Attention: Property owners in proximity to 244 Mifarm Rd (Land Parcel #29-62)

On June 17, 2025, a Special Exception Permit to build a 35'X35" helipad at 244 Mifarm Rd was submitted by the property owners to the Lancaster County Building and Land Use Committee.

The Planning Commission meetings are held on the third Thursday of the month at 6:00PM at the Lancaster County Administration Offices at 8311 Mary Ball Road.

The helipad permit request is not on the docket for the July meeting so it may come to the Commission at the August 21st meeting. A notice will be posted in the Rappahanock Record and on the County website (https://lancova.civicweb.net/portal/). Property owners that abut 244 Mifarm Rd should receive notification via mail regarding the scheduled date.

We are aware of many property owners in proximity to 244 Mifarm Road that oppose the installation of a helipad on the property and we will plan to prepare written comments to submit to the Planning Commission for their review. Many of us also plan to attend the Planning Commission meeting in person or via virtual link when it comes up for review. It is essential that written comments reach the Planning Commission two weeks prior to the scheduled meeting. If it gets added to the August 21st meeting, we will have to submit our written comments by August 7th.

If you are interested in opposing the issuance of a special exception permit to build the helipad at 244 Mifarm Rd, consider submitting your comments in writing. The more neighbors that speak up, the more weight our opposition will be given by the board of supervisors. Here's a few important points to consider:

- 1. Written submissions must be received two weeks prior to the meeting date to be included in the handouts. If the permit request is on the August 21st meeting agenda, written comments must be submitted by August 7th.
- 2. If possible, plan to attend the meeting in person where you can speak directly to the supervisors. If unable to be physically present, a virtual option will be available and will allow you to speak directly to the supervisors as well.
- 3. The property owners of 244 Mifarm Road must present justification for the need to install a helipad on private property. It is our understanding that the request to install the helipad is being sought to make the property more attractive to potential lessees.
- 4. Opposition needs to argue how the presence of a helipad and helicopter on private land would dramatically change our small community and neighborhoods. Our comments in writing and in person should reflect how the related noise, distraction and hovering of a helicopter overhead would personally impact us, our families and the quality of the quiet, pastoral life we currently enjoy on our properties. Further, the negative environmental impact would be considerable. Eagles, osprey, herons, and other sea birds nest on or around the property in question.

5. Our properties are in District #3 of Lancaster County which is represented by Jason Bellows (jbellows@lancova.com). Jason sits on the board and would be the person to lead the discussion of the motion. We are considering inviting Jason to visit the neighborhood so he can see first-hand the pastoral quality of this area and the impact of providing helicopter landing access in this small neighborhood.

We will be distributing this flyer to property owners in proximity to 244 Mifarm Rd. Please share with your neighbors and others who may have an interest in opposing the installation of a helipad at 244 Mifarm Road.

Feel free to reach out if you have questions or ideas for strong written comments you'd like to share with others. This information was put together by:

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