

# Sandy Township Supervisors

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June 26, 2020

Mr. Scott Faulk  
United States Department of Transportation  
Office of Aviation Analysis  
12200 New Jersey Ave., SE  
Washington, DC 20590

In re: Order 2020-4-8

Dear Mr. Faulk:

On behalf of the Board of Supervisors of Sandy Township, Clearfield County, we appreciate the opportunity to provide input on the proposed Essential Air Service for the DuBois Regional Airport. The DuBois Regional Airport provides an essential service in the area by helping to improve our local economy and providing residents with cost effective air travel. We have been extremely pleased with the operations of Southern Airways Express at the DuBois Regional Airport and strongly support their bid of 24 weekly to PIT and 14 weekly to BWI.

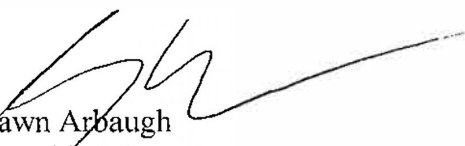
Southern has provided a strong continuity of service at very reasonable prices. Southern is providing reliable low-cost service which is bringing customers back to the DuBois Regional Airport and improving the economy in the area. Continuity of service with Southern is extremely important to continue to increase passengers.

We have reviewed the passenger numbers with the Airport Authority and have seen passenger increases from a low of 2,200 in 2015 to 11,000 in CY 2019 – a 500% increase. Pittsburgh continues to be the hub of choice with 2/3 of the passengers flying to Pittsburgh. BWI has proven to be an excellent complement to PIT, by providing access to the excellent hub at BWI and access to the nation's Capital. BWI currently captures 1/3 of the DUJ traffic.

With Southern's business plan, reliability, professionalism and enthusiasm, Sandy Township believes that the per-seat cap can be overcome, and that ridership will continue to increase capturing those driving to their destinations.

Sandy Township appreciates the opportunity to provide this input and stands ready to be a partner in making service successful. Please feel free to call on us should you need anything further.

Sincerely,



Shawn Arbaugh  
Township Manager  
Sandy Township, Clearfield County