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7TH DISTRICT, OHIO

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Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
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TRANSPORTATION AND
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SUBCOMMITTEES
GENERAL FARM COMMODITIES AND
RISK MANAGEMENT
BIOTECHNOLOGY, HORTICULTURE,
AND RESEARCH

January 10, 2018

Mr. Daniel K Elwell
Acting Administrator
Federal Aviation Administration
800 Independence Avenue SW
Washington DC, 20591

Dear Administrator Elwell,

As the Representative for Ohio's 7th Congressional District, I am writing to support the Knox County Regional Airport in their pending grant application for the Airport Improvement Program Supplemental Appropriation for FY 2018 to 2020.

The Knox County Regional Airport is requesting \$2.2 million in supplemental FAA funds for design, construction and rehabilitation for the airport's only runway. The last overlay project for this runway was completed over 15 years ago and has outlived its useful life. Overlay of the runway is necessary to provide a safe and reliable runway system, as well as to protect the runway's structural integrity.

The Knox County Regional Airport performs a vital function in my district. The airport serves as a "front door" into what is now a largely rural community. Knox County is changing at an accelerating pace. The central Ohio development and economic growth of the Columbus region is now moving north and east toward Knox County and the Airport is a gateway for this development. It allows business leaders and the business assets they need to quickly and safely travel to and from Knox County. Without a strong airport to serve the area, many economic development and expansion opportunities could be lost which would be detrimental to the economic health of East Central Ohio.

I ask you to give every consideration to this project that would seriously impact our community. If you have any questions, please contact Tim Ross in my Canton, Ohio office at 330-737-1631.

Sincerely,



Bob Gibbs
Member of Congress