

AVIATION BOARD BACKGROUND LETTER

Aviation Board Meeting Date: April 21, 2025

To: Chair Dickinson and Aviation Board Members
Cc: Shaundel Washington-Spivey, Mayor
From: Jeff Tripp, Airport Director
Subject: AAAE Recommendations to Congress

Summary:

On April 3, 2025, the U.S. Department of Transportation (DOT) published a [“request for information”\(RFI\)](#) seeking comments to assist in identifying regulations, guidance, paperwork, and any other regulatory obligations that can be modified or repealed to “achieve meaningful burden reduction while continuing to achieve DOT’s legal obligations, safety mission, and regulatory objectives” and implementing two presidential executive orders focused on deregulation.

- **10-for-1 Deregulatory Order.** Each agency must ensure that at least 10 existing regulations or guidance documents are repealed if the agency seeks to promulgate a new regulation or guidance document. In addition, the order effectively requires agencies to significantly reduce the overall cost of regulatory compliance across the federal government.
- **Identifying Regulations/Guidance for Repeal or Modification.** Each agency must review and identify for repeal or modification any regulations or guidance documents that are, among other things, inconsistent with the agency’s statutory authority, imposing significant costs on industry relative to their benefits, or significantly and unjustifiably impeding infrastructure development.

The DOT has requested commenters (a) identify the specific regulation, guidance, or reporting requirement at issue; (b) provide an explanation of why the regulation, guidance, or reporting requirement should be modified, streamlined, or repealed; and (c) suggest ways DOT can do so while achieving its regulatory objectives. DOT also included a dozen different questions to help commenters develop ideas or suggestions.

The American Association of Airport Executives (AAAE) conducted extensive outreach with membership to generate recommendations for DOT and FAA to help advance the priorities and policies established in the administration’s deregulation executive orders.

AAAE's "*Commonsense Recommendations for Regulatory Reform*," (attached) provided to DOT and FAA included over 30 policy recommendations in 14 different areas that can be implemented without congressional action. These recommendations focused on eliminating FAA overregulation of airport capital improvement plans, streamlining airport infrastructure project review and approval processes, making meaningful reforms to the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) review process, and reducing unnecessary regulatory burdens and costs.

AAAE strongly encourage airport sponsors to consider filing comments and sharing feedback on how DOT and FAA requirements inhibit development projects or result in unnecessary costs. The deadline for airport sponsors to submit feedback is Monday, May 5, 2025.

The Airport has recently joined AAAE Federal Affairs Committee and has been actively participating in weekly webinars on this topic and providing input. The Airport would like to submit a city response indicating our support of the proposed recommendations.

Requested Aviation Board Action:

"I move to approve the airport's request to the City of La Crosse to submit comment to the U.S. Department of Transportation and the Federal Aviation Administration in support of the regulatory reform recommendations developed by the American Association of Airport Executives."

Respectfully Submitted,

Jeffrey S. Tripp

Jeffrey S. Tripp, A.A.E.
Airport Director

Attachment: AAAE Commonsense Recommendations for Regulatory Reform