**INSTRUCTIONS**

* Place the support letter template below on your company letterhead.
* Personalize if/as desired, insert today’s date, add your name and title at the bottom.
* Electronically insert your signature and make a pdf (or sign and scan a hardcopy).
* **Send your letter as an attachment to:**

Subject: “[your company] support letter -- RDU runway funding”

TO: DOTExecSec@dot.gov

CC: Hillary.heintz@faa.gov AND Shannetta.R.Griffin@faa.gov

BCC: RDUletter@tjcog.org AND joe@letsgetmoving.org

Suggested email body text:

“Dear USDOT colleagues, please see the **attached** support letter for federal funding for a new primary runway at RDU International Airport in North Carolina. Thank you for your consideration, and for all you do for America’s aviation system. Sincerely,” (your name, title, and company)

June 28, 2023

Hon. Pete Buttigieg

Secretary, U.S. Dept. of Transportation

1200 New Jersey Ave, SE

Washington, DC 20590

Dear Secretary Buttigieg:

**I am writing to thank FAA for your leadership on aviation in America, and for your recent environmental approval for the replacement of the primary runway, 5L-23R, at Raleigh-Durham International Airport (RDU).**

**I am also writing to thank you for your recent federal funding support for the reconstruction of the primary runway at RDU, and to support a request from our partners at RDU for additional federal funding, up to $400 million in total, to replace, relocate, and lengthen the primary commercial service runway, 5L-23R, at RDU.**

As of July 2023, RDU is America’s fastest growing airport, with the highest increase in seat capacity year-over-year among all major airports in the US. RDU has added 20 nonstop destinations since February 2023.

The Research Triangle region will grow by nearly one million people by 2040, and RDU’s catchment area will increasingly serve all of them.

However, even with North Carolina’s excellent state support for airports, our local and airport fee increases will not be sufficient to fund the airside capital infrastructure needed to support our region’s air service demands.

We request that FAA provide a letter of intent for a 75% federal grant of the total $500+ million runway cost so that RDU can continue to serve the national commercial aviation system and as a statewide economic engine.

Thank you for considering this request, and for your ongoing service to our nation.

Sincerely,

(your name, title, company)

cc:

Polly Trottenberg

Shannetta R. Griffin, P.E.