



LA CROSSE COMPOSITE SQUADRON  
Civil Air Patrol – Wisconsin Wing  
United States Air Force Auxiliary  
2906 Fanta Reed Road  
La Crosse, WI 54601

March 16, 2020

Andrea Richmond  
Chairperson  
La Crosse Regional Airport Board  
2850 Airport Drive  
La Crosse, WI 54601

Re: Civil Air Patrol proposal to hold a Waffle Breakfast and 5K Airport Fun Run

Dear Chairperson Richmond,

The purpose of this letter is to propose, and seek approval for, the use of airport facilities to support a one-day fundraising event for the Civil Air Patrol. This La Crosse Composite Squadron would hold a waffle breakfast combined with a 5K Airport Fun Run on Saturday, August 15, 2020.

The day would begin with a morning 5K Fun Run/Walk. This will be our third year operating the event. We again plan to combine the event with a pancake breakfast and an open house featuring the airport and its stakeholders. We have already begun connecting with stakeholders as well as the airport's new marketing staff person. We have moved the race one week earlier this year to avoid coinciding with the end of Operation Northern Lightning held at Volk Field and Fort McCoy. It was the out-processing of soldiers from that event last year that caused major disruption for the race. We hope by putting ourselves in the middle of the operation's timeframe we can avoid a repeat of those disruptions.

Last year we had more than 75 runners and more than 750 open house attendees. We hope to expand the open house attendance to more than 900 people this year. CAP personnel and supporters would provide manning for both the breakfast and the Fun Run.

Civil Air Patrol is an independent non-profit organization. As a CAP squadron, the La Crosse Composite Squadron is responsible for raising all the funds necessary to conduct our annual operations. These operations require \$8,000-\$10,000 per year. While CAP is the official

auxiliary of the Air Force; CAP squadrons do not receive any direct financial assistance from the Air Force or from CAP except for reimbursed flying missions and some capital assets such as vehicles.

This means that CAP squadrons, like ours, must independently raise funds. Having a signature event such as the 5K Airport Fun Run & Waffle Breakfast would go a long way to meeting the fundraising needs of our squadron. We expect that we will face some significant fundraising headwinds given the current COVID-19 situation and general unease that people are feeling and will likely continue to feel until this situation resolves.

We look forward to the opportunity to work with airport management in designing and operating this event, and we appreciate your time and the board's consideration. Please feel free to contact me with questions. I can be reached either by phone at 608-633-1496 or email at [tmandel@cap.gov](mailto:tmandel@cap.gov).

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Todd Mandel', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Todd Mandel, Major, CAP  
5K & Open House Project Officer