

Robert W. Shaffer, Chair
Edwin R. Lozano, Vice Chair
Mark R. Murawski, Secretary



PENNSYLVANIA AVIATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE

September 23, 2021

Our Honorable Pennsylvania Congressional Delegation,

The Pennsylvania Aviation Advisory Committee represents a comprehensive collection of aviation leadership, airport executives, and industry experts from across the Commonwealth. We are very pleased to see progress on a bipartisan infrastructure framework that will rebuild America as well as ensure our leadership in new technologies. Both Congress and the Administration correctly recognized the need to invest in electric vehicle charging infrastructure to reduce transportation emissions and improve mobility. Many of our communities, airports and companies plan to incorporate electric aircraft as part of their green transportation strategies. ***We, therefore, respectfully request that infrastructure legislation include eligibility for the deployment of electric aircraft charging infrastructure.***


While ground-based electric vehicles are already in the market, hybrid and zero-emission aircraft should be widely available to move travelers and freight within the next few years. Aviation electrification reduces sector emissions, enables new use cases and allows for infrastructure sites closer to where people live and work allowing for urban and regional flight options in congested cities and underserved rural communities.

A January 2021 study by the Aerospace Industries Association and Deloitte projected that one segment of the electric aviation industry known as “Advanced Air Mobility” will be a \$115 billion annual market and create 280,000 jobs globally by 2035. With modernized Federal programs that prepare our infrastructure for the future, the United States can maintain and expand global leadership in this competitive field as other nations continue to heavily invest in both the research and development of next generation platforms as well as the supporting infrastructure to accompany them. We look forward to meeting the challenges of establishing a new industry sector while securing well-paying careers for current and future Pennsylvanians.

Despite the low-to-no emission and mobility benefits of these aviation innovations, current federal electrification and charging infrastructure programs do not include electric aviation. We request that transportation funding legislation include eligibility to invest in charging infrastructure for electric aircraft. Additionally, we request that our congressional delegates consider providing planning funds for a one year study on how Advanced Air Mobility will affect a large metropolitan region within Pennsylvania.

We fully support the framework's goals and are committed to doing our part to move towards an electric transportation future. To make zero-emission, high-speed urban and regional air mobility a real transportation option, it is critical that electrification and charging infrastructure funding and financing programs include aviation application eligibility.

Sincerely,



Robert W. Shaffer, Chairman
Pennsylvania Aviation Advisory Committee

CC:

Senator Bob Casey, Jr.
Senator Pat Toomey
Representative Brian Fitzpatrick
Representative Dwight Evans
Representative Mary Gay Scanlon
Representative Susan Wild
Representative Dan Meuser
Representative Lloyd Smucker
Representative John Joyce, M.D.
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Anthony McCloskey, Director, PennDOT Bureau of Aviation
Debra Bowman, PA Aviation Council
Mark Murawski, Secretary, PA Aviation Advisory Committee
Tes Ali, Chair, PA AAC Urban Mobility Subcommittee