

United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510

July 14, 2025

Bryan Bedford
Administrator
Federal Aviation Administration
Washington, D.C. 20590

Dear Administrator Bedford:

We write today to express concern regarding the timeliness of the Federal Aviation Administration's (FAA) disbursement of Airport Improvement Program (AIP) and Airport Infrastructure Grant (AIG) entitlement funding.

These programs have strong bipartisan backing in Congress and assist in preserving and improving vital aviation infrastructure across the United States. Unfortunately, both programs are impacted by disbursement delays at the FAA.

Entitlement funds provide predictable, formula-based funding annually to eligible airports for infrastructure projects. Unlike discretionary grants, these entitlement dollars are effectively guaranteed, as long as the airport complies with AIP and AIG program requirements.

Despite their guaranteed nature, AIP and AIG entitlement funds are often not available to airports until late June or July. For small airports with limited resources and in states with truncated construction seasons due to severe weather, this delay poses significant challenges. It results in project cancellations, increased costs, and makes each federal dollar less effective. Further, for states that participate in the FAA's Block Grant program, agency actions to limit which AIP funds are provided via block grant challenge the usefulness of the program and increase administrative burden.

Small and large airports alike are also critical arteries for interstate commerce, tourism travel, and local economic growth. Recent reports show U.S. commercial airports supported 12.8 million jobs and produced \$1.8 trillion in economic output in 2024 and general aviation supported over 1.3 million jobs and \$339.2 billion in total economic output in the U.S. We all have a vested interest in reducing red tape and maximizing the effectiveness of AIP and AIG entitlement funds. Doing so would ensure airports can deliver projects without unnecessary delays or cost escalations and provide greater benefits to the constituents we all serve.

We urge the FAA to take steps to disburse entitlement funds earlier in the fiscal year and to work with block grant states to maximize the utility of the program moving forward. We look forward to your response on this important matter. Thank you.

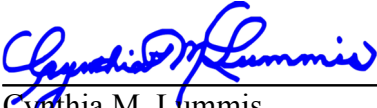
Sincerely,



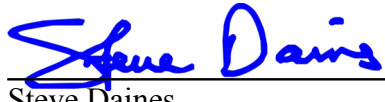
Kevin Cramer
United States Senator



Gary C. Peters
United States Senator



Cynthia M. Lummis
United States Senator



Steve Daines
United States Senator



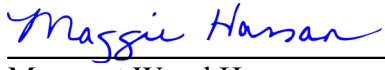
James E. Risch
United States Senator



James C. Justice
United States Senator



Tim Sheehy
United States Senator



Margaret Wood Hassan
United States Senator



Kirsten Gillibrand
United States Senator



Jeanne Shaheen
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth
United States Senator



Elissa Slotkin
United States Senator



Peter Welch
United States Senator



Mike Crapo
United States Senator



Richard J. Durbin
United States Senator



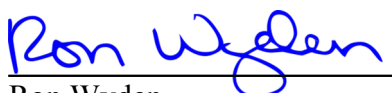
Deb Fischer
United States Senator



Lisa Murkowski
United States Senator



John Barrasso, M.D.
United States Senator



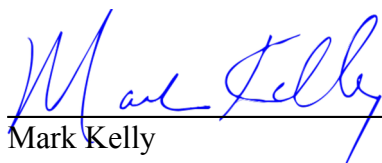
Ron Wyden
United States Senator



Andy Kim
United States Senator



Ted Budd
United States Senator



Mark Kelly
United States Senator



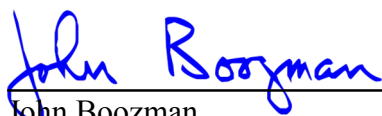
Amy Klobuchar
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Bernard Sanders
United States Senator



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United States Senator



John Boozman
United States Senator