

## **Supporters of Phil Washington to be the Administrator of the Federal Aviation Administration**

- African American Mayors Association
- Air Line Pilots Association
- Airport Consultants Council
- Airports Council International
- Airport Restaurant & Retail Association
- American Association of Airport Executives
- American Public Transportation Association
- Association of Flight Attendants-CWA, AFL-CIO
- Association of Professional Flight Attendants
- Barry Biffle, President and CEO, Frontier Airlines
- Bob Jordan, CEO, Southwest Airlines
- Center for Transportation and the Environment
- Denver International Airport
- Ethiopian Airlines flight 302 crash victim family members: Michael Stumo and Nadia Milleron, parents of Samya Rose Stumo; Catherine Berthet, mother of Camille Geoffroy; Naoise Ryan, wife of Mick Ryan; Ike and Susan Riffel, parents of Melvin and Bennett Riffel; Chris Moore, father of Danielle Moore; Javier De Luis, brother of Graziella de Luis y Ponce
- Greater Toronto Airports Authority
- Harry Reid International Airport, Las Vegas
- Honorable Peter DeFazio, former Chairman of the U.S. House Transportation and Infrastructure Committee
- International Association of Machinists and Aerospace Workers
- Jane Garvey, FAA Administrator, 1997-2002
- Joby Aviation
- Linda Daschle, Acting FAA Administrator, Deputy FAA Administrator, 1993-1997
- Los Angeles County Business Federation “BizFed”
- Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority
- Los Angeles World Airports
- Michael Hancock, Mayor of the City of Denver
- Michael Huerta, Acting Secretary of Transportation, FAA Administrator, Acting FAA Administrator, Deputy FAA Administrator 2010-2018
- National Air Carrier Association
- National Air Traffic Controllers Association, AFL-CIO
- National Association of Black Women in Construction
- Port of Seattle
- Professional Aviation Safety Specialists, AFL-CIO
- Ray LaHood, former U.S. Secretary of Transportation, 2009-2013
- Rodney Slater, former U.S. Secretary of Transportation, 1997-2001
- Service Employees International Union (SEIU, Airport Workers United)
- Transportation Trades Departments, AFL-CIO
- Transport Workers Union, AFL-CIO
- UNITE HERE
- U.S. Travel
- U.S. Representatives Brad Sherman, Henry C. "Hank" Johnson, Jr., Adam B. Schiff, Grace Napolitano, Judy Chu, Tony Cárdenas, Ted Lieu, Alan Lowenthal, Norma J. Torres, and Linda Sánchez
- Williamsport Airport Authority, PA

March 20, 2023

Senator Maria Cantwell, Chair  
Committee on Commerce, Science and  
Transportation  
Washington, DC 20510

Senator Ted Cruz, Ranking Member  
Committee on Commerce, Science and  
Transportation  
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Chair Cantwell and Ranking Member Cruz:

The undersigned ET302 crash victim family members support Phil Washington as the next FAA administrator. FAA needs an outsider who can step into leadership vacuums, transform complex organizations, and resist the aviation swamp pressures towards mediocrity and malaise that are driven by self interest and stock price goals. The safety changes sought by our crash families over the past four years were more often hindered rather than helped by the vast majority of the aviation industry organizations and government institutions. Therefore we are not concerned about any lack of direct aviation experience.

We worked alongside this Committee to enact meaningful reforms in the Aircraft Certification, Safety, and Accountability Act (ACSAA). This includes ending undue influence on engineers acting on behalf of the FAA and starting the reform of the Organization Designation Authorization program. Congress drew clearer lines between the regulator and the regulated industry.

The next FAA Administrator must lead the effort to fully implement these key safety reforms. More work needs to be done, from increasing individual accountability and transparency at the FAA, to ensuring that the agency follows through on service difficulty and malfunction reports on newly-manufactured aircraft.

Mr. Washington's no nonsense leadership, decision making and performance from his military service and his post-military service give us confidence that he can and will spur a transformative safety and quality change in the very large and dysfunctional FAA with a focus upon safety that is not limited to verbal assurances and self protection.

He does not come from an aviation lobbying group, as former administrator Marion Blakey did in 2002. Blakey helped establish the Organization Designation Authority system in the 2000s, which delivered self-regulation into Boeing's untrustworthy hands.

Unlike former administrator Randy Babbitt, Mr. Washington is not looking for a next job with Southwest Airlines, a company which incentivized Boeing to hide MCAS by committing to large MAX purchase orders in 2011 that included large penalties if pilot training was required by the FAA certification process.

Phil Washington is not an industry-committed pilot, like former acting administrator Dan Elwell who refused to ground the MAX after the Indonesian Air crash despite FAA risk assessment documents projecting 15 more crashes. And who helped Boeing's messaging to blame the pilots.

He is not a pilot like Steve Dickson, who came from Delta Airlines and refused to meet with ET302 crash family members until Transportation Secretary Chao ordered him to do so in the fall of 2019. Dickson was a primary actor in the de facto career assassination - by way of a fraudulent mental health examination - of a Delta pilot notifying him about safety problems. Dickson's actions led to the largest monetary award for an aviation whistleblower.

The crash of Flight ET302, a new Boeing 737 MAX 8 aircraft, on March 10, 2019 was enabled by regulatory capture of the FAA and - at times - Congress, by Boeing and the aviation industry.

Excessive delegation of both design and production certification to Boeing was caused by Congress and past FAA administrators in the last 20 years as the Organization Designation Authority system was established and implemented.

We continue to witness dangerous coziness between FAA career staff and industry, and the exclusion of passenger and crash family input even as more safety pledge bromides are offered routinely and repeatedly. A recent FAA hearing on the future of the Changed Product Rule, for example, was astoundingly held at the General Aviation Manufacturers Association (that represents the regulated industry) rather than at FAA.

We ET302 families prioritize independence from the aviation industry, the ability to step into a leadership vacuum, transform large complex organizations, and a true focus upon aviation safety improvement beyond where we are now. We believe Mr. Washington exhibits these qualities and shares these goals.

As a result, we endorse Mr. Washington.

Sincerely,

Catherine Berthet, mother of Camille Geoffroy  
Naoise Ryan, wife of Mick Ryan  
Michael Stumo and Nadia Milleron, parents of Samya Rose Stumo  
Ike and Susan Riffel, parents of Melvin and Bennett Riffel  
Chris Moore, father of Danielle Moore  
Javier De Luis, brother of Graziella de Luis y Ponce

March 7, 2023

The Honorable Maria Cantwell  
Chair  
Committee on Commerce, Science, and  
Transportation  
U.S. Senate  
254 Russell Senate Office Building  
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Ted Cruz  
Ranking Member  
Committee on Commerce, Science, and  
Transportation  
U.S. Senate  
512 Dirksen Senate Office Building  
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Chair Cantwell and Ranking Member Cruz:

The Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) is at a critical junction. The aviation industry has rebounded rapidly from the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic. At the same time, it is dealing with rapid advances in aviation technology, building up America’s aging aviation infrastructure, and the need to recruit a 21<sup>st</sup> century workforce. There is no shortage of work to be done, and the FAA requires strong leadership to help the safety agency meet current and future challenges.

As former leaders of the FAA, we know how important it is to have a Senate-confirmed Administrator. Each of us went through the Senate confirmation process and respect the Constitutional role of the Senate to “advise and consent” on Presidential nominees. We also know what it takes to effectively run the FAA.

During the recent nomination hearing for Phillip A. Washington, CEO of the Denver International Airport, some members of the committee questioned whether Mr. Washington had the requisite experience and skills to lead the FAA.

First, what is invaluable in leading the FAA is experience with managing large, complex organizations. The FAA has an expansive safety mission, crossing five lines of business, and encompassing nearly 45,000 employees. Each day, the FAA oversees more than 45,000 flights and 2.9 million airline passengers across 29 million square miles of airspace. The agency is responsible for operating a large technology-based system to manage air traffic, for regulating manufacturers, operators, and pilots and technicians, and for developing standards and providing financial support for airport infrastructure. All of this is done as a partnership between the government and the aviation industry to ensure that we have the safest and most efficient aerospace system in the world.

Mr. Washington has run several large complex organizations. At Denver Regional Transit, he oversaw 3,000 employees, moved 49 million people safely each year. At LA Metro, he oversaw 10,000 employees, safely moving 255 million passenger-boardings each year, with a \$9 billion operating budget. In his current role at Denver International Airport, he leads 35,000 employees, serves 70 million passengers per year, and oversees a \$1.2 billion operating budget.

Second, while aviation experience is important, this is not limited to flying airplanes. None of us were pilots—in fact only two of the last five confirmed Administrators have been pilots. Yet, each

of us had transportation, technology, and aviation-related backgrounds that prepared us for our jobs. All of us understood the importance of building partnerships, the need to work closely with industry, and how to bring together the best technical experts in the FAA and the private sector.

Mr. Washington, as the leader of the world's third busiest airport, has the necessary aviation safety experience to be Administrator. Running an airport involves overseeing large-scale infrastructure projects and managing business operations. But, to be clear, the safety mission is at the top of the daily agenda for every airport.

Under federal aviation regulations – 14 CFR Part 139 – FAA issues airport operating certificates to airports in order to ensure safety in air transportation. To obtain a certificate, an airport must agree to certain operational and safety standards, subject to ongoing FAA surveillance and supervision. Airport directors, like Mr. Washington, are ultimately responsible for ensuring that his or her airport remains in full compliance with all aspects of safety. One of us, Jane Garvey, also had a tenure running a large U.S. airport and understands very well how important that experience was in leading the FAA.

Third, being the Administrator requires the vision and standing to make sure that the FAA is the international “gold standard” for aviation safety. For 45 years, Mr. Washington has led a life dedicated to public service. Following a 24-year career in the U.S. Army, he retired as Command Sergeant Major, the highest ranking a non-commissioned servicemember can achieve, and received the prestigious Defense Superior Service Medal. This is an inspiring record of hard work and achievement. If confirmed, he would be the first African American Administrator.

The FAA has gone through a difficult period and Mr. Washington offers a fresh perspective for setting a new course. Having a 30,000-foot view does not require getting a pilot's license.

The FAA needs leadership, and it needs it now.

We urge you to move swiftly to confirm Phil Washington as FAA Administrator.

Sincerely,



**Michael Huerta**  
Acting Secretary of Transportation  
FAA Administrator  
Acting FAA Administrator  
Deputy FAA Administrator  
2010-2018



**Jane Garvey**  
FAA Administrator  
1997-2002



**Linda Daschle**  
Acting FAA Administrator  
Deputy FAA Administrator  
1993-1997



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TO.

### The Honorable Maria Cantrell, Chair

#### Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation

United States Senate  
Washington, DC 20510

### The Honorable Roger Wicker, Ranking Member

#### Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation

United States Senate  
Washington, DC 20510

November 14, 2022

Dear Chair Cantwell and Ranking Member Wicker:

On behalf of the African American Mayors Association (AAMA), representing cities with major airport hubs, including San Francisco, California; Denver, Colorado; Atlanta, Georgia; Chicago, Illinois; New Orleans, Louisiana; Baltimore, Maryland; Newark, New Jersey; New York City, New York; Charlotte, North Carolina; Houston, Texas; and, Seattle, Washington, we write to you to urge the swift confirmation of the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) Administrator nominee, Mr. Phil Washington. President Biden announced Mr. Washington's nomination on July 6, 2022 and sent the nomination to the Senate on July 11, 2022. AAMA commends and supports President Biden's nomination of this exceptionally qualified leader to be the next FAA Administrator.

At a seminal time for the airline industry, there has been no permanent administrator in nearly seven months. Our airports support thousands of jobs and businesses around the country. The confirmation of this highly qualified nominee is necessary and urgent.

Mr. Phil Washington has demonstrated extraordinary leadership and advanced diversity and equity throughout his career. He was the chief executive of the Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority (Metro) from 2015 to 2021, and served the Biden administration on the transition team for transportation after the 2020 election. At Metro, he managed a balanced budget of more than \$8 billion and provided oversight of an agency with 11,000 employees that transported 1.2 million boarding passengers daily on a fleet of 2,200 clean-air buses and six rail lines.



AAMA  
80 M. Street, SE, Suite 1  
Washington, D.C. 20003



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Tacoma, WA

**Mayor Randall L. Woodfin**

Birmingham, AL

Washington served as the CEO of Denver Regional Transportation District (RTD) between 2009 and 2015 and worked as the assistant general manager of RTD for nearly 10 years before being named CEO. In Denver, he led and implemented the FasTracks program, one of the largest voter-approved transportation expansion programs in the country. Additionally, Mr. Washington co-founded the Equity in Infrastructure Program (EIP), designed to improve contracting practices by creating opportunities for historically underutilized businesses. In particular, his experience leading the EIP is critical as the Biden Administration seeks to distribute funding from the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act in a manner that is equitable; and helps to fuel the growth of the Airport Disadvantaged Business Enterprise Program.

Mr. Washington brings an extensive record in managing complex organizations and delivering results. Washington currently serves on the mayor's cabinet as CEO of Denver International Airport, the third busiest airport in the world.

As the Biden Administration seeks to modernize the American aviation industry through historic investments in airports, having steady, proven leadership at the FAA is vital. We can think of no better experienced professional to lead the FAA than Mr. Washington. Please take swift action to confirm his nomination.

Regards,

**Frank Scott, Jr.**  
**Mayor of Little Rock, AR**  
**President, AAMA**

**Michael B. Hancock**  
**Mayor of Denver, CO**  
**Member, AAMA**





July 28, 2022

CHAIR

Dwight H. Pullen, Jr.  
AECOM

The Honorable Senator Maria Cantwell  
United States Senator  
Chair, Commerce, Science, & Transportation  
Committee  
254 Russell Senate Office Building  
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Roger Wicker  
United States Senator  
Ranking Member, Commerce, Science &  
Transportation Committee  
512 Dirksen Senate Office Building  
Washington, DC 20510

VICE CHAIR

Jennie Santoro, AIA, NCARB  
HNTB

*(Sent via electronic e-mail)*

SECRETARY/TREASURER

Damon Smith  
Mead & Hunt

The Airport Consultants Council (ACC) enthusiastically endorses the nomination of Phillip (Phil) A. Washington as the next Administrator of the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA).

