June 30, 2026

Oregon Department of Aviation & Oregon State Aviation Board

RE: Request to Delay Action on the Aurora Airport Master Plan

Dear Director Sugahara & Members of the Oregon State Aviation Board:

As members of the Oregon Legislature representing diverse communities across our state, we write to formally request that the Oregon State Aviation Board postpone action on the Aurora Airport Master Plan for one year.

Over the past several months, legislators from both parties have been contacted by airport tenants, local governments, businesses, emergency service providers, community members, and other stakeholders who have raised substantive concerns regarding the proposed Master Plan and its potential impacts. While perspectives differ, there is a growing consensus that additional review is warranted before a final decision is made.

Aurora State Airport serves a critical role within Oregon's aviation system. Decisions regarding its future development have implications on statewide resiliency, emergency medical transportation, business aviation, economic activity, and surrounding communities. Given the significance of these issues, we believe it is essential that policymakers, stakeholders, and the public have sufficient opportunity to fully evaluate the long-term consequences of the proposed plan.

The Legislature has a responsibility to understand and assess major policy decisions that may affect critical public infrastructure and resiliency capabilities. Several legislators have expressed interest in further examining the issues raised by stakeholders through the legislative committee process. We believe additional time is necessary to allow for that review and to ensure that all perspectives are adequately considered.

The concerns raised regarding the Master Plan are substantial and deserve thoughtful consideration. Moving forward with final action before those concerns can be more fully vetted would be premature and could undermine public confidence in the process.

Accordingly, we respectfully request that the Oregon State Aviation Board delay consideration of the Aurora Airport Master Plan for one year and provide an opportunity for further legislative review, stakeholder engagement, and public discussion before any final action is taken.

We appreciate your consideration of this request and your continued commitment to ensuring Oregon's aviation system serves the needs of communities across our state.

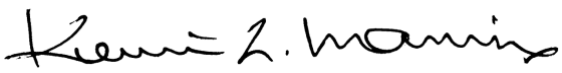
Sincerely,



Senator Mark Meek
Senate District 20



Senator Fred Girod
Senate District 9



Representative Kevin Mannix
House District 21



Representative Rob Nosse
House District 42



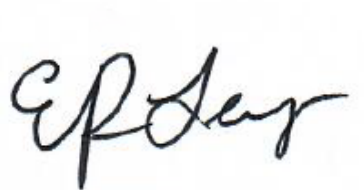
Representative David Gomberg
House District 10



Representative Paul Evans
House District 20



Representative Rick Lewis
House District 18



Representative Emerson Levy
House District 53



Representative Anna Scharf
House District 23



Representative Darin Harbick
House District 12



Representative Dacia Grayber
House District 28



Former Senator Betsy Johnson