

Michael B. Hancock
MAYOR



City and County of Denver

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February 27, 2013

Administrator Michael Huerta
Orville Wright Building (FOB10A)
FAA National Headquarters
800 Independence Avenue, SW
Washington, D.C. 20591

RE: Front Range Airport Sequestration Impacts

Dear Administrator Huerta,

I am writing to you to express my concern for the potential impacts of the pending sequestration budgets cuts and closure of the Front Range Airport (FTG) Air Traffic Control Tower. As you are aware, Denver International Airport (DIA) and FTG are located within nine miles of each other. FTG is the closest Reliever Airport to DIA and is a valued aviation and economic partner to us.

The historical relationship between DIA and FTG has not always been positive in the past. However, I can say that today both airports are working together and committed to a collaborative relationship that benefits both our communities. An important initiative that we share is the development of Spaceport Colorado at FTG. We strongly believe that Spaceport Colorado is a critical element to our collective economic health as we move forward. This is reflective in DIA's financial commitment to support FTG's application for Spaceport Colorado designation by the FAA. We look forward to a continued cooperative relationship in the development of the Spaceport and its future success.

We are aware of the likelihood of the closure of the FTG tower and want to express our deep concern regarding the impacts related to air traffic and the development of the Spaceport. We believe that the lack of a control tower will significantly impact the success of the Spaceport application and its future development. In addition, we have engaged our partners including Adams County, FTG, Rocky Mountain Metropolitan Airport and Centennial Airport to address airspace efficiency. We have made great strides in these improvements through the implementation of RNAV arrival and departure routes benefitting the Denver Metroplex airspace. The closure of the FTG tower will not only preclude the maximum use of the airspace but will also effectively negate any future potential for the development of the Spaceport. We believe that lack of coordination and control between DIA and FTG ATC will have a significant and detrimental impact on the future of the Spaceport's operations.

We respectfully request your reconsideration of this matter and ask that the FTG tower remain operational for the benefit of DIA, FTG and our respective communities. Please feel free to contact me should you have any questions or would like to discuss this further.

Sincerely,



Michael B. Hancock
Mayor