IMMEDIATE PAST BOARD CHAIR

Larry Studdiford  
Studdiford Technical Solutions, LLC

The 240 member companies of ACC plan, design, and build airports in the United States and around the world. Our members play a key role in enhancing the safety and operations of airports, which are critical to our country's overall economy and connectivity. Representing tens of thousands of airport development experts, we have a unique understanding of the aviation system and the role of the FAA.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Fin B. Bonset, M.Sc.  
VHB

Aviation continues its rapid recovery from the global COVID 19 pandemic. While passenger ridership continues to climb, the industry struggles to meet the demand given the lack of workers. Our nation's airports continue to play catch up with upgrading aging facilities and adding capacity to meet future demand. The industry also faces opportunities and challenges from nascent technologies, such as drones, Advanced Air Mobility, and commercial space transportation.

Kaly Quiroz, PE  
Jacobs

Carrie Shaeffer  
Swinerton

The FAA is at a critical juncture and needs visionary leadership to help navigate the agency in a thoughtful and collaborative way. Without question, Mr. Washington has the experience and credentials necessary to lead the FAA. He has led some of the largest and most complicated transportation agencies in the country, including serving as CEO of the Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority, and before that, CEO of the Denver Regional Transportation Authority. He currently serves as the CEO of the Denver International Airport, giving him a unique understanding of the many stakeholders and essential components of our overall aviation system.

Mae Whiteside Williams, PE  
CKL Engineers

Nicholas O. Ryan, PMP  
RS&H

Pam Keidel-Adams  
Kimley Horn & Associates

Peter J. Kirsch  
Kaplan Kirsch & Rockwell LLP

Mr. Washington also understands the critical importance of attracting more workers and increasing diversity within the industry. Phil has excellent experience connecting his previous agencies with underserved communities, and has established programs to attract students to careers in transportation. He created and built The Seed School of Los Angeles, the nation's one-of-a-kind transportation infrastructure school, to take in at-risk high school students from underserved communities and create opportunities for them in transportation jobs. He also built extensive outreach and engagement programs for minority and women-owned small businesses in Denver.

Sri Kumar  
Connico Incorporated

Tim Hudson, RA  
Gensler

PRESIDENT

T.J. Schulz

FAA needs a strong manager, and we are confident that Phil brings the experience and leadership to help solve our nation's aviation challenges. Serving with distinction, he had 25-years in the U.S. Army, earning the highest enlisted/non-commissioned officer rank that a person can achieve, Command Sergeant Major/E-9. This service, along with running large, complex transportation agencies, provides Phil unique experience at the right time for FAA.

In summary, ACC enthusiastically supports the nomination of Phillip Washington and his appointment to FAA Administrator.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "T.J. Schulz". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first letters of the first and last names being capitalized and prominent.

T.J. Schulz, President



## **Airports Council Statement on Nomination of Phil Washington as FAA Administrator**

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July 6, 2022

WASHINGTON – Airports Council International – North America (ACI-NA) President and CEO Kevin M. Burke today issued the below statement endorsing President Biden’s nomination of Phillip A. Washington, CEO of the Denver International Airport (DEN), as Administrator of the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA).

“No one better understands the needs and challenges of the federal aviation system than the leaders of our nation’s airports. As CEO of Denver International Airport, Phil has had to work as a real innovator and problem-solver during one of the most difficult times our industry has faced, and his knowledge and experience are exactly what we need in an FAA Administrator. This will be particularly important as we continue efforts to implement the bipartisan infrastructure bill and begin work on the next FAA reauthorization. Furthermore, his strong track record when it comes to diversity, equity, and inclusion clearly illustrates his understanding that our industry is about much more than facilities and regulations — it’s also about the people who support it. We fully endorse Phil’s nomination to serve in this important role and encourage the Senate to swiftly confirm him. We are confident that he will be a strong and effective administrator.”

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March 4, 2023

The Honorable Maria Cantwell  
Chair  
Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation  
United States Senate  
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Ted Cruz  
Ranking Member  
Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation  
United States Senate  
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Chair Cantwell and Ranking Member Cruz:

During the recent nomination hearing for Phillip A. Washington, CEO of the Denver International Airport, to be administrator of the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA), I was dismayed at hearing several members of the committee question whether and how airport directors contribute to aviation safety. I would like to set the record straight on the important role airport directors all across the country play every day in ensuring the continued safety of passengers, employees, aircraft, and facilities within the U.S. aviation system.

Airports – and the directors that lead them – play crucial roles in aviation safety, as evidenced by tens of billions of dollars of dedicated airport investments in safety projects. From multibillion dollar investments in runway safety areas, airfield lighting systems, runway incursion mitigations, to involvement in local runway safety action teams and the safe execution of multi-billion dollar capital projects, airport commitments to safety are unequivocal.

In light of the statutory requirement that the FAA administrator “have experience in a field directly related to aviation,” I will submit that airport directors have extensive knowledge and experience in aviation, particularly as it relates to safety. Their knowledge, experience, and leadership in managing complex operations at hundreds of airports around the country is crucial for the United States to maintain the safest air transportation system in the world.

Federal law – through 14 CFR Part 139 – requires the FAA to issue airport operating certificates to airports in order to ensure safety in air transportation. To obtain a certificate, an airport must agree to certain operational and safety standards and host an annual inspection by the FAA. The airport director is ultimately responsible for ensuring his or her airport remains in full compliance with all aspects of safety. A sample of the various operational and safety FAA requirements that airports must follow include:

- AC 150/5200-30, Airport Winter Safety and Operations
- AC 150/5200-31, Airport Emergency Plan
- AC 150/5200-18, Airport Safety Self-Inspection
- AC 150/5200-33, Hazardous Wildlife Attractants On or Near Airports

Airports Council International—North America  
1615 L Street, NW, Suite 300 • Washington, DC 20036 • (202) 293-8500

- AC 150/5200-28, Notices to Airmen (NOTAMs) for Airport Operators
- AC 150/5210-20, Ground Vehicle Operations on Airports
- AC 150/5340-1, Standards for Airport Markings
- AC 150/5340-18, Standards for Airport Sign Systems
- AC 150/5370-2, Operational Safety on Airports During Construction

Airport directors are responsible for the safety of aircraft operations at the airport, including the safety of all movement areas, the conduct of aircraft rescue and firefighting operations, and all aeronautical fueling operations and facilities. In addition to complying with all of the FAA's standards and inspections, airports also must stay updated on changes to FAA Advisory Circulars and Certification Alerts (CertAlerts), which routinely place new federal requirements on airports. In just the past year, these changes have included:

- new requirements that airports design and implement safety management systems;
- new standards for fluorine-free aircraft firefighting foam;
- new standards for runway, taxiway, heliport, and vertiport light fixtures;
- updates on de-icing products;
- updates on movement area training and situational awareness;
- updates on collecting and reporting on wildlife strikes with aircraft;
- updates on the inspection and maintenance of in-pavement equipment;
- updates on the protection and operation of navigational aids; and
- updates on the detection of foreign object debris on movement areas.

Beyond the runway, airport directors and their dedicated staff address an array of safety and operational issues in the airspace that feeds their facilities with their airline partners, business and general aviation users, and the FAA Air Traffic Organization. They also have to coordinate directly with FAA's Technical Operations professionals to ensure airfield lighting systems and navigational aids are functional and safely meeting the needs of airport users.

On top of all these FAA safety requirements, airports also must remain in compliance with security requirements imposed by the Transportation Security Administration (TSA). As such, airport operators generally are in charge of maintaining security-restricted areas and mitigating or addressing security risks to people and property throughout their facilities.

I appreciate this opportunity to share with you a more detailed picture of the significant safety and security work carried out by hard-working and dedicated airport directors each and every day. These airport professionals do their part and more to ensure the United States has the safest air transportation system in the world.

Sincerely,



Kevin M. Burke  
President and CEO  
Airports Council International – North America

July 22, 2022

The Honorable Maria Cantwell  
Chair  
Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation  
United States Senate  
511 Hart Senate Office Building  
Washington, DC. 20510

Dear Chair Cantwell:

On behalf of the members of the Airport Restaurant & Retail Association (ARRA), I am writing to endorse President Biden's nomination of Phillip (Phil) A. Washington for Administrator of the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA).

Mr. Washington is one of this country's finest transportation professionals. With his long experience managing transportation agencies, Phil will bring a different perspective to the FAA Administrator position. He has run some of the largest organizations in the transportation industry: Phil is currently Chief Executive Officer of the Denver International Airport (DEN), the 3<sup>rd</sup> busiest airport in the world last year. Prior to leading DEN, he spent six years as CEO of the massive Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority (LA Metro). Before that, he was CEO of the Denver Regional Transportation District.

Phil's real-world knowledge of transportation policy and systems are unmatched in the U.S. His nomination comes as the nation's aviation infrastructure is under substantial pressure to accommodate growth. The recent Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act provides a significant federal investment toward improving the aviation system. Mr. Washington's experience leading multi-billion-dollar transportation infrastructure programs in both Denver and Los Angeles County give him the skills and insights necessary to oversee the FAA as it implements a \$25 billion investment in expanding and enhancing our country's aviation network. We are confident Phil will bring a unique and much-needed perspective to the nation's aviation challenges.

The Airport Restaurant & Retail Association's mission is to work collaboratively within the aviation industry on business, operational, and policy matters affecting U.S. airport restaurant and retail operators. As an organization comprised of operators of all sizes and ownerships, we work in partnership with airports to enhance the passenger travel experience. The members of ARRA believe Phil Washington has the experience, capabilities, and temperament to lead the Federal Aviation Administration through these challenging times. We enthusiastically support his nomination and hope that he is confirmed with your full support.

Sincerely,



Andrew Weddig | Executive Director  
Airport Restaurant & Retail Association  
(312) 405-0024  
aweddig@arra-airports.com

## American Association of Airport Executives (AAAE)

Largest professional organization representing the individuals who work at public-use commercial and general aviation airports.



**"Phil has spent decades leading complex organizations and successfully managing multi-faceted transportation programs. I know him to be incisive, thoughtful, deliberate and a gifted, intentional leader. The FAA assignment is no easy task, but given the chance, he will more than meet the challenge."**

**- AAAE President & CEO Todd Hauptli on President Biden's intent to nominate Phil Washington to serve as FAA Administrator**





**American  
Public Transportation  
Association**

January 23, 2023

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**EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**

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Allan Pollock  
Naomi Renek  
Leslie S. Richards  
Rita A. Scott  
Doug Tisdale  
Matthew O. Tucker  
Thomas Waldron  
Evalynn "Eve" Williams

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**PRESIDENT AND CEO**

Paul P. Skoutelas

The Honorable Maria Cantwell  
Chair  
Committee on Commerce,  
Commerce, Science, and Transportation  
U.S. Senate  
254 Russell Senate Office Building  
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Ted Cruz  
Ranking Member  
Committee on Committee on  
Science, and Transportation  
U.S. Senate  
512 Dirksen Senate Office Building  
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Chair Cantwell and Ranking Member Cruz:

As former Board Chairs of the American Public Transportation Association (APTA), we write to strongly endorse Phillip A. Washington as Administrator of the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA). As former Chairs, we offer a unique perspective on Mr. Washington's experience and leadership abilities.

Mr. Washington served as APTA Chair from 2014-2015, representing an \$80 billion industry that directly employs more than 450,000 people and supports millions of private-sector jobs. The role of Chair requires an astute understanding of how all transportation modes—public and private transit, automobiles, freight rail, and aviation—work together to keep the country mobile, productive, secure, and economically robust. Mr. Washington's chairmanship set a new standard for exemplary leadership across mobility issues. Two examples of his visionary governance deserve special mention:

- First, he was the architect of our industry's most successful national multi-platform, multimedia advocacy campaign. "Stand Up 4 Transit" involved nearly 400 diverse transit agencies, businesses, and interest groups, generated 300 million media impressions, and built the foundation for today's record-high, broad support for more public transportation.
- Second, in response to the COVID-19 pandemic, he established and oversaw APTA's "Mobility Recovery and Restoration" initiative, which disseminated the most up-to-date, advanced resources to agencies and businesses, as well as a Health and Safety Commitments Program, which more than 200 public transit agencies committed to implement across the country. These efforts helped restore the public's trust in the health and safety of public transportation operations.

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**APTA.COM**

Chair Cantwell and Ranking Member Cruz

January 23, 2023

Page 2

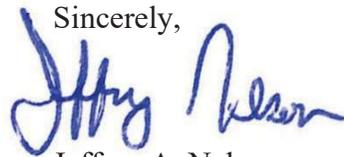
In addition to his contributions to our industry, Mr. Washington's experience and achievements are unmatched, having successfully served as chief executive for some of the nation's largest and most complex transportation organizations. These include Denver International Airport, Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority, and Denver Regional Transportation District.

After leading both President Biden's transportation policy committee during the 2020 presidential campaign and the Biden/Harris transition team for transportation after the election, Mr. Washington has an encyclopedic understanding of the myriad mobility challenges and opportunities facing America today. In the latter role, he helped develop Administration priorities to expand transportation services, infrastructure investments, and employment opportunities in underserved communities. As the first African American nominated to be FAA Administrator, he has the potential to bring a new level of credibility to equity issues in the aviation industry.

His record as a dedicated public servant, who spent decades improving the quality of life in local communities, and as a distinguished veteran, who served his country with honor, make him an extraordinary nominee. His collaborative, results-oriented approach will benefit the aviation industry, its employees, and the growing number of air travel passengers at a time when the industry, like public transportation, needs to model transformational change.

With the highest respect and praise, we enthusiastically endorse Phillip A. Washington to be the next FAA Administrator and urge you to advance his nomination in your Committee as soon as possible.

