



August 8, 2018

To whom it may concern:

On behalf of Corban University, I am writing to express my support for adding regular and sustained commercial air service to Salem, Oregon (SLE), by a legacy carrier with West Coast hubs. In addition to providing increased economic and transportation opportunities to the Willamette Valley as a whole, this addition would particularly benefit Corban staff, faculty, students, and guests.

Corban staff and faculty are regularly involved in national and international travel. As our employees attend conferences in their field, participate in institutional partnerships in Indonesia, Cameroon, and Kenya, and even bring students on educational trips to Singapore, Israel, and more, the presence of a commercial air service five minutes from our campus would greatly reduce the cost and hassle associated with travel. Currently, Salem residents must utilize airports in either Eugene or Portland, which are each about 90 minutes away—more if there's traffic. Logistics such as transportation to the airport, navigating traffic, and arranging for overnight parking and lodging would be streamlined with the presence of air service to Salem.

In addition to staff and faculty, our students would also benefit. This past year, 81 of our students traveled to 16 different countries for short-term study-abroad and missions experiences. This doesn't even count our international and out-of-state students, who fly home to see family during vacations and breaks, and our 300 athletes, who regularly travel to out-of-state competitions and tournaments.

Corban also enjoys inviting guests on camps, often from out-of-state. Local air service would greatly streamline the process of bringing parents, families, and guest artists and speakers onto campus. Prospective students and their families, too, would benefit. We seek to make the college visitation process as comfortable and enriching as possible, but the process of flying into PDX, renting a car, driving 64 miles, and potentially staying an extra night in a hotel might be the factor that dissuades someone from taking the time to visit.

For the above reasons, I can confidently endorse, on behalf of Corban University, the move to bring regular air service to the capital of Oregon. Not only would Corban staff, faculty, students, and guests benefit, but the entire Willamette Valley would enjoy the opportunity to travel more effectively and efficiently.

Thank you for your consideration. We look forward to learning the outcome of this initiative.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'S. Nord', is written over the name and title of the sender.

Sheldon C. Nord
President

Office of the President