



July 6, 2026

Mr. Don Rosenthal
City Manager
City of Lake City
205 N. Marion Avenue
Lake City, FL 32055

**Re: Commitment of Matching Funds – EDA Infrastructure Grant Application
(Lake City Gateway Airport)**

Dear Mr. Rosenthal,

On behalf of **AAR Airframe MRO – Lake City**, I am writing to formally express AAR's commitment to support the City of Lake City's application to the U.S. Department of Commerce, Economic Development Administration (EDA), for critical infrastructure improvements at the Lake City Gateway Airport.

The proposed project will replace the roof systems on five existing aircraft maintenance hangars—Hangars 3, 5, 6, and 9—totaling approximately **354,286 square feet** of facility space. These hangars are essential to AAR's Maintenance, Repair, and Overhaul (MRO) operations, providing the controlled indoor environment required to safely house aircraft, perform heavy maintenance checks, protect sensitive equipment, and maintain continuous production schedules. The integrity of these structures is critical to ensuring operational continuity, workforce stability, and the protection of high-value aviation assets in a region vulnerable to hurricane impacts. The proposed improvements will restore full weather protection, improve structural resilience, and significantly reduce operational disruptions caused by storm-related damage.

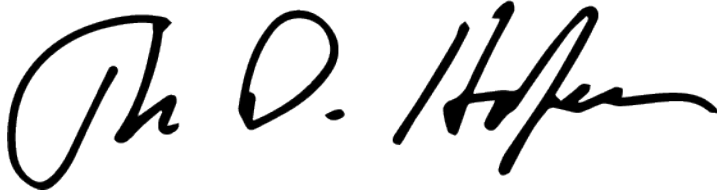
Upon award of EDA funds, AAR hereby **commits a matching share of \$1,500,000**, representing 20% of the total \$7,499,993 project cost. These matching funds are fully **dedicated to this project and will not be reallocated for any other purpose** during the period of performance. All committed funds will be **available as needed** to support project activities, and they are **free of any encumbrances, restrictions, or legal impediments that would prevent their use for eligible project expenses**. Furthermore, these funds have not been, and will not be, used to satisfy the matching requirements of any other financial assistance award, consistent with the requirements of 13 CFR § 301.5.

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This investment reflects AAR's long-standing commitment to the Lake City facility and supports the continued viability of a site that has served as a cornerstone of the regional aviation economy for decades.

We appreciate the City's leadership in advancing this important project and respectfully support its consideration for EDA funding.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Th D. Hoferer". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Th" being particularly stylized.

Thomas D. Hoferer

SVP, Repair and Engineering
AAR Airframe MRO – Lake City