

**Corpus Christi**  
REGIONAL ECONOMIC  
DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION

Brooke Chapman  
Associate Director, Small Community Air Service Development Program  
U.S. Department of Transportation  
Office of Aviation Analysis, 8<sup>th</sup> Floor, Room W86-307  
1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE  
Washington, DC 20590  
Docket DOT-OST-2022-003

RE: Corpus Christi International Airport SCASDP Grant Application

Dear Ms. Chapman:

On behalf of Corpus Christi Regional Economic Development Corporation, I write in support of the application of Corpus Christi International Airport (CCIA) for a Small Community Air Service Development Program (SCASDP) grant. We believe that the proposed grant will significantly enhance the business environment in the Coastal Bend region, both by improving access to the rest of the country for local businesses and by making it easier for visitors to come to Corpus Christi and contribute to the local economy.

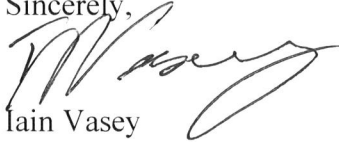
In the last decade, the Coastal Bend has seen over \$54 billion in new private investment, primarily in the Energy Sector. Economic Growth of the Corpus Christi MSA would place us 8<sup>th</sup> if the region was compared to all other US States. The Port of Corpus Christi is the largest energy port in the US, and currently ships over 60% of US crude oil movements. With the recent international energy uncertainty, it is critical that we maintain and expand our air infrastructure, with special importance on links to other key energy cities like Denver. CCIA is the airport that serves these critical business operations, that are of national and international strategic importance.

The proposed grant, which would support a revenue guarantee and marketing campaign for new nonstop service to Denver International Airport (DEN), would significantly enhance the attractiveness of CCIA by providing convenient service to an important origin and destination market. Current travel data shows Denver as the largest unserved market from CCIA, but most travelers flying to or from Denver use other airports. Nonstop service to Denver would give travelers access to another hub that connects the entire western half of the United States, as well as being a key oil and gas energy production hub, like Corpus Christi.

We are aware of and strongly support CCIA's efforts to encourage the community to fly local and are committed to using CCIA when it makes sense to do so. Adding nonstop service to Denver and the connecting routes it provides would significantly increase the trips where we would choose to fly CCIA.

Thank you in advance for your consideration of CCIA's SCASDP grant application. Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions or need any additional information.

Sincerely,



Iain Vasey

President & CEO  
CCREDC