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Congress of the United States
House of Representatives

Washington, DC 20515-0549

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The Honorable Marion C. Blakey
Administrator
Federal Aviation Administration
800 Independence Avenue SW
Washington, DC 20591

Dear Mrs. Blakey:

I am writing to express my support for keeping Oceanside Municipal Airport in Oceanside, California open and viable. This airport is an important part of Southern California and the nation's aviation transportation infrastructure.

As I am sure you are aware, Oceanside Municipal Airport has accepted over \$4 million in federal funds through the Airport Improvement Program in the last 10 years. These grants require the city to maintain the airport until 2024. This includes monies for the purchase of land in 2001. Under this agreement with the federal government this parcel of land must be used in perpetuity for airport purposes and cannot be redeveloped.

I am deeply concerned that the city council recently voted to hire a consultant to determine the "highest and best use" of the airport land and how to close the airport if the council eventually decides to do so at a later date. I believe this plan is costly, ill advised and not in the best interest of local taxpayers. Instead I would encourage the Federal Aviation Administration to work with the airport, the city council and local pilots to ensure the airport continues to serve my constituents to its fullest potential.

Oceanside Municipal Airport has been open for more than 70 years and serves an important role to the city and surrounding areas. The airport is an important element in the economic infrastructure of our region and plays an important role in emergency situations, serving as a base for air medical flights.

Thank you in advance for your attention to this matter. Please contact me or my Legislative Assistant Laurent Crenshaw at (202) 225-3906 if you have any questions or concerns on this matter.

Sincerely,

Darrell Issa
Member of Congress