



July 21, 2020

The Honorable Mitch McConnell
Majority Leader
United States Senate
S-230, The Capitol
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Chuck Schumer
Democratic Leader
United States Senate
S-221, The Capitol
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Nancy Pelosi
Speaker
U.S. House of Representatives
H-222, The Capitol
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Kevin McCarthy
Republican Leader
U.S. House of Representatives
H-204, The Capitol
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Leader McConnell, Leader Schumer, Speaker Pelosi, and Leader McCarthy:

On behalf of the organizations listed below, the *Beyond the Runway* coalition urges you to **support providing airports with at least \$13 billion in additional emergency assistance to help them during this prolonged national emergency.**

U.S. airports face at least \$23 billion in operating losses as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic, and passenger traffic through U.S. commercial airports remains down nearly 80 percent from this time last year. Reduced enplanement levels are forecast to last at least through the next two years. As a result of these mounting economic losses, airports are cutting budgets, reducing expenses, and deferring capital projects, which has negatively impacted those doing business in and around airports.

Airports are critical engines to our economy – supporting \$1.4 trillion in annual economic output and over 11.5 million jobs nationwide – and they will play a central role in getting our economy moving again. We are concerned that the drastic budgetary measures airports have already undertaken, coupled with the initial infusion of emergency funds from the CARES Act, airports will not be enough to keep pace with the sharp revenue declines, putting many at risk and jeopardizing economic recovery efforts throughout the country. Allocating additional federal resources to commercial airports at this crucial time would allow them to fund further cleaning and safety programs, as well as ongoing operations, construction projects, and debt-service requirements.

We thank you for your attention to the needs of our nation's airports. We urge you to support \$13 billion in emergency assistance for commercial service airports.

Sincerely,

Beyond the Runway

Airports Council International – North America
American Association of Airport Executives
American Coal Ash Association
Airport Consultants Council
American Council of Engineering Companies
Association of Equipment Manufacturers
Airport Experience News
American Society of Civil Engineers
Aviation Strategies and Trade Solutions, Inc.
C&S companies
Decision Services International, LLC
JCR Inc.
Mead & Hunt, Inc.
National Asphalt Pavement Association
On Air Parking
Portland Cement Association
Safety & Security Instruction
Security Industry Association
Sheet Metal and Air Conditioning Contractors' National Association
Texas Retailers Association
TMG Construction Corporation
Washington Airports Task Force