



# Aviation Advisory Board

## Resolution No. 2018-2 of the Aviation Advisory Board

### Resolution in support of the FAA Alaska Region Airports Division

Lee Ryan, Chair  
2<sup>nd</sup> Judicial District

Jim Dodson, Vice-Chair  
City of Fairbanks  
and North Star Borough

Tom George  
Non-Commercial Aviation

Robert Hajdukovich  
Statewide Air Carriers  
Association

Marilyn Romano  
Alaska International  
Airport System Signatory  
Air Carriers

Dennis Parrish  
Alaska International  
Airport System Non-Airline  
Tenants

Gideon Garcia  
Air Cargo Air Carrier Seat

Frank Neitz  
Unorganized Borough

Earl Samuelson  
Public Users

Mike Stedman  
Regional Air Carriers

Bob Kaufman  
Municipality of Anchorage

**Whereas**, the FAA Alaska Region Airport Division is responsible for overseeing programming, funding and compliance of Airport Improvement Program (AIP) projects in Alaska, which currently bring over \$225 million annually to the state.

**Whereas**, this program supports development of the airport system, vital to Alaska's transportation system.

**Whereas**, the projects constructed under this program provide access and enhance aviation safety for the transportation of people, goods and services to and within the state.

**Whereas**, the unique conditions regarding Alaska's climate, lack of surface transportation infrastructure and seasonal logistic challenges require high latitude expertise to manage the program effectively.

**Whereas**, the FAA Alaska Region Airports Division Manager is currently staffed on an acting basis only, and the Deputy Airport Division Manager position is vacant, leaving the division short of adequate staff to operate on a sustained basis.

**Whereas**, if the FAA Alaska Region Airports Division was downgraded to an Airports District Office (ADO), decisions on budgets funding projects, inspection, compliance, and other issues would be made from out of state, and without full consideration of the unique challenges of Alaska.

**Whereas**, 82% of Alaska's communities are not connected by road and rely solely on their airports for daily access including medivac services. Downgrading the FAA Alaska Region Airports Division to a District Office and removing management decisions from the state would significantly impact the health of airports at over 200 communities that Alaskan citizens rely on for life sustaining services.

**Now Therefore be it Resolved:** The Governor should reach out to the Federal Aviation Administration and the Alaska Congressional Delegation, to stress the essential nature of maintaining a Regional Airports Division in the state to interact with airport sponsors, stakeholders and partners.

**Therefore be it further Resolved:** that adequate, permanent staffing be provided to support the Alaska Airports Division, and its work to continue development of this critical transportation infrastructure.

Signed:

Lee M. Ryan, Aviation Advisory Board Chair

Date: August 2, 2018