



October 19, 2017

The Honorable Elaine L. Chao  
Secretary of Transportation  
United States Department of Transportation  
1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE  
Washington, DC 20590

Subject: Charter Oak Bridge INFRA Grant Application

Dear Secretary Chao:

The Connecticut Airport Authority, the quasi-public agency in charge of operating and developing Bradley International Airport and five general aviation airports in the State of Connecticut, is pleased to support the Connecticut Department of Transportation (CTDOT) in its submittal of a INFRA grant application for the Charter Oak Bridge project. As an airport that prides itself on its convenience, an efficient bridge and roadway system is vital to protect one of Bradley International Airport's greatest assets. Any delays encountered on Connecticut's central infrastructure can deprive Bradley of this advantage and divert passengers and freight to competing airports that are already capacity constrained.

The State of Connecticut and the City of Hartford have been working diligently to promote infrastructure improvements that are critical to our mission of fully harnessing the economic development potential of Connecticut's airports. The *Let's GO CT! Five Year Ramp Up Plan* is a multi-modal, multi-regional mix of projects that are critical to the success of our region's future infrastructure system, and the Charter Oak Bridge project is one of the top priorities in the overall strategy. Over the next five years, a total of \$190 Million has been budgeted by the CTDOT and the Governor's office for these improvements to help transform our regional transportation system. Support from our federal partners has been and continues to be critically important for the progress of these plans.

With the City of Hartford being home to two of the Top 100 Truck Freight Bottlenecks in the Nation, the CAA is confident that this investment in the Charter Oak Bridge project would help ease congestion, facilitate accessibility to and from Connecticut's airports, and advance the regional economy. As such, the CAA strongly supports CTDOT's grant application to move this project forward.

Bradley International Airport  
Terminal A, 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor, Administrative Offices  
Windsor Locks, CT 06096

I appreciate your time and consideration of CTDOT's application. Please feel free to contact me at 860-292-2054 or [kdillon@ctairports.org](mailto:kdillon@ctairports.org) if you have any questions or if there is anything that I can do to assist further.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Kevin A. Dillon".

Kevin A. Dillon, A.A.E.  
Executive Director  
Connecticut Airport Authority