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April 1, 2021

Ms. Brooke Chapman
Associate Director
U.S. Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE
Washington, DC 20590

Dear Ms. Chapman:

I write to express my strong support for the Wilkes-Barre/Scranton International Airport's (AVP) application to the Small Community Air Service Development Program (SCASDP) for an air service development grant, which will enhance their ability to serve as a regional economic engine.

If funded, AVP will replace air service lost during the COVID-19 and enhance their reliable air service to the extent that will return them to pre-pandemic arrival and departure statistics. This will be accomplished by attracting additional carriers that will expand access to destinations, increase passenger utilization, and support the needs of Northeastern Pennsylvania's business and leisure communities. The SCASDP grant will also provide the airport with the means to offer a revenue guarantee in support of new jet service to and from Detroit Metro Airport and Hartsfield-Jackson Atlanta International Airport; each on Delta Airlines. They are also asking for consideration to add ultra-low-cost airline service to Florida.

I hope you will see the value of investing in Wilkes-Barre/Scranton International Airport. Access to dependable and varied air service supports the vitality of our region by enabling commerce and tourism while also providing jobs and enhancing our overall quality of life. As a member of the House Appropriations Committee, I am a strong advocate for programs like SCASDP as it seeks to boost the potential of smaller economic regions through its airports, like AVP in Northeastern Pennsylvania.

Thank you for your time reviewing Wilkes-Barre/Scranton International Airport's application. I hope you will give it full and fair consideration in compliance with all applicable law and regulation. Please send questions and correspondence to my Economic Development Director, April Niver at 484-523-5314 or april.niver@mail.house.gov.

Sincerely,



MC/AN

CC: Carl Beardsley, Wilkes-Barre/Scranton International Airport