



December 2, 2024

**Michael D. Gormas**

Office of Aviation Analysis  
United States Department of Transportation  
1200 New Jersey Ave SE  
Washington, DC 20590

**Re: Order 2024-10-4, Essential Air Service (EAS) at Cordova, Gustavus, Petersburg, Wrangell, and/or Yakutat, Alaska – DOT-OST-1998-4899**

Dear Mr. Gormas,

I am writing to express strong support for the selection of Alaska Airlines to continue providing essential air service to our community and Southeast Alaska with jet aircraft.

Alaska Airlines connects Southeast Alaska passengers and cargo to major communities of interest with single-plane service to Anchorage, Juneau, Ketchikan, or Seattle. From these hubs, our community can access the airline's extensive route system and benefit from its marketing relationships with other carriers. The 737-jet aircraft, which Alaska Airlines will continue using on this route, provides freight and mail capacity that other carriers simply cannot match.

Since we are not connected to a road system, having safe, scheduled air service is vital to keeping our communities connected. Additionally, Alaska Airlines aircraft are equipped with Required Navigation Performance Technology, enabling the airline to reliably access Southeast Alaska's airports during inclement weather, thus reducing diversions and cancellations and ensuring people and products can dependably reach the community.

Alaska Airlines' service is critical to the economic well-being of our community, and I/we strongly support their application to provide Essential Air Service to Southeast Alaska.

Sincerely,

Mark Jensen  
Mayor/Petersburg Borough