



Toronto Board of Health
Toronto City Hall, 100 Queen Street West
Toronto, ON M5H 2N2

Jul 10, 2026

Re: HL34.5 - Investigating the Increased Risk of Heart Disease, Lung Cancer, and Tumours from Bringing Jets to Toronto's Waterfront Communities

Dear Chair Moise and Members of the Board of Health,

I write on behalf of the Mimico Residents' Association, representing more than 174 resident members in South Etobicoke, to register our opposition to the proposed expansion of Billy Bishop Toronto City Airport (BBTCA) and the introduction of jet aircraft, and to request the Board of Health to conduct a thorough study of what this expansion would mean for the health and well-being of the people who live in the densely populated regions under and around its flight paths, including our community.

The report by City staff regarding the proposed expansion, presented to the Planning and Housing Committee on May 28, 2026, found that extending the runway would push the flight paths further over Etobicoke and increase the number of people living under them by about 25 per cent. Our neighbourhoods are situated within that expanded zone. Families live here, send their kids to local schools and daycares in our neighbourhood, and spend their weekends at parks and trails along the waterfront. They deserve to know what the increased air traffic and jets overhead would mean for their health, well-being, and quality of life.

We are aware that the Board has looked at this issue before when it recommended rejection of a prior proposal to expand the BBTCA in 2013. The airport expansion proposal that is on the table now is much larger than the one that was studied in 2013. Based on current scientific evidence, we are justifiably concerned that the health impacts from increased air traffic would be even worse than previously predicted. We are also aware from media reports that the Toronto Port Authority will likely return with a plan for the expansion in 2027. Therefore, we request that the Board ensure that an updated assessment of the health impacts is completed in a timely manner so that it may be considered as a factor in any plan for expansion, and that the assessment should include the communities the new flight paths would impact.



We residents of South Etobicoke deserve to know what the airport expansion proposal would mean for the health of our families and communities, and we deserve to know this before any decision is made, not after the impacts have been imposed on us. Our community includes seniors, young families, newcomers, and residents of subsidized and co-operative housing - people with the least ability to afford mitigations, treatment, and relocation if the air over their homes gets worse and has an adverse impact on their health and well-being. We must protect the vulnerable and marginalized communities within our neighbourhood.

We plan to follow this item closely, and we thank the Board for its continued work in protecting the health of the residents of Toronto.

Yours sincerely,
Michael Schwanzer, President
Mimico Residents' Association