

United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510-4705

May 17, 2016

The Honorable Anthony R. Foxx
Secretary
U.S. Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE
Washington, DC 20590

Dear Secretary Foxx:

I support the application submitted by the Port of Port Angeles to the U.S. Department of Transportation Small Community Air Service Development Grant Program to re-establish commercial air service to the William R. Fairchild International Airport (CLM) in Washington state.

Owned and operated by the Port, William R. Fairchild International Airport is a key community resource, providing passenger and cargo transportation, supporting emergency services, disaster response, and recreational activities, and creating jobs in this remote region. The airport serves the commercial service needs of the entire Olympic Peninsula as well as the general aviation needs of Clallam and Jefferson counties.

In 2014, Kenmore Air ceased service between Port Angeles and Seattle, severely limiting access to commercial flights for this rural northwest community. Kenmore Air's departure resulted in the loss of businesses and residents who relied on air service to Seattle to remain economically competitive. Today, the closest commercial flight is two and half hours away.

Funding through the Small Community Air Service Development Grant would accelerate efforts to renew direct, consistent, and cost-effective commercial air service between CLM and Seattle-Tacoma International Airport. Federal investment would leverage local funds committed by community partners to recruit a permanent commercial air carrier to CLM. Twice daily Q-400 flights are projected to generate \$346,000 in annual net revenue for the Port by the third year of operations.

The Olympic Peninsula is geographically isolated, making overland travel costly and time-consuming. Reliable and affordable air service at this small airport would improve travel conditions for the region's business and residential community and elevate Port Angeles as a gateway for tourists visiting this scenic region. I commend the Port of Port Angeles' commitment to re-connecting passengers to opportunities in the greater Puget Sound region and I ask for your full and fair consideration of their application to the U.S. Department of Transportation Small Community Air Service Development Grant Program.

Sincerely,



Maria Cantwell
United States Senator

EVERETT
2930 WETMORE AVENUE
SUITE 9B
EVERETT, WA 98201
(425) 303-0114
FAX: (425) 303-8351

RICHLAND
825 JADWIN AVENUE
SUITE 204/204A
RICHLAND, WA 99352
(509) 946-8106
FAX: (509) 946-6937

SEATTLE
JACKSON FEDERAL BUILDING
915 2ND AVENUE, SUITE 3206
SEATTLE, WA 98174-1003
(206) 220-6400
TOLL FREE: 1-888-648-7328
FAX: (206) 220-6404

SPOKANE
U.S. FEDERAL COURTHOUSE
WEST 920 RIVERSIDE, SUITE 697
SPOKANE, WA 99201
(509) 353-2507
FAX: (509) 353-2547

TACOMA
950 PACIFIC AVENUE
SUITE 615
TACOMA, WA 98402
(253) 572-2281
FAX: (253) 572-5879

VANCOUVER
MARSHALL HOUSE
1313 OFFICERS' ROW
FIRST FLOOR
VANCOUVER, WA 98661
(360) 696-7838
FAX: (360) 696-7844

WASHINGTON, DC
511 HART SENATE OFFICE BUILDING
WASHINGTON, DC 20510-4705
(202) 224-3441
FAX: (202) 228-0514