

Congress of the United States
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515-0904
May 10, 2024

The Honorable Tom Cole
Chairman
House Committee on Appropriations
H-305, the Capitol
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Rosa DeLauro
Ranking Member
House Committee on Appropriations
1036 Longworth HOB
Washington, D.C. 20515

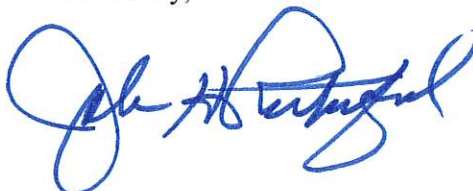
Chairman Cole and Ranking Member DeLauro,

On behalf of the St. Augustine/St. Johns County Airport Authority, I am requesting \$3 million for the Northeast Florida Regional Airport Access Roadway Expansion Project through the Grants-In-Aid for Airports account in the Fiscal Year 2025 Transportation and Housing and Urban Development Appropriations bill. With this funding, the St. Augustine/St. Johns County Airport Authority (Airport Authority) would utilize the requested federal funds to construct a new terminal access road and intersection for the South Terminal of the Northeast Florida Regional Airport with signalization that will connect the South Terminal to US 1.

The Airport Authority operates the Northeast Regional Airport, which recently embarked on an initiative to expand the airport infrastructure and access roadway located at the South Terminal. The \$3 million project is an appropriate use of taxpayer funds because it would help meet the remaining unfunded component of the \$71.25 million South Terminal Compass Point Project already underway and already funded by local, state, federal and private investments. This major revitalization project, which has leveraged public-private partnerships to fund the project to 95 percent completion, includes construction of seven new aircraft storage hangars, an additional taxiway, and a 113,000-sf commercial development complex featuring office spaces and business accommodations. The federal investment of \$3 million to complete the access road and intersection represents five percent of the total cost of the project. The project is expected to bring more than 330 direct jobs to the Northeast Florida Region, strengthen the economic resiliency of the region, and serve as a catalyst to future economic growth.

The project has a federal nexus because the funding provided is for purposes authorized in accordance with 49 U.S.C. 47100 for Airport Improvement Plan (AIP) infrastructure projects. The Airport Authority was recently awarded a \$1 million AIP Grant from the FAA for the construction of the taxiway. I certify that I have no financial interest in this project and neither does anyone in my immediate family.

Sincerely,



John H. Rutherford
Member of Congress