



POLK COUNTY

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BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

Commissioners
CRAIG A. POPE
MIKE AINSWORTH
JENNIFER L. WHEELER

GREGORY P. HANSEN
Administrative Officer

October 29, 2018

Please accept this letter from the Polk County Board of Commissioners to express our full support for the regional effort to secure sustainable commercial air service to McNary Field in Salem, OR. Polk County is primarily a rural county with limited air transportation options, requiring significant amounts of ground transportation to access large hub facilities.

The economic development aspect of scheduled passenger service is particularly strong as the travel and tourism industry would have potential to generate more visitors, and revenue to our County and its growing tourism opportunities.

Lastly, it would be providing our citizens with much needed transportation alternatives we don't currently have. The increasing ground transportation costs and inconvenience to access major airlines in Oregon put Polk County citizens at a disadvantage. We appreciate the efforts we see to improve the quality of life and the economic dynamics for our Willamette Valley citizens and will be ready to engage at the next steps of exploration.

Sincerely,

Polk County Board of Commissioners

Mike Ainsworth, Chair

Craig Pope, Commissioner

Jennifer Wheeler, Commissioner