



# TOWN OF STRATFORD

## News Release

For Immediate Release  
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March 10, 2010

### **Town of Stratford Requests Injunction In Sikorsky Airport Dispute**

**STRATFORD**— Mayor John A. Harkins has announced that the Town of Stratford will seek a temporary injunction in Connecticut Superior Court preventing the City of Bridgeport from moving forward with plans to alter the runway at Sikorsky Airport.

“The City of Bridgeport cut Stratford out of the picture in attempting to make the proposed changes to the runway at Sikorsky Airport,” said Mayor Harkins. “The City is attempting to seize an acre of land that was slated to be restored to the Town’s grand list and reroute Main Street without any involvement from Stratford residents or officials. This directly violates the 1978 Agreement requiring Stratford’s approval of changes to the runways, and leaves Stratford no choice but to seek relief in court.”

The Town of Stratford will argue that the plans, approved last week in U.S. District Court, violate a 1978 contractual agreement preventing unilateral action by the City of Bridgeport to expand the airport’s runways. The runway alterations require rerouting of Main Street in Stratford, and the taking of an additional acre of land that had been proposed to return to the Town’s grand list as part of the redevelopment of the Stratford Army Engine Plant.

Harkins said that the action is necessary to prevent future expansion of operations at the facility. “The residents of Stratford share Bridgeport’s stated interest in airport safety, but must be assured that no alterations to the airport will allow for expanded flight operations in the future,” continued Harkins. “The 1978 Agreement is in place specifically to force Bridgeport to open a dialogue when they seek to make changes that will impact this community. Not only has this dialogue been required by the court for over thirty years, it is fundamentally the right way for the City to treat us as a neighbor.”

The Town has been granted an expedited hearing on the request at a date to be determined.