

JIM COSTA

16TH DISTRICT, CALIFORNIA

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June 5, 2014

The Honorable Anthony Foxx
Secretary
U.S. Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey, SE
Washington, D.C. 20590

Dear Secretary Foxx:

Thank you for your strong leadership and for taking the time to speak with me this morning. This letter serves to express my strong support for Essential Air Service (EAS) program eligibility for Merced, California.

As you know, the FAA Modernization and Reform Act of 2012 (P.L. 112-95) required EAS communities to maintain an average of 10 enplanements or more per service day during the most recent fiscal year, beginning after September 20, 2012. It is my understanding that while Merced did not meet the 10 enplanement per day requirement in Fiscal Year 2013 (FY13), Merced Regional Airport met and exceeded the requirement in several previous years. In fact, Merced averaged 11 enplanements per day in Fiscal Year 2012.

Attached, please find a letter from Merced's Mayor Pro-Tempore Josh Pedrozo detailing the various reasons why Merced did not meet the FY13 requirement. I respectfully request you carefully review this letter and the additional information provided by the airport. In my view, Merced is a qualified candidate for a waiver under your discretion.

Residents and businesses in Merced depend on the affordable transportation options that the EAS program helps to provide. I trust that you will fully and fairly evaluate the letter and data provided by the city of Merced, and I look forward to your swift response.

Sincerely,

JIM COSTA
Member of Congress