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August 10, 2022

Ryan Emerson, Director
Multimodal Transportation Fund
PA Department of Community and Economic Development
Commonwealth Keystone Building
400 North Street, 4th Floor
Harrisburg, PA 17120-0225

**RE: DCED Multimodal Transportation
Fund Application
Coral Aviation/Quest Facility
Bern Township, Berks County**

Dear Mr. Emerson:

The Berks County Planning Commission is in receipt of the application for the Coral Aviation/Quest Facility request of \$3 million under DCED's Multimodal Transportation Fund Program along with a request for consistency with the Berks County Comprehensive Plan.

The proposed project consists of building a 50,000 square foot, state of the art hangar with 20,000 square feet of office and support facilities. A full motion Pilatus simulator training center will also be built, which will be open to the public and companies seeking their FAA required pilot training. Another addition at the Reading Regional Airport (RRA) through this proposed project will be a state of the art, self-serve capable fuel farm consisting of two 12,000 gallon jet tanks and one 10,000 avgas tank. Multiple mobile refuelers will be purchased to support fuel sales that will also be open to the public.

The proposed improvements will allow Coral Aviation to grow at Reading Regional Airport with net new employees to the municipality and county, providing quality employment opportunities for Berks County residents consisting of a minimum of 25 new full-time jobs at a pay exceeding median county earnings.

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The Multimodal Transportation Fund application process requires applicants to provide a letter from the appropriate planning agency certifying that the proposed project is in compliance with the comprehensive land use plans. This letter fulfills that requirement.

The Berks County Comprehensive Plan 2030 Update identifies this area as an Existing Development Area in Bern Township. Within this area, the plan notes that:

“A variety of reinvestment, rehabilitation, and revitalization efforts, will be promoted to take advantage of the extensive infrastructure network in place, to improve the tax base of the urban centers, and keep our older urban areas vibrant. Municipalities are encouraged to create public/private partnerships that jointly support a community-driven comprehensive strategy to revitalize, stabilize and grow older neighborhoods.”

Additionally, the Plan’s Transportation Goal is to “provide and maintain a balanced, multimodal transportation system that will safely and efficiently move people and goods.”

The proposed improvements meet all of these objectives and, as such, are consistent with the Berks County Comprehensive Plan.

The Berks County Planning Commission thanks you for the opportunity to review this grant application.

Sincerely,

Jodi L. Gauker
Chairwoman
Berks County Planning Commission

DBH
cc: James Dastra, President, Coral Aviation Group