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July 14, 2015

Ms. Brooke Chapman  
Associate Director  
Small Community Air Service Development Program  
US Department of Transportation  
1200 New Jersey Ave, SE  
W86-307  
Washington, DC 20590

RE: Letter of Support for the Easterwood Airport 2015 United States Department of Transportation's Small Community Air Service Development Program (SCASDP)

Ms. Chapman,

I'm writing in support of the Easterwood Airport's application for grant funding under the 2015 Small Community Air Service Development Program.

Brazos County, as a part of the Research Valley, has entered an era of unprecedented demographic and economic growth. Commensurate air service expansion providing greater domestic and international connectivity is critical to our continued emergence as the "Innovation Capital of Texas" , a 21st Century Texas community, and home to one of the world's leading university systems. As such, we are unified in our commitment to the expansion of air service at Easterwood Airport. We consider expanded global access via commercial air service at Easterwood Airport to be one of our top regional economic development priorities. We believe the USDOT's Small Community Air Service Development Program, along with the local communities' commitments, will provide the tools and incentives necessary to facilitate air service growth at Easterwood Airport.

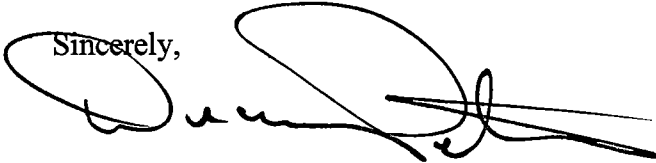
Easterwood Airport serves the Research Valley region, a catchment area of over 558,000 residents, in addition to an abundance business travel, a key component of the regional economy. For the period 2007 to 2014 the College Station/Bryan MSA saw a 20% increase in population and a 36% increase in Gross Metropolitan Product (GMP). However, in the same period the Easterwood Airport saw seat capacity decline 14%, flight frequency decline 34% and enplanements are essentially flat.

A SCASDP grant award would enable the Research Valley and the Brazos County to attract expanded, nonstop air service. This would provide our travelers with increased connectivity to

the national air transportation system, add a significant amount of capacity to the region, and accelerate regional economic development by connecting our region with the world.

I respectfully ask that you give the Easterwood Airport's SCASDP grant application your highest consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Duane Peters". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large loop at the beginning and a long horizontal stroke at the end.

Duane Peters  
County Judge