

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515-1406

February 13, 2019

Melanie Myers
Program Manager
Federal Aviation Administration
Chicago Airports District Office, CHI-ADO-600
2300 E Devon Ave.
Des Plaines, IL 60018

Dear Melanie Myers,

I write to you today to express my support for the Columbus Municipal Airport's (BAK) grant application for the Federal Aviation Administration Airport Improvement Program (AIP).


It has been brought to my attention that the current air traffic control tower at Columbus Municipal Airport, which was constructed in 1954, is deteriorating at an alarming rate. In addition to its place as a cornerstone in our community, the consequences of inaction pose a risk to the safety of our air traffic controllers. Only accessible by an exposed switchback stairway, the air traffic control tower is at times rendered unusable depending on current environmental conditions.

Columbus Municipal Airport serves the community of Columbus and the greater south-central Indiana region. It is a top 5 airport within the state of Indiana in terms of operations, aircraft based, and overall infrastructure. It is of critical importance to the public, as it is utilized by many companies for corporate operations, along with providing an airfield to train new pilots. It is also of importance to the armed forces who utilize the airport for deployment and training exercises out of Camp Atterbury, Indiana's largest military training center.

A new control tower for the Columbus Municipal Airport would increase safety for both workers and the airspace which they control. Overall, these vital grant dollars would increase efficiency of the airport and encourage economic development in and around the area.

Thank you for your consideration of the Columbus Municipal Airport's grant application for the Airport Improvement Program, and for your attention to this letter.

Sincerely,



Greg Pence
Member of Congress