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January 5, 2021

Ms. Brooke Chapman, Associate Director
United States Department of Transportation
Office of Aviation Analysis
8th Floor, Room W86-307
1200 New Jersey Avenue SE
Washington, DC 20590

Dear Ms. Chapman,

I support Newport News Williamsburg International Airport's (PHF) funding request from the United States Department of Transportation through the Small Community Air Service Development Program (SCASDP) to expand service at PHF.

As an elected official on the Virginia Peninsula, I am confident this grant will provide more than vital air service. It will take hundreds of vehicles off already congested roadways, bridges and tunnels in Hampton Roads and bring economic vitality to our underserved region. Pre-pandemic, approximately 2,380 passengers per-day-each-way were forced to use six other airports as far away as 200 miles.

This grant affords the opportunity for the Virginia Peninsula community to compete in order to bring back air service lost over many years of airline consolidation. Additionally, due to the devastating effects of COVID-19, the CARES Act allowed airlines to eliminate service at certain airports such as PHF. The SCASDP would help to level the playing field in view of that unfortunate consequence.

Finally, scheduled ultra-low cost (ULCC) passenger and cargo service at PHF will provide pressure to legacy carriers to keep airline ticket prices low. The Virginia Peninsula is home to tens of thousands of public and private employees. Whether government or private industry, many must travel to conduct their business because (for example) the nation's nuclear aircraft carriers and submarines cannot be built and supported via video teleconferences. The cost of air travel matters to us.

I dutifully work to protect our taxpayer's investments while continuing to strive to maximize every penny invested while serving in an elected capacity in the Commonwealth of Virginia. Awarding this grant to PHF and its community partners, will make a positive impact on the quality of life for residents across Hampton Roads. It is for these reasons that I write in support of the PHF SCASDP Grant.

Thank you for your time and consideration of this important effort.

Sincerely,

W. Chad Green, Chairman
York County Board of Supervisors

WCG:hls