Sincerely,



Jeffrey A. Nelson  
APTA Chair 2021-2022

cc: Members of the Senate Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation  
The Honorable Peter Buttigieg, Secretary of Transportation

**APTA PAST CHAIRS ENDORSING PHILLIP A. WASHINGTON**

David M. Stackrow, Sr.  
APTA Chair 2018-2019  
Albany, NY

Nathaniel P. Ford, Sr.  
APTA Chair 2017-2018  
Jacksonville, FL

Doran J. Barnes  
APTA Chair 2016-2017  
West Covina, CA

Valarie J. McCall  
APTA Chair 2015-2016  
Cleveland, OH

Peter Varga  
APTA Chair 2013-2014  
Grand Rapids, MI

Flora M. Castillo  
APTA Chair 2012-2013  
Ventnor, NJ

Gary C. Thomas  
APTA Chair 2011-2012  
Dallas, TX

Michael J. Scanlon  
APTA Chair 2010-2011  
San Carlos, CA

Mattie "M.P." Carter  
APTA Chair 2009-2010  
Memphis, TN

Beverly A. Scott, Ph.D.  
APTA Chair 2008-2009  
Atlanta, GA

Michael S. Townes  
APTA Chair 2007-2008  
Norfolk, VA

Ronald L. Barnes  
APTA Chair 2005-2006  
Columbus, OH

Richard A. White  
APTA Chair 2004-2005  
Washington, DC

Celia G. Kupersmith  
APTA Chair 2002-2003  
San Francisco, CA

Ronald J. Tober  
APTA Chair 2000-2001  
Charlotte, NC

John P. Bartosiewicz  
APTA Chair 1999-2000  
Fort Worth, TX

Shirley A. DeLibero  
APTA Chair 1998-1999  
Houston, TX

Leslie R. White  
APTA Chair 1996-1997  
Vancouver, WA

Richard J. Simonetta  
APTA Chair 1994-1995  
Atlanta, GA

Rod Diridon, Sr.  
APTA Chair 1993-1994  
San Jose, CA

James H. Graebner  
APTA Chair 1982-1983 & 1983-1984  
San Jose, CA



ASSOCIATION OF FLIGHT ATTENDANTS-CWA, AFL-CIO

501 Third Street, NW, Washington, DC 20001-2797

afacwa.org | PHONE 202 • 434 • 1300

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February 28, 2023

The Honorable Maria Cantwell, Chair  
Senate Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation  
United States Senate  
254 Russell Senate Building  
Washington DC, 20510

Dear Chair Cantwell,

The Association of Flight Attendants-CWA, AFL-CIO is urging swift confirmation of Phil Washington to serve as Administrator of the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA).

Mr. Washington will bring significant leadership experience and fresh eyes to the FAA at a critical time. His previous experience at the Regional Transportation District (RTD), Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority, Denver International Airport show that he can lead and manage large organizations. As recent incidents have demonstrated, and as we consider the FAA Reauthorization bill, we need to ensure there is a strong and permanent leader at the FAA.

Mr. Washington's rise in the military to the rank of Command Sergeant major in the U.S. Army should be seen as an asset, not a roadblock. It has been said that individuals who have the skill, talent, and tenacity to advance to the E-9 grade have managerial and motivational skills and problem-solving abilities. These are skills necessary to run a large-scale organization like the FAA, with key stakeholder input and expertise as well.

FAA Administrators Jane Garvey and Mike Huerta had little aviation background before becoming FAA Administrator, and their leadership at the agency is historic and widely recognized as extremely effective. Mr. Washington has the skills to do the same.

I spoke with Mr. Washington after he was nominated. I appreciated his effort to solicit our concerns and issues. Safety requires leadership, vigilance, and the entire aviation community fully engaged in our first and most important priority. Mr. Washington's record and engagement with stakeholders gives me tremendous confidence in his ability to lead us forward for the industry, our world partners, and the traveling public. I urge the Senate to confirm his nomination as soon as possible.

Sincerely,

Sara Nelson  
International President



*Association of Professional Flight Attendants*

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*Proudly Representing the **Flight Attendants** of American Airlines*

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Office of the President

March 15, 2023

Senator Maria Cantwell  
Chair  
511 Hart Senate Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20510

Senator Ted Cruz  
Ranking Member  
127A Russell  
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Chairwoman Cantwell and Ranking Member Cruz:

The Association of Professional Flight Attendants (APFA), the independent Flight Attendant Union proudly representing the 25,000 Flight Attendants of American Airlines, urges you to proceed with the confirmation of Phil Washington for FAA Administrator.

The aviation industry is facing unprecedented challenges today as the number of "close calls" and fundamental system failures continue to mount. The Federal Aviation Administration is a massive and complex agency that has been without a Senate-confirmed leader for over a year, exactly at the time when our aviation system appears stretched beyond its limits. Virtually every week a new incident occurs that underscores the need for permanent and consistent leadership at the top of the FAA.

As the National President of APFA, I also know the issues that Flight Attendants are dealing with every day, including the threats and physical assault from passengers. While the Zero-Tolerance Policy is absolutely a necessary first-step, it's clear that more is needed to deter this type of behavior. We look forward to working with a permanent FAA Administrator to ensure that disruptive passengers do not compromise the safety of our flights.

Chairwoman Maria Cantwell  
Ranking Member Ted Cruz  
March 15, 2023  
Page 2

Mr. Washington brings successful leadership and management skills with large, complex transportation organizations. His leadership has been demonstrated in Denver at the nation's third busiest airport and other equally complex transit systems as well. He understands what is needed to maintain the safest aviation system in the world.

As the FAA Acting Administrator Billy Nolan convenes the Safety Summit today, it is critical that the Committee on Commerce move ahead immediately with the confirmation of Mr. Washington. Please put the safety of the flying public first by moving this nomination forward.

Thank you,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Julie Hedrick".

Julie Hedrick  
APFA National President



Frontier Airlines, Inc.  
4545 Airport Way  
Denver, Colorado 80239

March 7, 2023

The Honorable Maria Cantwell  
Chair  
Committee on Commerce, Science and Transportation United States Senate  
254 Russell Senate Office Building  
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Ted Cruz  
Ranking Member  
Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation  
512 Dirksen Senate Office Building  
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Chairman Cantwell and Ranking Member Cruz:

It is my pleasure to write in support of Mr. Phil Washington as the next FAA Administrator.

As you may know, the National Air Carrier Association, of which Frontier Airlines is a member, has previously endorsed Mr. Washington's nomination. However, I wanted to give my personal endorsement to the nomination.

Mr. Washington is an effective mission-driven leader and executive. He has successfully managed three of the largest and most complex transportation organizations in the country, including the world's third busiest airport in 2021, based on enplaned and deplaned passengers. I have personally worked with him as he turned around Denver International Airport (DEN), an organization with over 2,000 employees, serving 70 million passengers annually, with a \$1.2 billion operating budget. His accomplishments at DEN include rescuing the \$770 million Great Hall Project and overseeing the completion of the airport's 39 gate expansion.

I have heard arguments that Mr. Washington has no pilot experience. Neither have three of the last five FAA Administrators. All three served with distinction, even though all three had less than a year's worth of aviation experience. I've also heard that the Administrator and Deputy Administrator cannot both have military backgrounds or ties. I do not see the relevance of this regulation in today's world. Additionally, Mr. Washington retired over twenty years ago and has no military professional relationship today.

Finally, Mr. Washington has the experience in successfully managing large complex organizations like the FAA, which has all of the technical expertise available to provide the top policy maker with data and options for decision-making.

I whole-heartedly recommend Mr. Washington's confirmation as the next FAA Administrator.

Sincerely,

Barry Biffle  
President and CEO

## Bob Jordan, CEO of Southwest Airlines



**Bob Jordan** • 3rd+  
CEO at Southwest Airlines  
8mo • 

[+ Follow](#) [...](#)

We applaud the White House on naming Phil Washington as the next FAA Administrator. We expect Phil will guide the FAA with the same fairness and advocacy for safety and excellence that has benefitted Southwest, our Employees, and Customers during his time at the helm of Denver International Airport. Phil's a proven leader, and I believe all aviation stakeholders, including the traveling public, will find his steady hand always pushing for continuous progress for the best path forward.

March 17<sup>th</sup>, 2023

The Honorable Maria Cantwell  
Chair  
Committee on Commerce, Science and Transportation U.S. Senate  
254 Russell Senate Office Building  
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Ted Cruz  
Ranking Member  
Committee on Commerce, Science and Transportation U.S. Senate  
512 Dirksen Senate Office Building  
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Chair Cantwell and Senator Cruz:

I am honored to write in support of President Biden's nomination of Phillip A. Washington, CEO of the Denver International Airport, to the important post of Administrator of the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) in the U.S. Department of Transportation.

I have known Mr. Washington for a number of years and know him to be a leader with vision, strong organizational skills, and integrity. As a member supported 501(c)(3) non-profit organization representing 100+ companies and a national network of zero-emission vehicle industry and community leaders, the Center for Transportation and the Environment (CTE) works hard to cultivate the U.S. zero-emission transit industry and the deployment of zero-emission vehicles and infrastructure around the country. Our mission is to improve the health of our climate and communities by bringing people together to develop and commercialize clean, efficient, and sustainable transportation technologies. CTE is focused on converting the transportation industry in the U.S. to Zero Emissions and we work with all transportation modes including the aviation sector.

I had the opportunity to work with Mr. Washington on a project focused on emerging technologies and found him to be extremely capable and engaging. In my experience, he understands the need to work with stakeholders to address challenges and identify solutions -- and has the ability to execute complex projects and systems. These are critical skills needed in a leader for the FAA, particularly with the introductions of new entrants and Advanced Air Mobility technologies into the national airspace system.

Mr. Washington has the right management style, knowledge, acumen and demeanor, to lead the FAA in this unprecedented time in our transportation system's history. Thank you for the opportunity to offer my support of his confirmation as FAA Administrator without reservation.

Sincerely,



Dan Raudebaugh  
Executive Director



August 10, 2022

Senator Maria Cantwell  
United States Senator, D-WA  
Chair, Commerce, Science & Transportation Committee  
511 Hart Senate Office Building  
Washington, DC. 20510

**Greater Toronto  
Airports Authority**  
P.O. Box 6031  
3111 Connaught Drive  
Toronto ON M3J 1B2  
Canada L5P 1B2

P 416.776.3000  
F 416.776.7748

[GTAA.com](http://GTAA.com)

Dear Senator Cantwell:

My name is Deborah Flint, a Canadian American business leader with over 25 years of experience in the international aviation industry. I am the President and Chief Executive Officer of the Greater Toronto Airports Authority (GTAA), operator of Toronto Pearson International Airport (Toronto Pearson), Canada's largest airport and the sixth-most connected airport in the world. I was formerly the Chief Executive Officer of Los Angeles World Airports (LAX and Van Nuys Airports) for almost five years, as well as the Oakland, CA International Airport. I have years of expertise in, and a continued vested interest in the US National Air Transportation System.

Under my leadership, Toronto Pearson was named "Best Large Airport in North America serving more than 40 million passengers" by Airports Council International World for the fifth year in a row. In 2020, I envisaged the globally accredited Healthy Airport program at Toronto Pearson and led the GTAA, along with some 400 companies operating at Toronto Pearson, in the development and evolution of the airport-wide program focusing on passenger and employee health. Primarily, because of the Healthy Airport program, Toronto Pearson was recognized as having the best hygiene measures of any airport in North America for two years in a row.

I am writing to endorse President Biden's nomination for Administrator of the Federal Aviation Administration.

Phillip (Phil) A. Washington has run several large transportation agencies in this country and will bring a different perspective to the position. Phil is a long-time transportation professional who has run some of the largest mobility organizations in the world. He is currently Chief Executive Officer of the Denver International Airport, the third busiest airport in the world. Additionally, he has been CEO of the massive Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority or LA Metro. Before that he was CEO of the Denver Regional Transportation Authority.



[torontopearson.com](http://torontopearson.com)



Phil was Co-chair of President Biden's transportation policy committee before the election and then asked to lead the Biden/Harris transition team for transportation after the election. His real-world knowledge of transportation policy and systems are unmatched in the U.S. and even internationally. His nomination comes as the FAA is under pressure from airlines and passengers to accommodate a growing number of air travelers amid rising numbers of flight delays and cancellations. He will bring a collaborative mindset to solving the aircraft certification challenge between the FAA and the country's aircraft manufacturing industry. I am confident Phil will bring a unique and much-needed perspective to the nation's aviation challenges overall.

In addition, Phil may very well be the leading advocate in the country for Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion in transportation. As Co-chair of the Biden/Harris Policy Committee and Captain of the Biden/Harris Transportation Transition Team, Phil helped draft the President's Executive Order, EO 13985, on Advancing Racial Equity in Underserved Communities and the Justice40 initiative that commits to investing up to 40 per cent of infrastructure dollars in underserved communities. His efforts in this endeavor are renowned, as he co-founded the Equity in Infrastructure Project (EIP), meant to operationalize the President's Executive Order and the Justice40 initiative. Phil will bring aviation to underserved communities and encourage those communities to seek careers in the infrastructure industry, i.e., pilot and mechanic shortages, flight attendant and aviation technician staffing shortages, etc. In addition to being a great FAA Administrator, Phil will be a USDOT emissary to communities of colour. He did this in the largest county in America, LA County, culminating in the creation and building of the nation's one-of-a-kind transportation infrastructure school, The Seed School of Los Angeles, that will open its doors early next year. The focus of the school is to create a pipeline of infrastructure industry workers from underserved communities, focusing on high school youngsters who are in the foster care system, kids whose parents are or have been in the legal system, and kids who just don't know where to turn. This is his passion and he will bring that same passion, along with his other attributes to the position of FAA Administrator.

Phil served his country with distinction, having served on active duty in the United States Army for nearly 25 years. He earned the highest enlisted/non-commissioned officer rank that a person can achieve, that of Command Sergeant Major/E-9. He served in every enlisted leadership position the Army has, to include as a Command Sergeant Major, a First Sergeant, a Section Leader, an Inspector General, Chief, Operations/Logistics NCO for the U.S. Army in the NATO Alliance, and so many other important positions. He earned a long list of military awards, culminating, upon retirement from active duty, in the Defense Superior Service Medal, awarded to soldiers who have "rendered superior meritorious service in a position of significant responsibility", according to the Department of Defense.

August 10, 2022  
Page 3 of 3



If confirmed by your Congressional Committee, Phil Washington would be the first African American permanent head of the Federal Aviation Administration.

I enthusiastically support his nomination and hope that he is confirmed with your full support.

With hope,

**Greater Toronto Airports Authority**

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Deborah Flint". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal line extending from the end.

