Congress of the United States

U.S. House of Representatives

Washington, **BC** 20515-0904

May 23, 2025

The Honorable Tom Cole Chairman House Committee on Appropriations H-307, 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,

I am requesting funding for the Northeast Florida Regional Airport Access Road Expansion Project in the Fiscal Year 2026 Transportation and Housing and Urban Development Appropriations bill. This project will construct new terminal access roads and intersections with signalization that will connect the North and South Terminals of the Northeast Florida Regional Airport to US 1. The Northeast Florida Regional Airport is located at 4900 US-1, St. Augustine, FL 32095.

The project is an appropriate use of taxpayer funds because this taxpayer investment will bring more than 1,300 jobs, strengthen the economic resiliency of the region, and serve as a catalyst to future economic growth. The new access road and intersection are essential to complete the necessary infrastructure improvements of the larger Terminal Access and Infrastructure Initiative. The larger project leverages \$164.4 million in other funds to construct a 440,000-SF Aviation and Aerospace Complex with separate dedicated facilities for Fixed Based Operators, Specialized Aviation Service Operations, Maintenance, Repair and Overhaul, corporate aircraft storage hangars, an additional taxiway, and a 113,000-sf commercial development featuring office spaces and business accommodations. The \$9.65 million in federal funds would represent the remaining five percent of the total project cost and enable the project to be fully funded for construction through an unprecedented public-private partnership.

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. Importantly, this project was included in the Community Project Funding list for FY2025. 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