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CITY OF ATLANTIC CITY
OFFICE OF THE MAYOR

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L.E.T.S. A.C.E. IT!



MAYOR MARTY SMALL, SR.

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May 24, 2021

U.S. Senator Cory Booker
717 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senator Booker:

On behalf of the City of Atlantic City, we are contacting you to express our support for a targeted federal grant program focused on Advanced Air Mobility (AAM), which represents the next generation of air transportation in the United States. Through electrification and next-generation battery technology, AAM will advance the nation towards sustainable, zero-emission aerospace and open new air transportation opportunities to move people between and within urban, suburban, and rural areas.

For residents of New Jersey, AAM has the potential to directly connect our communities, including those left behind by legacy infrastructure investments. With electric AAM aircraft being extremely quiet, they can provide a complete trip experience and operate in close proximity to where trips begin and end. This will improve mobility in our communities, especially for residents with disabilities.

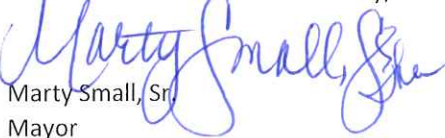
As our nation works to build a sustainable transportation sector, AAM is critical to continuing our tradition of aviation excellence and has the potential to create nearly 300,000 jobs and become an annual \$115 billion market by 2035, according to a recent Deloitte study. The same report found that AAM could contribute \$8 billion in tax revenue by 2035.

To achieve these goals, forward-looking infrastructure investments are needed to ensure that this exciting technology's benefits are shared broadly across our nation's diverse communities. Through a competitive U.S. Department of Transportation grant program focused on planning and capital costs, communities can create integrated plans for AAM operations and invest in the infrastructure needed to support future scaled-up operations.

In New Jersey, we need to begin planning and building new takeoff and landing facilities, known as "vertiports," and associated infrastructure that will bring AAM operations directly to communities and leverage existing multimodal facilities and transit hubs. Initially, some AAM operations will occur at existing heliports, but to realize the full potential of this technology, investments in planning and infrastructure will be necessary.

We strongly support leveraging investments from AAM companies, state and local communities, and the private sector through a new targeted DOT grant program. This program will assist cities, metropolitan planning organizations, states, and others in accelerating this game-changing technology, allowing the U.S. to maintain its global leadership in aviation while creating thousands of new green American jobs and investing in our communities.

Yours in service to the community,


Marty Small, Sr.
Mayor