

Mayor Stanley A. Clouse
City of Kearney
18 East 22nd Street
P. O. Box 1180
Kearney, NE 68848-1180



TELEPHONE · (308) 233-3216
FAX · (308) 234-6399
E-MAIL · mayor@kearneygov.org
WEBSITE · www.cityofkearney.org

February 20, 2020

Michael Martin
U.S. Department of Transportation
Essential Air Service
1200 New Jersey Avenue SE
W86-473
Washington, DC 20590

RE: *Kearney's Support of DEN-EAR-ORD Routes Operated by SkyWest Airlines*

Dear Mr. Martin:

The Essential Air Service program has been and continues to be a vital economic lifeline for communities across the country, and especially in rural Nebraska. The continuing growth of our local economy is sustainable in large part because of the air service that has been supported and connections to the national and international air transportation system that exists today.

Accordingly, the City of Kearney requests the selection of SkyWest Airlines to provide essential air service for our community. This selection is based on the factors noted in the Department of Transportation selection process as follows:

- The demonstrated reliability of the applicant in providing scheduled air service.
- Contractual arrangements with a large carrier to access service beyond the hub airport.
- The interline agreements that allow access to ticketing and baggage with a large carrier.
- The preference of the users of the air transportation system - The Kearney Air Transportation Committee unanimously recommended SkyWest.
- Views of the local elected officials - The Kearney City Council unanimously recommended SkyWest as the cities essential air service carrier.
- The marketing plan proposed by SkyWest to the community.

Specifically, the SkyWest proposal is twin engine proposal that meets all five DOT criteria; codeshare, ticket and bag agreements, history of reliable EAS service, history of effective marketing of EAS service and community preference. Concluding, the City of Kearney strongly recommends that the Department of Transportation award SkyWest Airlines the essential air service contract for our community. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me.

CITY OF KEARNEY

Stanley A. Clouse
Mayor

SAC/mkb

We provide services, solutions, and opportunities for our community.