

October 29, 2018

To Whom It May Concern

On behalf of Salem Health Hospitals and Clinics, I would like to express my support for the proposed commercial air service in Salem. Regular air service by a trusted carrier in the industry is a much needed investment for both quality of life and economic vitality of the mid-Willamette Valley.

While Salem Health does not have a large number of employees who utilize air service for work purposes, we do have employees who travel to conferences and trainings on a regular basis. Traveling to and from PDX can add a full day – and sometimes two – to their trip. We also often have candidates flying in for interviews, which requires the additional cost of car rental and sometimes an additional night at a hotel. Commercial air service to Salem would provide efficiency and cost savings not currently available.

Recruiting and retaining employees is also a critical concern for Salem Health. We believe there are many wonderful reasons to live in Salem and adding the benefit of air service can only help in our recruitment processes. Additionally, the majority of our 4,500 employees live in the mid-Willamette valley and we believe commercial air service would be highly appealing to them for personal travel.

The community driven effort to restore regular air service to the Salem area is commendable. As the state capital, it makes sense for a multitude of reasons, economical and other. We are happy to support this work and look forward to the opportunity to use the service as we work to improve the health and wellbeing of the community.

Sincerely,



Cheryl Wolfe, President and CEO
Salem Health