Deborah Flint  
President and Chief Executive Officer

Cc: Members of the Senate Commerce, Science, and Transportation Committee  
U.S. Transportation Secretary, Pete Buttigieg



March 21, 2023

The Honorable Senator Tammy Duckworth  
Chair, Aviation Safety, Operations, and Innovation Subcommittee  
Senate Commerce, Science and Transportation Committee  
254 Russell Senate Building, Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Senator Jerry Moran  
Ranking Member, Aviation Safety, Operations, and Innovation Subcommittee  
Senate Commerce, Science and Transportation Committee  
254 Russell Senate Building, Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Chair Duckworth and Ranking Member Moran,

I am writing in support of the nominee, Denver International Airport CEO Phil Washington, to serve as Administrator of the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA). As an airport director, it is important that the FAA is led by someone who understand the factors that are required to run a safe and efficient airport. Mr. Washington’s experience as CEO of Denver International Airport is beneficial to the FAA, as he will bring with him the leadership and experience it takes to manage the complexities of our aviation system.

Further, from my conversation with Phil, he is aware of the specific challenges we face at the Harry Reid International Airport (LAS). As LAS continues to become more encroached upon, my support for this position as FAA Administrator depends upon the nominee’s understanding of important airport issues, including the need for FAA to do a more thorough assessment of the cumulative impacts development can have on airports as communities grow and encroach upon airport operations. It is imperative FAA’s processes and determinations consider the full weight those impacts have on daily airport operations especially at encroached airports. Mr. Washington had great understanding of this issue. Therefore, I am happy to endorse Mr. Washington’s nomination given the expertise and experience he will bring to this important role at the FAA.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

  
Rosemary A. Vassiliadis  
Director of Aviation



Clark County Board of Commissioners

James B. Gibson, Chair • Justin C. Jones, Vice Chair  
Marilyn Kirkpatrick • William McCurdy II • Ross Miller • Michael Naft • Tick Segerblom

Peter A. DeFazio

The Honorable Maria Cantwell  
Chair  
Committee on Commerce, Transportation  
and Science  
U.S. Senate  
254 Russell Senate Office Building  
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Ted Cruz  
Ranking Member  
Committee on Commerce, Science, and  
Transportation  
U.S. Senate  
512 Dirksen Senate Office Building  
Washington, DC 20510

March 1, 2023

Dear Chair Cantwell and Ranking Member Cruz:

As you know, I served 36 years on the House Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, including on the Subcommittee on Aviation. I have seen Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) Administrators come and go with many not making a dent in the bureaucracy and inefficiency that has grown over the years. Both of you likely agree with me that, in its current form, the FAA is not up to the myriad new challenges to aviation presented by 21st century technology.

You've heard arguments that the new administrator must be a pilot and technical aviation expert –that is not necessary. The FAA is rife with technical experts and has former pilots in a number of high- ranking positions. What the FAA needs is a strong, accomplished leader who can manage the sprawling, stovepipe bureaucracy and restore efficiency and accountability. That person is Phil Washington.

We have had excellent FAA Administrators in the past who were not pilots or technical experts - Michael Huerta and Jane Garvey among them. With Phil Washington, we have a candidate with more than two decades of senior-level management experience in the transportation sector. Before his private sector career, Phil served 24 years in the U.S. Army, rising to the rank of Command Sargent Major. Anyone who has served in the military knows it is the senior enlisted ranks who provide the backbone for organizational expertise and efficiency. He has proven he can take large underperforming public agencies and remake them into cutting-edge organizations delivering complex projects on or ahead of time and budget.

The three of us all agree: The FAA needs help.

The recent Notice to Air Missions system failure that caused tremendous disruption to air traffic was preventable. The American people and the FAA need a manager who will take control of the sprawling contracting process and restore those core functions to FAA personnel. We also need an Administrator who will take on the Office of Management and Budget and argue effectively for the funds FAA needs for updated equipment and a streamlined acquisition process.

It's time to restore the FAA as the international "gold standard" for the regulation of commercial and general aviation, air traffic control, emerging technologies including drones, advanced air mobility, and commercial space. First and foremost, the FAA must regulate the national airspace reasonably and effectively to protect the flying public. After the Boeing 737 MAX crashes, our committees found the need for major reform in the FAA process for certification of new aircraft and passed bipartisan legislation to do just that. We do not need an aviation expert to figure out the needed changes. We need a manager who is going to see that all the changes Congress mandated are implemented fully and quickly.

Phil Washington will review, restructure, streamline and begin rebuilding the FAA to an agency that is once again the international "Gold Standard" to meet and get ahead of the unique challenges of aviation and aerospace in the 21st Century.

The Senate should act quickly and decisively to confirm him.

The FAA has been without a permanent Administrator for too long.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Pete DeFazio". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Pete DeFazio  
Former Chairman  
House Transportation & Infrastructure Committee

**International  
Association of  
Machinists and  
Aerospace Workers**



9000 Machinists Place  
Upper Marlboro, MD 20772-2687

Area Code 301-967-4500

OFFICE OF THE INTERNATIONAL PRESIDENT

March 15, 2023

The Honorable Maria Cantwell  
Chair  
Committee on Commerce, Science and  
Transportation  
U.S. Senate  
511 Hart Senate Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Ted Cruz  
Ranking Member  
Committee on Commerce, Science and  
Transportation  
U.S. Senate  
512 Dirksen Senate Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Chair Cantwell and Ranking Member Cruz:

On behalf of the largest airline union in North America, proudly representing over 100,000 airline workers, we respectfully urge you to support the nomination of Phillip A. Washington for Administrator for the Federal Aviation Administration (“FAA”) when the Senate Commerce Committee considers his nomination. We strongly believe Mr. Washington has the requisite experience and skills to lead the FAA. We applaud President Biden for nominating Mr. Washington to this extremely important agency to our airline union membership.

As the current CEO of the Denver International Airport, Mr. Washington has obtained experience managing large, complex organizations that we believe is necessary to lead the FAA. Mr. Washington leads over 35,000 employees, serves 70 million passengers per year, and oversees a \$1.2 billion operating budget. In addition, at Denver Regional Transit, he oversaw 3,000 employees, moved 49 million people safely each year. At LA Metro, he oversaw 10,000 employees, safely moved over 255 million passengers each year with a \$9 billion operating budget.

We also believe Mr. Washington’s 24 year career in the U.S. Army should be viewed as an asset to the FAA. He retired as Command Sergeant Major, the highest ranking a non-commissioned service-member can achieve, and also received the prestigious Defense Superior Service Medal. His distinguished military service brings added value to the FAA just as the thousands of workers in the airline industry with similar backgrounds.

For the above reasons, the International Association of Machinists and Aerospace Workers are very proud to endorse Mr. Washington’s nomination.

Sincerely,

Robert Martinez, Jr.  
IAM International President



July 21, 2022

Mr. Phil Washington  
Chief Executive Officer  
Denver International Airport  
SENT VIA EMAIL

Dear Mr. Washington,

I write today to relay my sincere congratulations on your recent nomination to become the next Administrator of the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA). Joby Aviation (Joby<sup>1</sup>) and the FAA have worked together for nearly a decade to usher in the era of sustainable flight. Since our first engagement in 2015, I have appreciated the knowledge and professionalism of the FAA staff in the course of our day-to-day work with the agency.

Aviation is entering the most exciting time since the dawn of the Jet Age, and Joby is one of many companies committed to making the sustainable era of flight a reality. This new era will see zero emission, battery-electric and hydrogen-electric aircraft enable a path to true zero flight in the coming decades. While the United States has historically led the world in the development of new aircraft, our leadership is by no means guaranteed as other parts of the world like Europe and China are investing heavily in this next chapter of aviation.

Among the various forms of electric aviation, Advanced Air Mobility (AAM) promises to revolutionize the way that people and goods move in and around urban, suburban, and rural areas as soon as 2024. AAM will see electric Vertical Takeoff and Landing aircraft (eVTOL) offer a new form of air transportation that can be a part of people's daily lives. Since our founding, Joby has focused on creating an eVTOL aircraft that is not only safe but also remarkably quiet. We design our aircraft to seamlessly blend into the surrounding environment through a low noise profile. By creating a uniquely quiet, accessible aircraft, we are confident that AAM is a technology that communities will actively seek to complement their existing mobility options.

In addition to our work with the FAA, we are also working closely with the DOD through the U.S. Air Force's Agility Prime program to help them better understand eVTOL and their potential use cases within the Department. This program is working to ensure a robust domestic supply chain for eVTOL and is a shining example of partnership between the FAA and DOD as they are working together on critical items such as certification and pilot training.

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<sup>1</sup> Joby was founded in 2009 with the vision of creating a new form of quiet, accessible, and sustainable flight. To do this, we designed an all-electric, vertical take-off and landing ("eVTOL") aircraft capable of traveling at speeds of up to 200 miles per hour. With a maximum range of 150 miles, the aircraft carries a pilot and up to four passengers.

Once confirmed, you will arrive at the FAA at a crucial time for the future of U.S. leadership in aviation. It is critical that we keep the U.S. as the gold standard in aviation safety while creating a policy and regulatory environment that fosters this type of innovation.

This is not new, and the U.S. has historically stepped up to the challenge. Today, we are witnessing a hyper competitive global regulatory environment concurrently with the rapid development of new technologies in multiple areas of the aviation ecosystem. It is critical that the FAA puts in place the right policies to foster this innovation while maintaining safety, works globally to ensure a smooth path to export new aircraft, and collaborates with industry as appropriate to ensure that the U.S. continues to lead the world in Aviation.

We look forward to your swift confirmation, and are committed to working with you, and the entire FAA team, to help solve these challenges. I look forward to having an opportunity to meet with you to discuss Joby, our technology and my excitement for the future of sustainable aviation.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Joe Ben Bevirt". The signature is stylized with a large, sweeping initial "J" and a horizontal line above it.

JoeBen Bevirt  
Founder and CEO  
Joby Aviation



January 18, 2023

Office of U.S. Senator Maria Cantwell  
Chair – Senate Committee on Commerce, Science, & Transportation  
511 Hart Senate Office Building  
Washington, District of Columbia 20510

**RE: ENDORSEMENT OF PHILLIP A. WASHINGTON FOR FAA ADMINISTRATOR**

Senator Maria Cantwell:

The Los Angeles County Business Federation "BizFed" and its undersigned members are writing a third time to enthusiastically endorse the nomination of **Phillip A. Washington** for Administrator of the Federal Aviation Administration.

The FAA needs decisive leadership now. How many members of this Senate Committee were personally impacted by last week's system outage at the agency? How many of your constituents were stranded at airports across the nation while the meltdown delayed 11,000 flights, caused more than 1,300 flight cancellations and brought the agency's ongoing challenges into sharper focus? We echo Senate Majority Leader Chuck Schumer's call for Mr. Washington's swift confirmation while the FAA faces mounting pressure and public scrutiny.

BizFed, a business advocacy network that unites more than 235 business organizations representing 450,000 employers with 5 million employees in Southern California, had the privilege of working in close collaboration with Mr. Washington while he served as Chief Executive Officer of the Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority "Metro" from 2015 to 2021. He spearheaded collaborative efforts with Los Angeles World Airports and took a leading role in blasting through decision-making delays that cost Metro millions per month and stalled the construction of long-awaited airport mega-projects.

- Under Mr. Washington's leadership, Metro worked with Los Angeles International Airport to finalize planning and facilitate the completion of key construction milestones for a \$2 billion "Automated People Mover" electric train system that connects the Metro Rail and other facilities with airport terminals. It will operate 24/7 to serve approximately 30 million passengers annually, resulting in **117,000 fewer vehicle miles traveled per day**.
- Mr. Washington led Metro efforts to streamline construction of its 8.5-mile Crenshaw/LAX Transit Project, also known as the K Line, which connects the cities of Los Angeles, Inglewood and El Segundo. This \$2 billion public transportation investment in South Los Angeles marks the first time rail transit has served the Crenshaw Corridor since 1955. The 96<sup>th</sup> Street station will connect the transit line to the airport's Automated People Mover, providing **vital alternative transportation to the airport**.
- Mr. Washington's stewardship of connectivity to the region's smaller Hollywood Burbank Airport paved the way for completion of a \$15-million Metrolink rail station that connects more neighborhoods with the airport, reducing traffic congestion on Interstate 5 and residential roads. Metro's "Bus Rapid Transit" project, made possible

by funding Mr. Washington helped secure, will increase expediency, create new routes to the airport that don't require driving or parking and **improve air quality with the use of electric zero-emission vehicles.**

Mr. Washington is a master collaborator and convener. His partnership with Los Angeles-area business and civic leaders was instrumental in shaping long-term transportation plans and fine-tuning advocacy messaging for Measure M, the largest transportation investment ballot measure in North America. Other cities are now looking to Measure M as a model for kickstarting transit system expansion. Its passage in 2016 launched the nation's largest public works program, which is **creating an estimated 700,000 jobs.**

Mr. Washington's force-multiplying impact on regional vitality and mobility cannot be measured in numbers alone. He is among the nation's leading advocates for **equity, diversity and inclusion** in the transportation sphere and beyond. He led efforts to modernize procurement practices to foster economic opportunity for diverse local businesses and their employees across Los Angeles. The innovation Mr. Washington implements has helped countless people of all backgrounds make concrete improvements to their everyday lives. Professional development initiatives he championed at Metro include the SEED Transportation School, Workforce Initiative Now, Metro Leadership Academy, ENO Multi-Agency Exchange Program and the Women & Girls Governing Council (WGGC).

Thinking innovatively, Mr. Washington also helped create The Office of Extraordinary Innovation (OEI) in 2015. The OEI is charged with identifying actionable solutions in the marketplace that further Metro's mission, vision and strategic goals. The Los Angeles Aerial Rapid Transit project, an aerial gondola connecting Dodger Stadium with our region's transportation hub at Union Station and proudly supported by BizFed, was one of the first transformative solutions identified by the OEI.

Following his service with Metro, BizFed was proud to watch Mr. Washington apply his troubleshooting and problem-solving expertise as chief executive of Denver International Airport, the world's third busiest airport. He ensured safety, efficiency and customer confidence throughout upheaval wrought by the coronavirus pandemic.

As Co-Chair for the Biden-Harris Policy Committee for Infrastructure and Captain for the administration's 18-member transition team for the U.S. Department of Transportation, Mr. Washington helped draft the President's Executive Order 13985 on Advancing Racial Equity in Underserved Communities and the Justice40 initiative that commits to investing up to 40% of infrastructure in underserved communities.

