When D/FW grew, so did land values, report says

BY SCOTT WILLIAMS
Fort Worth Star-Telegram

IRVING — One of Dallas/Fort Worth Airport's staunchest allies in the airport expansion battle is about to escalate the paper war with a report showing that past expansions have driven up property values around D/FW at a rate nearly double the rest of the Metroplex.

The report to be released Monday by the North Texas Commission says that from 1979 to 1988 — years of significant growth at D/FW — the value of property adjacent to the airport jumped 423 percent while values elsewhere in Tarrant and Dallas counties increased just 252 percent.

While the report does not explicitly credit airport growth with the distinctly different rates, it concludes that D/FW has "served as one of the primary economic catalysts" in neighboring communities.

Opponents of the airport's $3.5 billion expansion plan said they had not seen the report, but they were quick to criticize it as irrelevant, misleading and

(More on PROPERTY on Page 10)