environmental protections, and other concerns. Airport officials reaffirmed that local input will continue to shape future development. In addition, HVN will host a voluntary series of public meetings specific to the DEEP permitting process, offering more opportunities for residents to stay informed and engaged.

Tweed's leadership emphasized that neighborhood voices will continue to play a central role in shaping the future of the airport and surrounding community.

For more information about the project or future community events, please visit <u>here</u>.

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