His track record of tenacious leadership also entails co-founding the Equity in Infrastructure Project (EIP) to operationalize EO 13985 and the Justice40 initiative. Mr. Washington's mission to encourage and elevate new aviation professionals will play a critical role in building a robust and diverse workforce to prevent future staffing shortages. The U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics projects 14,500 openings for airline and commercial pilots each year over the next decade, while figures from management consulting firm Oliver Wyman point to a global gap of 34,000 to

50,000 pilots by 2025. **Mr. Washington's professional development efforts will help close that gap.**

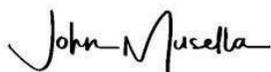
Business and civic leaders in Los Angeles County are proud to support Mr. Washington, a disabled U.S. Army veteran who served his country with distinction. After growing up in a public housing project on Chicago's southside, he served in every enlisted leadership position the Army has, rising through the ranks to Command Sergeant Major. His long list of military

awards includes the Defense Superior Service Medal, awarded to soldiers who have "rendered superior meritorious service in a position of significant responsibility."

Mr. Washington is an all-American success story who fights the good fight tirelessly to ensure safety, opportunity and a brighter tomorrow for all. His big-picture problem-solving empowers partners to tackle today's challenges while simultaneously anticipating looming hurdles.

We look forward to celebrating his confirmation with your full support.

Sincerely,



John Musella  
BizFed Chair



David Fleming  
BizFed Founding Chair



Tracy Hernandez  
BizFed Founding CEO



David Englin  
BizFed President

**CC:**

**Sen. Roger Wicker, Ranking Member**  
**Sen. Amy Klobuchar, Committee Member**  
**Sen. Richard Blumenthal, Committee Member**  
**Sen. Brian Schatz, Committee Member**  
**Sen. Ed Markey, Committee Member**  
**Sen. Gary Peters, Committee Member**  
**Sen. Tammy Baldwin, Committee Member**  
**Sen. Tammy Duckworth, Committee Member**  
**Sen. Jon Tester, Committee Member**  
**Sen. Kyrsten Sinema, Committee Member**  
**Sen. Jacky Rosen, Committee Member**  
**Sen. Ben Ray Luján, Committee Member**  
**Sen. John Hickenlooper, Committee Member**  
**Sen. Raphael Warnock, Committee Member**  
**Sen. John Thune, Committee Member**  
**Sen. Ted Cruz, Committee Member**  
**Sen. Deb Fischer, Committee Member**  
**Sen. Jerry Moran, Committee Member**  
**Sen. Dan Sullivan, Committee Member**  
**Sen. Marsha Blackburn, Committee Member**  
**Sen. Todd Young, Committee Member**  
**Sen. Mike Lee, Committee Member**  
**Sen. Ron Johnson, Committee Member**  
**Sen. Shelley Moore Capito, Committee Member**  
**Sen. Rick Scott, Committee Member**  
**Sen. Cynthia Lummis, Committee Member**  
**U.S. Transportation Secretary Pete Buttigieg**

# BizFed Association Members

7-11 Franchise Owners Association for SoCal  
Action Apartment Association  
Alhambra Chamber  
American Beverage Association  
Antelope Valley Chamber formerly Lancaster Chamber of Commerce  
Apartment Association of Greater Los Angeles  
Apartment Association, CA Southern Cities, Inc .  
Arcadia Association of Realtors  
AREAA North Los Angeles SFV SCV  
Armenian Trade & Labor Association  
Arts District Los Angeles  
Associated Builders & Contractors SoCal (ABC SoCal)  
Association of Club Executives  
Association of Independent Commercial Producers  
AV Edge California  
Azusa Chamber  
Beverly Hills Bar Association  
Beverly Hills Chamber  
BioCom  
Black Business Association  
BNI4SUCCESS  
Bowling Centers of SoCal  
Boyle Heights Chamber of Commerce  
Building Industry Association - LA/Ventura Counties  
Building Industry Association of Southern California  
Building Industry Association- Baldyview  
Building Owners & Managers Association of Greater Los Angeles  
Burbank Association of Realtors  
Burbank Chamber of Commerce  
Business and Industry Council for Emergency Planning and Preparedness  
Business Resource Group  
CABIA California Business and Industrial Alliance  
Calabasas Chamber of Commerce  
CalAsian Chamber  
CalChamber  
California Apartment Association- Los Angeles  
California Asphalt Pavement Association  
California Bankers Association  
California Business Properties  
California Business Roundtable  
California Cannabis Industry Association  
California Cleaners Association  
California Contract Cities Association  
California Fashion Association  
California Gaming Association  
California Grocers Association  
California Hispanic Chamber  
California Hotel & Lodging Association  
California Independent Oil Marketers Association (CIOMA)  
California Independent Petroleum Association  
California Life Sciences Association  
California Manufacturers & Technology Association  
California Metals Coalition  
California Natural Gas Producers Association  
California Restaurant Association  
California Retailers Association  
California Self Storage Association  
California Small Business Alliance  
California Society of CPAs - Los Angeles Chapter  
California Trucking Association+  
Carson Chamber of Commerce  
Carson Dominguez Employers Alliance  
Central City Association  
Century City Chamber of Commerce  
Cerritos Regional Chamber of Commerce  
Chatsworth Porter Ranch Chamber of Commerce  
Citrus Valley Association of Realtors  
Claremont Chamber of Commerce  
Commercial Industrial Council/Chamber of Commerce  
Compton Chamber of Commerce  
Construction Industry Air Quality Coalition  
Construction Industry Coalition on Water Quality  
Council on Infil Builders  
Crenshaw Chamber of Commerce  
Culver City Chamber of Commerce  
Downey Association of REALTORS  
Downey Chamber of Commerce  
Downtown Alhambra Business Association  
Downtown Center Business Improvement District  
Downtown Long Beach Alliance  
El Monte/South El Monte Chamber  
El Segundo Chamber of Commerce  
Employers Group  
Encino Chamber of Commerce  
Energy Independence Now EIN  
Engineering Contractor's Association  
FastLink DTLA  
Filipino American Chamber of Commerce  
Friends of Hollywood Central Park  
FuturePorts  
Gardena Valley Chamber  
Gateway to LA  
Glendale Association of Realtors  
Glendale Chamber  
Glendora Chamber  
Greater Antelope Valley AOR  
Greater Bakersfield Chamber of Commerce  
Greater Lakewood Chamber of Commerce  
Greater Leimert Park Crenshaw Corridor BID  
Greater Los Angeles African American Chamber  
Greater Los Angeles Association of Realtors  
Greater Los Angeles New Car Dealers Association  
Greater San Fernando Valley Chamber  
Harbor Association of Industry and Commerce  
Harbor Trucking Association  
Historic Core BID of Downtown Los Angeles  
Hollywood Chamber  
Hong Kong Trade Development Council  
Hospital Association of Southern California  
Hotel Association of Los Angeles  
Huntington Park Area Chamber of Commerce  
ICBWA- International Cannabis Women Business Association  
Independent Cities Association  
Industrial Environmental Association  
Industry Business Council  
Inglewood Board of Real Estate  
Inland Empire Economic Partnership  
International Franchise Association  
Irwindale Chamber of Commerce  
Kombucha Brewers International  
La Cañada Flintridge Chamber  
LA Coalition  
LA Fashion District BID  
LA South Chamber of Commerce  
Larchmont Boulevard Association  
Latin Business Association  
Latino Food Industry Association  
Latino Restaurant Association  
LAX Coastal Area Chamber  
League of California Cities  
Long Beach Area Chamber  
Long Beach Economic Partnership  
Los Angeles Area Chamber  
Los Angeles Economic Development Center  
Los Angeles Gateway Chamber of Commerce  
Los Angeles Latino Chamber  
Los Angeles LGBTQ Chamber of Commerce  
Los Angeles Parking Association  
Los Angeles World Affairs Council/Town Hall Los Angeles  
MADIA  
Malibu Chamber of Commerce  
Manhattan Beach Chamber of Commerce  
Marketplace Industry Association  
Monrovia Chamber  
Motion Picture Association of America, Inc.  
MoveLA  
MultiCultural Business Alliance  
NAIOP Southern California Chapter  
NAREIT  
National Association of Minority Contractors  
National Association of Tobacco Outlets  
National Association of Women Business Owners  
National Association of Women Business Owners - LA  
National Association of Women Business Owners-California  
National Federation of Independent Business Owners California  
National Hookah  
National Latina Business Women's Association  
Orange County Business Council  
Orange County Hispanic Chamber of Commerce  
Pacific Merchant Shipping Association  
Panorama City Chamber of Commerce  
Paramount Chamber of Commerce  
Pasadena Chamber  
Pasadena Foothills Association of Realtors  
PGA  
PhRMA  
Pico Rivera Chamber of Commerce  
Planned Parenthood Affiliates of California  
Pomona Chamber  
Rancho Southeast REALTORS  
ReadyNation California  
Recording Industry Association of America  
Regional CAL Black Chamber, SVF  
Regional Hispanic Chambers  
San Dimas Chamber of Commerce  
San Gabriel Chamber of Commerce  
San Gabriel Valley Economic Partnership  
San Pedro Peninsula Chamber  
Santa Clarita Valley Chamber  
Santa Clarita Valley Economic Development Corp.  
Santa Monica Chamber of Commerce  
Sherman Oaks Chamber  
South Bay Association of Chambers  
South Bay Association of Realtors  
South Gate Chamber of Commerce  
South Pasadena Chamber of Commerce  
Southern California Contractors Association  
Southern California Golf Association  
Southern California Grantmakers  
Southern California Leadership Council  
Southern California Minority Suppliers Development Council Inc.  
Southern California Water Coalition  
Southland Regional Association of Realtors  
Sportfishing Association of California  
Structural Engineers Association of Southern California  
Sunland/Tujunga Chamber  
Sunset Strip Business Improvement District  
Torrance Area Chamber  
Tri-Counties Association of Realtors  
United Cannabis Business Association  
United Chambers - San Fernando Valley & Region  
United States-Mexico Chamber  
Unmanned Autonomous Vehicle Systems Association  
US Green Building Council  
US Resiliency Council  
Valley Economic Alliance, The  
Valley Industry & Commerce Association  
Venice Chamber of Commerce  
Vermont Slauson Economic Development Corporation  
Veterans in Business  
Vietnamese American Chamber  
Warner Center Association  
West Hollywood Chamber  
West Hollywood Design District  
West Los Angeles Chamber  
West San Gabriel Valley Association of Realtors  
West Valley/Warner Center Chamber  
Western Electrical Contractors Association  
Western Manufactured Housing Association  
Western States Petroleum Association  
Westside Council of Chambers  
Whittier Chamber of Commerce  
Wilmington Chamber  
Women's Business Enterprise Council  
World Trade Center



**Metro**

Los Angeles County  
Metropolitan Transportation Authority

One Gateway Plaza  
Mail Stop 99-3-1  
Los Angeles, CA 90012-2952

Ara J. Najarian  
Chair

January 19, 2023

Senator Maria Cantwell  
United States Senator, D-WA  
Chair, Commerce, Science, & Transportation Committee  
511 Hart Senate Office Building  
Washington, DC. 20510

*(Sent via electronic e-mail)*

Dear Senator Cantwell:

I am writing to enthusiastically endorse the nomination of Phillip A. Washington for Administrator of the Federal Aviation Administration.

As the longest serving member of the Los Angeles Metro Board, and the current Board Chairman, I believe I hold unique insights and perspectives on the character, abilities and vision of Phil Washington. From 2015 to 2021, I worked with Phil Washington to develop policy and to advance the transportation system in L.A. County. During our years together Phil displayed nothing but the highest level of ethics and professionalism as CEO.

Under Mr. Washington's leadership, Metro worked with Los Angeles International Airport to finalize planning and facilitate the completion of key construction milestones for a \$2 billion "Automated People Mover" electric train system that connects the Metro Rail and other facilities with airport terminals. It will operate 24/7 to serve approximately 30 million passengers annually, resulting in 117,000 fewer vehicle miles traveled per day.

Mr. Washington led Metro efforts to streamline construction of its 8.5-mile Crenshaw/LAX Transit Project, also known as the K Line, which connects the cities of Los Angeles, Inglewood and El Segundo. This \$2 billion public transportation investment in South Los Angeles marks the first time rail transit has served the Crenshaw Corridor since 1955. The 96th Street station will connect the transit line to the airport's Automated People Mover, providing vital alternative transportation to the airport.

Mr. Washington's stewardship of connectivity to the region's smaller Hollywood Burbank Airport paved the way for completion of a \$15-million Metrolink rail station that connects more neighborhoods with the airport, reducing traffic congestion on Interstate 5 and residential roads. Metro's "Bus Rapid Transit" project, made possible by funding Mr. Washington helped secure, will

increase expediency, create new routes to the airport that don't require driving or parking and improve air quality with the use of electric zero-emission vehicles.

Mr. Washington is a master collaborator and convener. His partnership with Los Angeles-area business and civic leaders was instrumental in shaping long-term transportation plans and fine-tuning advocacy messaging for Measure M, the largest transportation investment ballot measure in North America. Other cities are now looking to Measure M as a model for kickstarting transit system expansion. Its passage in 2016 launched the nation's largest public works program, which is creating an estimated 700,000 jobs.

Mr. Washington's force-multiplying impact on regional vitality and mobility cannot be measured in numbers alone. He is among the nation's leading advocates for equity, diversity and inclusion in the transportation sphere and beyond. He led efforts to modernize procurement practices to foster economic opportunity for diverse local businesses and their employees across Los Angeles. The innovation Mr. Washington implements has helped countless people of all backgrounds make concrete improvements to their everyday lives. Professional development initiatives he championed at Metro include the SEED Transportation School, Workforce Initiative Now, Metro Leadership Academy, ENO Multi-Agency Exchange Program and the Women & Girls Governing Council (WGGC).

If confirmed by your Congressional Committee, Phil Washington would be the first African American permanent head of the Federal Aviation Administration.

I fully support without reservation his nomination and hope that he is confirmed with your full support.

