

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:

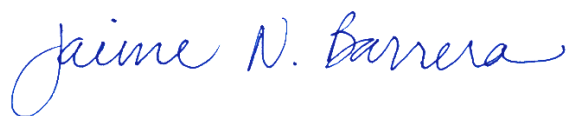
On behalf of Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi, I write in support of the application of Corpus Christi International Airport (CCIA) for a Small Community Air Service Development Program (SCASDP) grant. We believe that the proposed grant will provide our University with opportunities for expansion and greater appeal, including attracting and retaining top researchers, faculty, staff, and students that will continue to benefit our Coastal Bend for years to come.

CCIA is the most convenient airport for Corpus Christi and the greater Coastal Bend region, but the limited nonstop flight service and high fares relative to competing airports have caused many inconveniences when travelling. These limitations restrict incoming travel for prospective hires, and it also restricts outgoing travel for our current researchers and students to attend conferences and trainings.

The proposed grant, which would support a revenue guarantee and marketing campaign for new nonstop service to Denver International Airport (DEN), would significantly enhance our University's ability to bring the best and brightest minds to our community, in turn investing in the growth of our economy and quality of place. TAMU-CC currently provides a total economic benefit of \$590 million annually to the Coastal Bend, and changes like these afford us the opportunity to continue our Islander Impact.

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,



Jaime N. Barrera  
Vice President of Institutional Advancement  
Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi