

**AN ORDINANCE**

**AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND THE CODE OF DEKALB COUNTY, GEORGIA, CHAPTER 6, ARTICLE III, DEKALB-PEACHTREE AIRPORT, TO AUTHORIZE LANDING FEES FOR TRANSIENT AIRCRAFT, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.**

**WHEREAS**, the Governing Authority of DeKalb County, Georgia is tasked with the protection of the County's public health, safety, and general welfare; and

**WHEREAS**, PDK Airport is an enterprise fund department of DeKalb County, Georgia that is self-supporting and operates in the same manner as a private enterprise; and

**WHEREAS**, PDK currently experiences approximately 44,000 landings per year from aircraft that are not based at PDK; and

**WHEREAS**, PDK Based Aircraft operators contribute to the Airport's operating expenses by paying rent related to a lease and by regularly purchasing fuel on the Airport; and

**WHEREAS**, visiting non-PDK Based Aircraft do not contribute to the Airport's operating expenses associated with the provision of aviation services. Operators of non-PDK Based Aircraft do not make lease payments, and fuel purchases are optional and often made at other airports; and

**WHEREAS**, establishing a reasonable weight-based landing fee provides an equitable method of collecting funds from transient aircraft in relation to such aircraft's impact on the Airport, and assures that transient aircraft contribute to the Airport's operating expenses; and

**WHEREAS**, the Governing Authority of DeKalb County, Georgia finds it advisable to amend its DeKalb-Peachtree Airport Ordinance to allow for the collection of transient landing fees at PDK Airport; and

**NOW THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED** by the Governing Authority of DeKalb County, Georgia that Article III of Chapter 6 of the Code of DeKalb County, Georgia is hereby amended as follows:

**PART I. ENACTMENT**

*Chapter 6, Article III, Division 1 is hereby amended by amending Section 6-36 to add a new definition in alphabetical order and adding new sections 6-57 and 6-58 to read as follows:*

**Sec. 6-36. - Definitions.**

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*Based aircraft* means an aircraft that is operational, airworthy, stored and is typically based at DeKalb Peachtree Airport (PDK) for six months or more each year. Based aircraft may include aircraft under a Lease or Tie Down Agreement between the aircraft owner and PDK or aircraft of a tenant or sub-tenant of another entity on the airport.

*Maximum certificated take-off weight* means the maximum allowable weight of an aircraft at the start of its takeoff roll. A Maximum certificated take-off weight includes the weight of the aircraft itself, its structure, systems, fuel, passengers, cargo, and any other items on board.

*Transient aircraft* is an aircraft that is visiting PDK and is not a PDK Based aircraft.

*Transient landing fee* is a fixed amount of money paid to DeKalb Peachtree Airport by a transient aircraft owner/operator every time the aircraft lands at DeKalb Peachtree Airport.

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**Sec. 6-57. - Transient landing fees.**

- (a) Each Transient aircraft landing at PDK shall be subject to payment of landing fees. The landing fees shall be payable to PDK or its duly authorized representatives upon landing at the airport, unless other arrangements have previously been made with PDK in writing. Unless otherwise approved in writing by the Airport Director, the owner or operator of the aircraft shall be the responsible party for payment of any applicable transient landing fees.
- (b) The fees shall be based on the aircraft's Maximum certificated take-off weight (not the current operating weight of the aircraft) and fees shall be assessed as follows:
  - a. No fee or a price per pound for aircraft weighing up to 9,000 lbs.
  - b. A price per pound for aircraft weighing between 9,001 – 20,000 lbs.
  - c. A price per pound for aircraft weighing more than 20,001 lbs.
- (c) The Transient landing fees shall be established by the Airport Director and reviewed on an annual basis and modified if necessary. Escalation of Transient landing fees shall be determined through an analysis of the cost to operate and maintain PDK Airport.
- (d) The Transient Landing Fees shall be made available to the public by being published on PDK's County webpage.

**Sec. 6-58. - Exemptions.**

- (a) The following aircraft landing at PDK are exempt from Transient landing fees:
  - a. Aircraft based at PDK.
  - b. Medical transport aircraft.
  - c. Military aircraft.
  - d. Federal government aircraft.
  - e. State government aircraft.
  - f. Other aircraft as determined by the Airport Director.

**PART II. EFFECTIVE DATE**

This ordinance shall become effective upon adoption by the Board of Commissioners and approval by the Chief Executive Officer.

**PART III. SEVERABILITY**

Should any section or provision of this ordinance be declared by a court of competent jurisdiction to be invalid or unconstitutional, such decision shall not affect the validity of the ordinance as a whole nor any part thereof other than the part so declared to be invalid or unconstitutional. All ordinances or resolutions, or parts thereof, in conflict with this ordinance are repealed.

**ADOPTED** by the DeKalb County Board of Commissioners, this \_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2025.

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**MICHELLE LONG SPEARS**

Presiding Officer  
Board of Commissioners  
DeKalb County, Georgia

**APPROVED** by the Chief Executive Officer of DeKalb County, this \_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2025.

\_\_\_\_\_  
**LORRAINE COCHRAN-JOHNSON**

Chief Executive Officer  
DeKalb County, Georgia

**ATTEST:**

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**BARBARA H. SANDERS-NORWOOD, CCC**

Clerk to the Board of Commissioners and  
Chief Executive Officer  
DeKalb County, Georgia

APPROVED AS TO SUBSTANCE:

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

*Hunter Hines*  
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**HUNTER HINES**

Interim Director  
DeKalb Peachtree Airport

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**MATTHEW C. WELCH**

Interim County Attorney  
DeKalb County, Georgia