Sincerely,

  
Ara J. Najarian  
Metro Board Chair & Glendale City Councilmember

Cc: Members of the Senate Commerce, Science, and Transportation Committee  
U.S. Transportation Secretary, Pete Buttigieg

March 15, 2023

The Honorable Maria Cantwell  
Chair  
Committee on Commerce, Science, and  
Transportation  
U.S. Senate  
254 Russell Senate Office Building  
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Ted Cruz  
Ranking Member  
Committee on Commerce, Science, and  
Transportation  
U.S. Senate  
512 Dirksen Senate Office Building  
Washington, DC 20510

LAX

Van Nuys

City of Los Angeles

Karen Bass  
Mayor

Board of Airport  
Commissioners

Beatrice C. Hsu  
President

Valeria C. Velasco  
Vice President

Gabriel L. Eshaghian  
Matthew M. Johnson  
Nicholas P. Roxborough  
Belinda M. Vega  
Karim Webb

Justin Erbacci  
Chief Executive Officer

Dear Chair Cantwell and Ranking Member Cruz:

I am writing in full support of President Biden's nomination of Mr. Phillip A. Washington as the next Federal Aviation Administration Administrator. I have personally worked alongside Mr. Washington when he led LA Metro in Los Angeles, and we have continued that partnership now that he serves as CEO of Denver International Airport. Based on my experience working with the nominee, I can attest firsthand that Mr. Washington is highly qualified to lead the Federal Aviation Administration.

Mr. Washington's professionalism, collaborative nature, and vast leadership experience position him as qualified and effective candidate for this role. He safely and efficiently has managed three of the largest and most complex transportation organizations in the country, including the world's third busiest airport. As a CEO of Denver International Airport, Mr. Washington has worked productively with a wide variety of aviation industry stakeholders, airlines and airport directors. He understands and has seen the everyday challenges airports of all sizes experience regarding aviation safety and security, airport modernization and facilities maintenance and management, as well as the myriad of other issues facing our airspace and the Federal Aviation Administration. He has a proven track record as a successful leader at large, complex agencies and organizations and is the right choice as the next Federal Aviation Administrator.

I urge you to fully support Mr. Washington's appointment. Should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Best regards,



Justin Erbacci  
Chief Executive Officer





**National Air Carrier Association**  
1735 North Lynn Street, Suite 105  
Arlington, VA 22209  
T: +1.703.358.8060

August 16, 2022

**BY ELECTRONIC MAIL**

The Honorable Maria Cantwell (D-WA)  
Chair, Senate Commerce, Science and Transportation Committee  
254 Russell Senate Office Building  
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Roger Wicker (R-MS)  
Ranking Member, Senate Commerce, Science and Transportation Committee  
254 Russell Senate Office Building  
Washington, DC 20510

**Re: Nomination of Phillip A. Washington to Become Next FAA Administrator**

Dear Chair Cantwell and Ranking Member Wicker:

On behalf of the National Air Carrier Association (NACA)<sup>1</sup>, I am writing to express our strong support of Phillip A. Washington, President Biden's nominee to be the next Administrator of the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA).

Mr. Washington, currently the CEO of Denver International Airport, brings decades of experience leading large, complex transportation organizations and successfully managing a wide-range of multi-million-dollar airport infrastructure and other transportation projects. His pragmatic and innovative approach to managing major transportation programs will be invaluable since the next FAA administrator will be responsible for implementing the aviation portion of the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act, as well as the congressional directives included in the next FAA reauthorization legislation.

Given the number of significant policy challenges facing the FAA, including the impact of 5G deployment on aircraft radar altimeters, the scarcity of commercial airline pilots, improving air traffic management in Florida, and ongoing modernization of the nation's air traffic control system, we respectfully ask that the committee expedite its consideration of Mr. Washington's nomination by holding a confirmation hearing in September to ensure a Senate floor vote before the chamber adjourns in October for

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<sup>1</sup> NACA member airlines include Air Transport International, Allegiant Air, AmeriJet, Atlas Air, Avelo Air, Breeze Airways, Everts Air Cargo, Frontier Airlines, GlobalX, iAero Airways, Kalitta Air, Lynden Air Cargo, Miami Air International, National Airlines, Norther Air Cargo, Omni Air International, Spirit Airlines, Sun Country Airlines, USA Jet Airlines, Western Global Airlines, and World Atlantic Airlines.



August 16, 2022

Page 2 of 2

the November elections. We believe Mr. Washington is well-positioned to lead the agency and ensure that the United States continues to have the safest, most efficient air transportation system in the world.

Thank you for your consideration.

Very Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "George Novak", with a stylized flourish at the end.

George Novak  
President and CEO  
National Air Carrier Association

cc: Annie Petsonk, Assistant Secretary for Aviation and International Affairs

# National Air Traffic Controllers Association

## AFL-CIO



March 16, 2023

The Honorable Maria Cantwell  
Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation  
254 Russell Senate Office Building  
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Ted Cruz  
Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation  
254 Russell Senate Office Building  
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Chair Cantwell & Ranking Member Cruz:

On behalf of the 20,000 air traffic controllers and other aviation safety professionals represented by the National Air Traffic Controllers Association, AFL-CIO (NATCA), I am writing to support the nomination of Phil Washington for Administrator of the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA).

It is critical for the FAA to have a confirmed administrator to lead the agency during this complicated time for aviation. Mr. Washington's experience and long record of accomplishment while leading large and complex organizations would be valuable for the FAA, especially as it seeks to address numerous challenges facing the National Airspace System (NAS). From staffing shortfalls and training backlogs, to modernization of technology and infrastructure, to the integration of new entrants, the FAA must take immediate steps to ensure the highest levels of safety and efficiency.

NATCA and our frontline workforce look forward to working with Mr. Washington to address these many challenges. We encourage the Senate to move forward with Mr. Washington's nomination as expeditiously as possible, particularly as Congress plans to introduce FAA reauthorization legislation in the coming months.

Thank you for your leadership of the Senate Commerce, Science, and Transportation Committee. If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Rich Santa".

Rich Santa  
President  
NATCA



National Association of Black  
Women in Construction, Inc.

*The Voice of Black Women in Construction*

6600 NW 27th Avenue, #208, Miami, FL 33417

Email: [chair@nabwic.org](mailto:chair@nabwic.org) | Website: [www.nabwic.org](http://www.nabwic.org)

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### Board Of Directors

Ann McNeill  
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Valerie Mundy  
Board Member

Jada Williams  
Board Member

Xiomara Yanique  
Board Member

### OUR MISSION

NABWIC was founded to increase the national awareness of Black Women in the construction industry.

Our charge is to:

- Advocate for Black women-owned construction businesses for contract opportunities.
- Create strategic environments that support educational, entrepreneurial, professional, and social network connections.
- Train the next generation of Black women and minorities in the construction industry.

Honorable Chair and Senator Maria Cantwell  
United States Senate Committee on Commerce, Science & Transportation  
United States Senate  
511 Hart Senate Office Building  
Washington, DC 20510

March 3, 2023

**Re: NABWIC Proudly Endorses Nominee Military Veteran, Mr. Phillip A. Washington, for FAA Administrator.**

Dear United States Senator Maria Cantwell and Senate Committee Members on Commerce Science and Transportation:

The National Association of Black Women in Construction (NABWIC), a registered 501-C3 non-profit organization, respectfully submits our endorsement for the confirmation of Nominee Military Veteran, Mr. Phillip A. Washington, for Administrator of the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA).

Command Sergeant Major Phillip A. Washington is an extraordinary administrator with a proven SAFETY and leadership record in all modes of transportation - aviation, rail and bus.

Mr. Washington's extensive military and business training has prepared him to know that great organizations are built by its people, and they reach heights of excellence together from the clear directions of their LEADERS.

Mr. Washington innately understands that as the FAA Administrator he cannot institute expedient SAFETY, technology, operational and training changes needed to soar to success without empowering a competent, forward thinking and decisive senior team.

Nominee Washington possesses all of the critical traits essential to expediently and SAFELY institute new policies and procedures, sending clear messages to USA and international passengers that their time matters, and they are SAFE traveling on all of our airlines under the watchful eyes of highly competent and experienced Air Traffic Controllers under his leadership.

Further, Mr. Washington's military training has instilled an unwavering understanding as to who he will serve as FAA Administrator.

Command Sergeant Major Washington is crystal clear that aircraft manufacturers, information technology companies, unions and other FAA vendors are utilized to serve American citizens and passengers, who contribute to the federal tax dollars that procure their services. Therefore, Mr. Washington will not hesitate in establishing and



enforcing strict compliance policies to ensure the SAFETY of American taxpayers, who pay for the above-mentioned contractual services.

Leaders are unique critical thinkers, who are highly capable of leading with or without college, technical and professional degrees and industry experience.

These leaders' business, military and life experiences, position them to effectuate significant operational, cultural workplace and image changes to rapidly move an organization forward in less time than others, yet with greater success.

Leaders are born, not made; and their DNA includes the same material substances as Mr. Phillip A. Washington:

1. Leaders share their strategic visions and are open to cutting edge advancements.
2. Leaders are responsible for the success and failures of each of their employees; who honorably take the blame and humbly share the credit.
3. Leaders boost the morale and confidence of their senior staff to their lower members.
4. Leaders are humble; because humility positions you to learn quickly, ask for help, adapt to situations uniquely and take constructive feedback timely and effectively.
5. Leaders are excellent communicators, knowing not only what to say, but how to say words that convey verbal and non-verbal clear messages.
6. Leaders are attentive listeners, who ingest thoughts, best practices and expertise of others into their final decisions.
7. Leaders' work ethics inspire their staffs to continuously improve upon skills in order to demonstrate excellence the first time.
8. Leaders possess emotional intelligence, which is the ability to recognize and discern between their own emotions and others.
9. Leaders assess challenges, implement timely hurdle overcoming plans and turn challenges into victories.
10. Leaders simply lead.

In closing, the National Association of Black Women in Construction (NABWIC) proudly recommends Nominee Military Veteran, Mr. Mr. Phillip A. Washington, as confirmed Administrator of the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA).

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Ann McNeill', is written over the typed name.

Ann McNeill

**Founder and Chair of the National Association of Black Women in Construction**



**NBAA**  
NATIONAL BUSINESS AVIATION ASSOCIATION

## **NBAA Welcomes Nomination of Phil Washington as Next FAA Administrator**

**Washington, DC, July 7, 2022** – The National Business Aviation Association (NBAA) today welcomed the nomination of Phil Washington to be the next leader of the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA), noting the value of having a confirmed administrator for providing consistent leadership at the agency.

“We’re pleased the administration has moved expeditiously to offer a nominee for FAA administrator,” said NBAA President and CEO Ed Bolen. “The U.S. has the world’s largest, safest and most efficient aviation system, and it’s important for us to have stability at the FAA to navigate current challenges and provide strong and innovative leadership to meet the opportunities of the future. We look forward to working with Phil Washington upon his confirmation.”

Washington has served as CEO of Denver International Airport (DEN), Colorado’s largest commercial airport and the country’s third-largest airport by passenger count, since July 2021. In 2009, Washington was named CEO of the Denver Regional Transportation District after serving as the public transportation service’s assistant general manager since 1999.

He later led the Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority (Metro) from March 2015 to May 2021, overseeing an agency of 11,000 employees charged with transporting 1.2 million boarding bus and rail passengers daily.

Under Washington's leadership, in 2021 Metro was named to the DiversityInc Top 50 Employer competition for the first time in the agency's history. He has also been honored with the Los Angeles County Economic Development Corporation's Eddy Award for outstanding leadership in economic development and the Coro Crystal Eagle Award for leadership.

If confirmed by the U.S. Senate, Washington would lead an agency of 45,000 people with an annual budget of \$24 billion. Capt. Billy Nolen has served as the FAA's Acting Administrator since April, following the retirement of previous administrator Steve Dickson.

Washington is a 24-year veteran of the U.S. Army, retiring from active duty with the rank of Command Sergeant Major. He is a disabled veteran and was awarded the Defense Superior Service Medal, recognizing superior meritorious service in a position of significant responsibility.

In 2020 and 2021, Washington co-chaired the Biden/Harris Infrastructure Policy Committee and later led the Biden/Harris Transportation Transition Teams. He holds a B.A. in Business from Columbia College, an M.A. in Management from Webster University and is a graduate of the Harvard University Kennedy School for Senior Executives in State and Local Government.

###

Founded in 1947 and based in Washington, DC, the National Business Aviation Association (NBAA) is the leading organization for companies that rely on general aviation aircraft to help make their businesses more efficient, productive and successful. The association represents more than 10,000 company and professional members and provides more than 100 products and services to the business aviation community, including the NBAA Business Aviation Convention & Exhibition (NBAA-BACE), the world's largest civil aviation trade show. Learn more about NBAA at [nbaa.org](https://www.nbaa.org).

February 22, 2023



The Honorable Maria Cantwell  
United States Senate  
511 Hart Senate Office Building  
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senator Cantwell:

On behalf of the Port of Seattle and Seattle-Tacoma International Airport (SEA), we are pleased to write to you in strong support of the nomination of Denver International Airport Chief Executive Officer Phillip A. Washington to serve as the next Administrator of the Federal Aviation Administration. In addition, we respectfully request that you consider asking questions related to SEA during Mr. Washington's upcoming Senate Commerce Committee hearing.

As you have noted, the need for a strong leader at the FAA is as important as it has ever been, in order to make the policy and investment decisions necessary to ensure that our National Airspace System (NAS) continues to be the safest and most efficient in the world. While the scope the FAA is broad – from overseeing aerospace manufacturers to the management of airspace and new entrants to the NAS – having an FAA Administrator who brings a strong appreciation for the role of airports is a top priority for SEA and our peers throughout the country. In addition, Congress has invested significantly in airport infrastructure and decarbonization over the past several years, and we need a close partnership with the FAA to realize our shared vision of a modern, safe, clean, and sustainable airport industry.

In preparation for Mr. Washington's Commerce Committee confirmation hearing, we would deeply appreciate your consideration of asking him the following questions during the session:

- 1) Seattle-Tacoma International Airport is one of the busiest airports in the country, and has been one of the fastest growing in terms of passenger volumes – from 31 million in the year 2010 to almost 52 million in 2019. To accommodate that travel demand, SEA is working closely with the FAA to produce a draft National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) Environmental Analysis (EA). Unfortunately, due to a wide range of factors, that NEPA EA has been delayed, which will challenge the airport and the FAA to manage passenger growth in an increasingly constrained facility over the coming years, and so completion of that NEPA EA as soon as possible is a top priority. Can you commit to working with SEA to complete the draft NEPA EA on the current schedule?
- 2) SEA has been one of the leading airports in the country in terms of working to adopt the use of sustainable aviation fuels (SAF). Ensuring a thriving SAF industry will require investments and incentives throughout the supply chain – from feedstocks to refining to blending – but airports are a key end-user with specific infrastructure, policy, and financing needs. For example, SEA has conducted extensive research into SAF production and siting, and is piloting an innovative

approach by partnering with airlines to purchase the air quality benefits of the SAF that is used at SEA. To create a successful ecosystem for SAF deployment, we need the federal government as a partner and leader. How can the FAA provide additional resources in partnering with airports to expand SAF availability and use?

