



Clatsop County
Board of Commissioners

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November 7, 2023

Oregon Department of Aviation
3040 25th Street SE
Salem, OR 97302

Dear Oregon Department of Aviation:

The Clatsop County Board of Commissioners supports the Critical Oregon Airport Relief (COAR) grant submitted by the Port of Astoria for the rehabilitation of the interior of the terminal building at the Warrenton-Astoria Regional Airport (AST).

The grant will fund improvements necessary to extend the life of the terminal building and ensure its availability for many years to come. The improvements will increase the marketability and appeal of the terminal building, bringing more business activity to this small rural airport.

Further, as a coastal airport that supports the Oregon coastal travel industry, this project will benefit the state by supporting coastal tourism. A recent Travel Oregon report indicated a 24% jump in visitor spending for the Oregon coast (\$2.4 billion) over 2022, a 16.4% increase in employment, and a 14.7% increase in tax revenue. Improvements to the terminal building of a prominent coastal airport will support this important Oregon industry.

The Port of Astoria is an economic driver and infrastructure improvements to the AST will contribute greatly to their mission and this community.

Thank you for your consideration and support.

Sincerely,

Mark Kujala
Chair, Clatsop County Board of Commissioners