City of Bridgeport Plan of Conservation and Development

Stakeholder Interview Sikorsky Airport July 26, 2018

Attendees:

• Michelle Muoio – Sikorsky Airport Manager

The statements below are a summary of the opinions expressed by those interviewed. The statements do not necessarily reflect City policy or objective facts.

Sikorksy Airport is an asset to Bridgeport and the surrounding region but could improve in value by providing more airline connections. The Airport offers educational opportunities as it serves as a flight school and aviation maintenance school which can be utilized by Bridgeport as an opportunity to enter the aviation industry which is facing a shortage in qualified labor. Skikorsky airport needs city funding as it cannot rely fully on the FAA and needs improved transit connections to better serve residents of Bridgeport.

Vision for Bridgeport:

- Bridgeport could be attractive to young people as it is cheaper than places in Fairfield County like Stamford and Norwalk, but it needs to be a better place to live, work and raise a family
- Want to maximize airport value and utility to the surrounding area
 - There could be more airline connections and the airport should be viewed as an asset to the City
 - Airport could be a real value if the Casino comes to Bridgeport
- Would like to do an internship program for Airport Manager career paths
- Bridgeport needs to support its current residents while attracting new residents and development