- 3) One of the top priorities for airports nationally is the transition away from PFAS-containing firefighting foam (AFFF), as soon as approved alternatives aligned with the U.S. Department of Defense's updated military standards (MilSpec) are added to the qualified products list. This transition will be challenging, particularly because of the competition that may occur between the Department of Defense's system-wide transition and transition at individual airports without a nationally coordinated effort. SEA has set a goal to be the first airport in this transition, and is already preparing to not only purchase vehicle cleaning technologies and fluorine-free foam but also train their firefighters on the use of these products. Do you see opportunities to partner with and commit resources to support early adopter airports like SEA to develop transition process efficiencies or other best practices that can help with the broader national transition?

Thank you for your consideration of these proposed questions, and for your leadership on aviation issues. We look forward to continuing to partner with you on issues of mutual interest.

Yours truly,



Commissioner Sam Cho  
President  
Port of Seattle Commission



Stephen P. Metruck  
Executive Director  
Port of Seattle



Lance Lyttle  
Managing Director, Aviation Division  
Port of Seattle



Professional Aviation Safety Specialists, AFL-CIO

## **Nomination of Phillip Washington as Next FAA Administrator**

July 07, 2022

PASS's statement on the nomination of Phillip A. Washington to be the next FAA administrator:

PASS welcomes the news that the Biden Administration has put forth a nominee to lead the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) as the next administrator. Acting Administrator Billy Nolen has been serving admirably in that role since the retirement of Steve Dickson at the end of March.

PASS looks forward to working with Mr. Washington on the many challenges facing the FAA. We are encouraged by Mr. Washington's management skills as demonstrated while serving as the CEO at Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority and Denver International Airport. This experience will be instrumental in implementing provisions of the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (BIL) within the FAA, work he has begun with the BIL funds received by Denver's airport.

PASS looks forward to the nomination process, which will allow Mr. Washington to present his goals and initiatives for the FAA and how those will impact the employees we represent.

March 20, 2023

Dear Chair Cantwell and Ranking Member Cruz,

I write in strong support of Phillip A. Washington to serve as the next Administrator of the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA). With Mr. Washington's extensive background and leadership running large organizations, he is exactly what the FAA needs at this critical time for aviation in our country.

If confirmed, Mr. Washington will serve as the first Senate-confirmed African American FAA Administrator. But that is not the only unique aspect of Mr. Washington's nomination. While FAA has been led by truly talented and accomplished administrators, Mr. Washington stands out for having run three large transportation agencies along with his service in the U.S. Army. Mr. Washington dedicated over 24 years of his life in service to our country – rising to the highest non-commissioned military rank of Command Sergeant Major. Service in the military prepared Mr. Washington to develop key leadership skills, from motivating and inspiring teams to ensuring focus and dedication to the mission.

Following his distinguished career in the military, Mr. Washington further acknowledged himself in the transportation community by leading three transportation agencies - CEO of Denver's Regional Transportation District, CEO of LA Metro, and his current role as CEO of Denver International Airport. In each position, Mr. Washington has ensured that travelers get to their destinations safely – whether through transit stations or the third-busiest airport in the world – all while managing thousands of transportation employees. This experience will serve Mr. Washington well as he manages the 45,000 hardworking employees of the FAA whose mission “is to provide the safest, most efficient aerospace in the world.”

The FAA in the last few years has faced several challenges. With tragedies involving the 737 MAX exposing flaws in FAA's certification of aircraft, flights being temporarily grounded for the first time since

9/11 related to an aging NOTAM system, and a recent spike in near-collisions between aircraft, now more than ever FAA needs a leader who can dispel any questions on whether the agency remains the global standard in aviation. He may not be a pilot, but Mr. Washington is a proven leader who will bring the right experience and approach to FAA as it addresses these challenges.

Having served his country before in uniform, we now need Mr. Washington to serve his country again as FAA Administrator. Mr. Washington has my strong support, and I urge you to move his confirmation through your Committee and before the U.S. Senate.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Ray LaHood  
Former U.S. Secretary of Transportation 2009-2013

March 15, 2023

The Honorable Maria Cantwell  
Chair  
Committee on Commerce, Science and Transportation  
U.S. Senate  
254 Russell Senate Office Building  
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Ted Cruz  
Ranking Member  
Committee on Commerce, Science and Transportation  
U.S. Senate  
512 Dirksen Senate Office Building  
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Chair Cantwell and Ranking Member Cruz,

I am pleased and honored to write this letter supporting President Biden's nomination of Phillip A. Washington, CEO of the Denver International Airport, to the important post of Administrator of the Federal Aviation Administration in the U.S. Department of Transportation. I have known Mr. Washington for a number of years and have observed him to be highly competent, a skilled manager and an individual of high integrity. I am confident that he will be a true leader among the capable team led by the Department of Transportation Secretary Pete Buttigieg to address the myriad aviation, transportation and logistic needs of the traveling and shipping public, ensuring that America remains the most mobile society in the world. Our very democracy, economy and quality of life depend upon it.

To be sure, Mr. Washington, if he is honored to be confirmed by the Senate, will come to the helm of the FAA at a critical time. The growing need for air traffic control modernization began during my years as Secretary and continues to this day. And the thoughtful regulation of the aviation industry remains a constant need, with passenger safety as the number one priority – the North Star – of FAA responsibilities.

In addition, I know that Mr. Washington will be responsive to the concerns of Congress, as members seek to ensure that the agency and the Administration are responsive to consumer issues and concerns, challenges of the moment and the long-term needs of the aviation industry, especially in light of the growing popularity and utility of unmanned aerial vehicles.

In conclusion, I have every confidence that Mr. Washington is the right person, with the right skills, knowledge, acumen and demeanor, to lead the FAA in this time of challenge, change and untold opportunity. With this in mind, I offer my support of his confirmation as FAA Administrator without reservation.

Sincerely,

Squire Patton Boggs (US) LLP

  
Rodney E. Slater



March 20, 2023

The Honorable Maria Cantwell  
Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation  
United States Senate  
254 Russell Senate Building  
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Ted Cruz  
Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation  
United States Senate  
254 Russell Senate Building  
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Chair Cantwell and Ranking Member Cruz:

On behalf of the 2 million members of the Service Employees International Union (SEIU), including 36,000 airport service workers, and the worker leaders in the Fight for \$15 and a Union, I am writing to express our strong support of Phil Washington's nomination for Administrator of the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) and ask that you move with urgency to confirm him.

The current absence of permanent, and competent leadership at the FAA puts not only our transportation system at risk, but inhibits the nation's ability to ensure our public resources that are invested annually into the system are truly serving the public good. The nation's aviation system and air travel industry continue to be in a constant state of dysfunction which hurts both travelers and the service workers who keep our airports operating. Air travel has been plagued by severe understaffing and the misappropriation of public resources which often results in longer wait times for disability support services and baggage recovery. Moreover, travel chaos has been dominating headlines for months now, from record flight cancellations during [summer travel](#) peaks to mountains of lost luggage during the [holiday travel](#) season.

As the President of SEIU, I've spoken personally with hundreds of airport service workers in the last few years who have shared how difficult these times have been for terminal and cabin cleaners, security personnel, wheelchair agents, baggage handlers, ramp workers and others. This largely Black, brown, and immigrant airport service workforce, which is critical to the aviation system helping to power our airports, had to show up everyday during the height of the pandemic despite being underpaid and underprotected. Workers like Diana Ordaz Quezada of Illinois put their bodies on the line to keep airports safe and running smoothly no matter the circumstances. Diana works as a Passenger Service Assistant (PSA) at Midway International Airport in Chicago where she often works 10-hour shifts without a break. As air travel continues to rise, airport service workers – who often lack affordable health care or paid sick days – are taking on larger-than-ever workloads for no extra pay. The status quo is not sustainable, and we need change at the helm of the FAA to shore up the industry and advance solutions that create safer, more resilient airports.

MARY KAY HENRY  
International President

APRIL VERRETT  
International Secretary-Treasurer

NEAL BISNO  
Executive Vice President

JOSEPH BRYANT  
Executive Vice President

HEATHER CONROY  
Executive Vice President

LESLIE FRANE  
Executive Vice President

ROCIO SÁENZ  
Executive Vice President

SERVICE EMPLOYEES  
INTERNATIONAL UNION  
SOC, CLC

1800 Massachusetts Ave., NW  
Washington, DC 20036

202.730.7000

www.SEIU.org

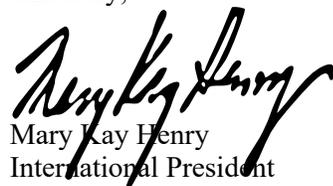


If confirmed, Mr. Washington would be that change agent. He understands the often overlooked service workforce and their importance to the safety and efficient operation of our airports and aviation system. He has a proven record of leadership, managing big organizations like the Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority, and the Denver Regional Transportation Authority, before his current role as the CEO of the Denver International Airport. Mr. Washington has demonstrated both a professional and personal commitment to diversity, equity, and inclusion as well as creating and sustaining good jobs for all parts of our transportation and aviation systems.

Mr. Washington is a 24-year veteran of the U.S. Army where he rose to the rank of Command Sergeant Major, the highest non-commissioned officer rank an enlisted soldier can achieve. Confirming the first Black American to serve as FAA administrator will not only add a needed diverse perspective to the nation's aviation system, it inspires future generations and is a step towards creating a more just system that looks more like America and serves all of us.

For these reasons, SEIU enthusiastically supports Phil Washington's nomination and urges the Committee to advance his nomination without delay to the full Senate. If you have questions for SEIU related to this nomination, please contact Isaiah Wilson, SEIU's Assistant Director of Legislation, at [isaiah.wilson@seiu.org](mailto:isaiah.wilson@seiu.org).

Sincerely,



Mary Kay Henry  
International President





*A bold voice for transportation workers*

March 16, 2023

The Honorable Maria Cantwell  
Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation  
United States Senate  
254 Russell Senate Building  
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Ted Cruz  
Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation  
United States Senate  
254 Russell Senate Building  
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Chair Cantwell and Ranking Member Cruz:

On behalf of the AFL-CIO Transportation Trades Department (TTD) and the millions of aviation workers that we represent, I urge you to swiftly advance the nomination of Phil Washington for Administrator of the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA).

Mr. Washington has garnered professional expertise and leadership experience across multiple transportation organizations, including the Regional Transportation District of Denver, the Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority, and the Denver International Airport.

With the previous five-year reauthorization of the FAA set to expire this year and many critical worker safety issues in the aviation industry in need of urgent resolution, it is crucial that we have strong, stable leadership within the FAA. The FAA Reauthorization Act of 2018 is a shining example of what can be accomplished when partisan politics are set aside and lawmakers come together to advance policies that will benefit the American people. The bill made critical investments in the FAA and our national airspace system (NAS), and included several provisions long fought for by TTD and our affiliates that will advance aviation safety and improve working conditions for employees.

Yet, a significant backlog of overdue rulemakings and other congressional mandates from the 2018 reauthorization bill has yet to be implemented, including drug and alcohol testing requirements for FAA-certified aircraft repair stations outside the United States and critical measures to protect customer service agents from assault. Enactment of these and other rulemakings is critical for the safety of the NAS, the aviation workforce, and airline passengers.

**Transportation Trades Department, AFL-CIO**  
815 Black Lives Plaza, NW / 4<sup>th</sup> Floor / Washington DC 20006  
Tel: 202.628.9262 / Fax: 202.628.0391 / [www.ttd.org](http://www.ttd.org)



I have every confidence that Mr. Washington can effectively carry out the duties and responsibilities of this role, including clearing the backlog of regulatory actions while advancing a forward-thinking approach to aviation safety. Since his nomination was announced, he has earned the support of multiple aviation unions, former FAA leaders, and aviation industry organizations, demonstrating his ability to be a coalition builder at a time when we urgently need permanent strong leadership to unite stakeholders around solutions to some of the most pressing safety challenges in our national airspace, including several recent near-miss incidents, staffing issues, and modernization efforts.

The FAA Administrator position is one of the most critical safety jobs in the Department of Transportation, and we cannot emphasize enough the importance of a swift confirmation. Vacancy of this critical role leaves the aviation industry vulnerable to compromises on safety, and undermines the well-being of workers and the flying public. Again, we urge you to swiftly advance the nomination of Phil Washington for this essential leadership post.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Greg Regan", written over a circular stamp or mark.

Greg Regan  
President



# Transport Workers Union of America, AFL-CIO

**John Samuelson**  
International President

**Alex Garcia**  
International Executive  
Vice President

**Jerome Lafragola**  
International  
Secretary-Treasurer

**Curtis Tate**  
International Administrative  
Vice President

**Mike Mayes**  
International Administrative  
Vice President

***"AMERICA'S FIGHTING DEMOCRATIC UNION"***

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March 2, 2023

The Honorable Maria Cantwell  
Chairwoman  
U.S. Senate Committee on  
Commerce, Science & Transportation  
420-A Hart Senate Office Building  
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Ted Cruz  
Ranking Member  
U.S. Senate Committee on  
Commerce, Science & Transportation  
127A Russell Senate Office Building  
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Chair Cantwell and Ranking Member Cruz:

On behalf of more than 155,000 members of the Transport Workers Union of America (TWU) – the largest union in the U.S. airline industry – I am writing to express our strong support for Phil Washington to be the next Administrator of the Federal Aviation Administration. Mr. Washington is exactly the leader that the FAA needs as it navigates the increasingly complex issues facing our national airspace.

The TWU represents nearly every class and craft of worker across 17 airlines and several airline contractors. Our members include flight attendants, ground service workers, mechanics, dispatchers, pilot simulator instructors, and other frontline workers whose safety and careers are under the FAA's oversight. It is essential that the next FAA administrator prioritize the needs of these professionals as they manage an agency in transition.

