

March 7, 2022

Ms. 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 the Port of Corpus Christi Authority (PCCA), I write to you in support of the Corpus Christi International Airport (CCIA) application for a Small Community Air Service Development Program (SCASDP) grant. We believe the proposed grant will significantly enhance the business market in the South Texas Coastal Bend region by improving access and connectivity for our local businesses and visitors to proceed to Corpus Christi; therefore, contributing to the local economy.

CCIA is the most convenient airport for Corpus Christi and the greater South Texas Coastal Bend region, but the limited nonstop flight service and high fares relative to competing airports have caused many travelers to drive more than two hours to airports in San Antonio, Austin, or Houston for greater access to direct flights and simplified connectivity to destinations we need.

I understand the grant would support a revenue guarantee and marketing campaign for a new nonstop service to Denver International Airport (DEN), notably increasing 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, despite most travelers flying to or from Denver using other airports. Nonstop service to Denver would give travelers access to another hub that connects the entire western half of the United States, which evidently will be more convenient compared to current route options from CCIA.

The Port of Corpus Christi and the South Texas Coastal Bend have seen over \$55 billion in private industrial investments over the past five years, an unprecedented level of growth resulting in a vibrant regional economy. Port-related employment accounts for over 98,000 jobs in the Coastal Bend area. The PCCA strongly supports CCIA's efforts to encourage our community and business travelers to fly local and is committed to using CCIA when the opportunity is available. Providing nonstop service to Denver and the connecting routes made available would

considerably increase the options for travelers to choose 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.

Very respectfully,  
PORT OF CORPUS CHRISTI AUTHORITY

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Sean C. Strawbridge". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Sean" and last name "Strawbridge" clearly distinguishable.

Sean C. Strawbridge  
Chief Executive Officer