The next FAA administrator faces a significant backlog of overdue rulemakings and congressional mandates that are weighing down the safety of our airspace, as well as the competitiveness of our industry. Among these are new drug and alcohol testing requirements for safety sensitive personnel at FAA-certified aircraft repair stations outside the United States. These facilities are operating at far below our standards for dozens of safety issues. This set of loopholes is driving airlines to offshore work onto the lower standard. Closing these loopholes will ensure that American mechanics can compete on a level playing field with their global counterparts and raise safety across our airspace.

The FAA must also responsibly move forward on integrating new technologies and business practices without undermining safety. Today, without permanent leadership and absent a senate-confirmed Administrator able to make commitments on behalf of the agency, these issues are being addressed ad hoc or not at all. Too many safety critical concerns, like remote dispatching, have been left without any guidance from senior leadership to agency personnel. And the effect new technologies like advanced air mobility might have on our airspace is not being considered holistically or systemically. These problems will persist absent a confirmed administrator vested with all the powers and responsibilities of the agency.

Phil Washington is a proven leader who will serve with honor and distinction. His record of accomplishment as a public administrator speaks for itself. The TWU is proud to support Mr. Washington to be the next FAA Administrator and we hope the Committee will move swiftly to approve his nomination.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "John Samuelson". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned above the printed name.

John Samuelson  
International President

March 21, 2023

The Honorable Maria Cantwell, Chair  
Committee on Commerce, Science and  
Transportation  
U.S. Senate

The Honorable Ted Cruz, Ranking Member  
Committee on Commerce, Science and  
Transportation  
U.S. Senate

RE: Phil Washington's nomination to serve as FAA Administrator

Dear Chair Cantwell, Ranking Member Cruz and Members of the Senate Committee on Commerce, Science and Transportation:

On behalf of the members of UNITE HERE, I write to express our support for Phil Washington to serve as the next Administrator of the Federal Aviation Administration. Mr. Washington is a seasoned executive with the experience and vision to lead our nation's aviation system who has demonstrated an ability to work with all stakeholders, including labor unions. I urge you to bring him swiftly through the confirmation process, as our nation's aviation system needs steadfast leadership.

Our members include workers in the gaming, hotel, food service and airport industries. Currently, we represent approximately 40,000 workers in airports across the country. These members perform essential roles in ensuring travelers can get meals and snacks in airports and onboard planes. It is critical that the next FAA Administrator will work as a partner and advocate for these essential workers. We are confident that Phil Washington will do so because he and his team have led the way to this kind of cooperation with our union in Denver, where he has served as CEO of Denver International Airport—the third busiest airport in the world—where he manages 35,000 employees and is responsible for moving over 69 million passengers yearly through the airport.

As you deliberate on your upcoming vote, I urge you to consider what is truly at stake. Our aviation ecosystem needs reliable, steadfast leadership to steward the FAA as they embark on an comprehensive overhaul of our aviation infrastructure. A leader who will prioritize working people and will put the safety of travelers at the forefront of every decision. Mr. Washington is a proven leader who is more than capable of serving as the next FAA Administrator. I strongly encourage you to vote to approve his nomination this week.

Sincerely,



D. Taylor

UNITE HERE President

# U.S. TRAVEL ASSOCIATION®

August 8, 2022

The Honorable Maria Cantwell  
Chair  
U.S. Senate Committee on  
Commerce, Science, & Transportation  
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Roger Wicker  
Ranking Member  
U.S. Senate Committee on  
Commerce, Science, & Transportation  
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Chair Cantwell and Ranking Member Wicker,

As the leading voice of the travel industry, the U.S. Travel Association supports the nomination of Phillip A. Washington to be the next Administrator of the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA), and we urge his swift confirmation.

The FAA is responsible for the safety and administration of civil aviation, air navigation, and related airport operations. Every action or inaction taken by the FAA directly impacts the travel industry—an industry that serves a crucial role in empowering countless communities across the country.

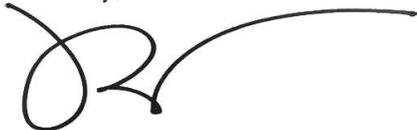
Before the pandemic, the travel industry was one of the strongest areas of the economy, directly contributing \$1.2 trillion to the U.S. economy and supporting 16.7 million jobs in 2019. Unfortunately, the pandemic led to significant financial and workforce challenges for the industry, leading to \$755 billion in lost travel spending and the loss of millions of jobs.

As we come out of the depths of the pandemic and look toward the future, we will need a strong and experienced leader at FAA to ensure a safe and welcoming environment for the traveling public—building off past successes to realize a bold vision for the future of travel.

Mr. Washington provides all of these qualities and more, having previously served as the CEO of Denver International Airport, where he developed a strategy to prepare the airport for growth over the next 10 years. He also has a long track record of working with the transportation sector in general, having served as the CEO of the Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority and in various other transportation-related positions before his time at Denver International Airport.

Additionally, as a decorated veteran with a long career in the military, we have no doubt Mr. Washington will bring a fastidious devotion to competency and exceptionalism to the job. That's why we look forward to his leadership at FAA and hope you will support his confirmation. Thank you for your time and attention.

Sincerely,



**Tori Emerson Barnes**  
Executive Vice President  
Public Affairs and Policy

# Congress of the United States

Washington, DC 20515

July 29, 2022

The Honorable Chuck Schumer  
Majority Leader  
United States Senate  
S-221, U.S. Capitol  
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Mitch McConnell  
Minority Leader  
United States Senate  
317 Russell Senate Office Bldg.  
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senator Schumer and Senator McConnell,

As you consider the nomination of Phillip A. Washington to serve as Administrator of the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA), we respectfully urge you to vote in favor of his confirmation.

Mr. Washington has a distinguished record of accomplishments and experience from his career in public service at the local, state, and federal levels. Known by those who have worked with him for his consensus-building, collaborative approach to problem-solving, and his history of community engagement with people on the ground, Mr. Washington would bring vigor to his new post that will serve the American people well by improving civil aviation, one of America's largest economic engines.

From 2015 to 2021, Mr. Washington served as the CEO of the Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority (Metro), the third largest public transportation system in the U.S. At Metro, Mr. Washington managed a balanced budget of more than \$8 billion and provided oversight of an agency with 11,000 employees that transported 1.2 million boarding passengers daily on a fleet of 2,200 clean-air buses and six rail lines.

In his current role as the CEO of Denver International Airport (DEN), the world's 3rd busiest airport, Mr. Washington has overseen a \$1.3 billion expansion of the airport and an increase of the workforce to over 35,000 employees. Under his leadership, DEN announced the Vision 100 strategy to prepare and improve the airport's facilities and operations for the anticipated 100 million annual passengers within 10 years. He also co-founded the Equity in Infrastructure Program (EIP) to improve contracting practices by creating opportunities for historically underutilized businesses.

Prior to his career in public transportation agencies, Mr. Washington served 24 years in the United States Army, where he held the rank of Command Sergeant Major, the highest non-commissioned officer rank an enlisted soldier can achieve. He retired from active duty, is a disabled veteran and was awarded the prestigious Defense Superior Service Medal for exceptional service to his country.

We believe that Mr. Washington's record of achievement, especially his proven ability to successfully lead two of the largest transit agencies and airports in the U.S., makes him a strong candidate for Administrator of the Federal Aviation Administration. We therefore respectfully urge you to vote in favor of his confirmation in a timely fashion.

Sincerely,



Brad Sherman  
Member of Congress



Henry C. "Hank" Johnson, Jr.  
Member of Congress



Karen Bass  
Member of Congress



Adam B. Schiff  
Member of Congress



Grace F. Napolitano  
Member of Congress



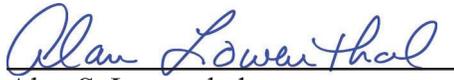
Judy Chu  
Member of Congress



Tony Cardenas  
Member of Congress



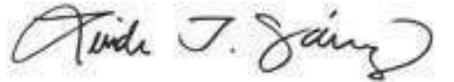
Ted Lieu  
Member of Congress



Alan S. Lowenthal  
Member of Congress



Norma J. Torres  
Member of Congress



Linda T. Sánchez  
Member of Congress

March 20, 2023

Dear Chair Cantwell and Ranking Member Cruz,

I write in strong support of Phillip A. Washington to serve as the next Administrator of the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA). With Mr. Washington's extensive background and leadership running large organizations, he is exactly what the FAA needs at this critical time for aviation in our country.

If confirmed, Mr. Washington will serve as the first Senate-confirmed African American FAA Administrator. But that is not the only unique aspect of Mr. Washington's nomination. While FAA has been led by truly talented and accomplished administrators, Mr. Washington stands out for having run three large transportation agencies along with his service in the U.S. Army. Mr. Washington dedicated over 24 years of his life in service to our country – rising to the highest non-commissioned military rank of Command Sergeant Major. Service in the military prepared Mr. Washington to develop key leadership skills, from motivating and inspiring teams to ensuring focus and dedication to the mission.

Following his distinguished career in the military, Mr. Washington further acknowledged himself in the transportation community by leading three transportation agencies - CEO of Denver's Regional Transportation District, CEO of LA Metro, and his current role as CEO of Denver International Airport. In each position, Mr. Washington has ensured that travelers get to their destinations safely – whether through transit stations or the third-busiest airport in the world – all while managing thousands of transportation employees. This experience will serve Mr. Washington well as he manages the 45,000 hardworking employees of the FAA whose mission “is to provide the safest, most efficient aerospace in the world.”

The FAA in the last few years has faced several challenges. With tragedies involving the 737 MAX exposing flaws in FAA's certification of aircraft, flights being temporarily grounded for the first time since

9/11 related to an aging NOTAM system, and a recent spike in near-collisions between aircraft, now more than ever FAA needs a leader who can dispel any questions on whether the agency remains the global standard in aviation. He may not be a pilot, but Mr. Washington is a proven leader who will bring the right experience and approach to FAA as it addresses these challenges.

Having served his country before in uniform, we now need Mr. Washington to serve his country again as FAA Administrator. Mr. Washington has my strong support, and I urge you to move his confirmation through your Committee and before the U.S. Senate.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Ray LaHood  
Former U.S. Secretary of Transportation 2009-2013

March 15, 2023

The Honorable Maria Cantwell  
Chair  
Committee on Commerce, Science and Transportation  
U.S. Senate  
254 Russell Senate Office Building  
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Ted Cruz  
Ranking Member  
Committee on Commerce, Science and Transportation  
U.S. Senate  
512 Dirksen Senate Office Building  
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Chair Cantwell and Ranking Member Cruz,

I am pleased and honored to write this letter supporting President Biden's nomination of Phillip A. Washington, CEO of the Denver International Airport, to the important post of Administrator of the Federal Aviation Administration in the U.S. Department of Transportation. I have known Mr. Washington for a number of years and have observed him to be highly competent, a skilled manager and an individual of high integrity. I am confident that he will be a true leader among the capable team led by the Department of Transportation Secretary Pete Buttigieg to address the myriad aviation, transportation and logistic needs of the traveling and shipping public, ensuring that America remains the most mobile society in the world. Our very democracy, economy and quality of life depend upon it.

To be sure, Mr. Washington, if he is honored to be confirmed by the Senate, will come to the helm of the FAA at a critical time. The growing need for air traffic control modernization began during my years as Secretary and continues to this day. And the thoughtful regulation of the aviation industry remains a constant need, with passenger safety as the number one priority – the North Star – of FAA responsibilities.

In addition, I know that Mr. Washington will be responsive to the concerns of Congress, as members seek to ensure that the agency and the Administration are responsive to consumer issues and concerns, challenges of the moment and the long-term needs of the aviation industry, especially in light of the growing popularity and utility of unmanned aerial vehicles.

In conclusion, I have every confidence that Mr. Washington is the right person, with the right skills, knowledge, acumen and demeanor, to lead the FAA in this time of challenge, change and untold opportunity. With this in mind, I offer my support of his confirmation as FAA Administrator without reservation.

Sincerely,

Squire Patton Boggs (US) LLP

  
Rodney E. Slater



March 20, 2023

United States Senate Committee on Commerce, Justice and Transportation  
Russell Senate Office Building  
Room 254  
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Chairwoman Maria Cantwell & Ranking Member Ted Cruz,

On behalf of the Williamsport Municipal Airport Authority, we would like to cast our support of Phil Washington's nomination as the new FAA Administrator and ask the Senate vote for his confirmation. It is a breath of fresh air to have an FAA Administrator nominee who actually has run an airport and understands the complexity of the business-side of such a critical piece of our local and regional economies. He has run three of the largest transportation systems in the United States, including the 3<sup>rd</sup> largest airport in the world (DIA), and has 45 years of impressive public service. The organizations he has run have run safely and efficiently and the FAA needs this type of leadership at such a critical juncture. Given the trying times in the aviation industry in the United States is currently facing, we have confidence that Phil Washington understands both the safety and the business aspects of transporting passengers and goods that drive our nation's economy.

Our rural and small community airports are the life blood of our regional economies, and they are facing a crisis of air service disruption, including the Williamsport Regional Airport, which has been without daily air service since the middle of the pandemic. We are encouraged that Phil understands this issue and has publicly acknowledged more needs to be done by the FAA to support rural and small community airports and restore air service to these communities.

We ask that the Senate quickly confirm Phil Washington and enable the FAA to tackle the challenges our air community faces today.

*The Williamsport Municipal Airport Authority is located in Montoursville, PA, in Lycoming County. The Airport Authority is the owner and operator of the Williamsport Regional Airport, a public non-hub commercial airport, which serves a population of about 200,000 in the region. The region is home to businesses, universities and organizations, such as Avco Lycoming a division of Textron, Pennsylvania College of Technology (an affiliate of Penn State), Kelloggs, Lycoming College, Lock Haven University, Mansfield University, Bloomsburg University, Bucknell University and Susquehanna University, UPMC Susquehanna, Geisinger, Spartronics, Bimbo Bakeries, Frito Lay, Little League International- "The Little League World Series", Shop Vac, PMF Industries, Halliburton, US Well Services, Weis Markets, Conagra and Kidron.*

Sincerely,

Frank Pellegrino, Chairman  
Williamsport Municipal Airport Authority