



**SAN
FRANCISCO
CHAMBER OF
COMMERCE**

February 6, 2017

Acting Assistant Secretary for Aviation
and International Affairs
U.S. Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Avenue, S.E.
West Building Ground Floor, Room W12-140
Washington, DC 20590

Re: Slot Assignment Phase of the Delta/Aeromexico ATI Proceeding (Docket DOT-OST-2015-0070)

Dear Acting Assistant Secretary,

The San Francisco Chamber of Commerce, representing over 2,500 local businesses with over 200,000 employees across the Bay Area, supports Alaska Airlines's application for an allocation of slots at Mexico City's Benito Juarez International Airport (MEX) to enable it to introduce daily nonstop roundtrip scheduled air service between San Francisco and Mexico City.

Alaska's proposed service will provide San Francisco with additional access to Mexico's capital city. Mexico City is an important destination for travelers from San Francisco as there are strong historic, cultural and economic ties between the two cities.

Alaska is well qualified to provide the type of high-quality, competitive service that the Department of Transportation is seeking to select in this proceeding. Their proposed service will provide not only new nonstop service for San Francisco area passengers, but also new connecting service options for tens of thousands of business and leisure air travelers in cities and communities throughout California and other western states. As leading West Coast-Mexico carriers, Alaska and its affiliate Virgin America have a successful track record of providing low fares and high-quality service for consumers in numerous U.S.-Mexico markets and will do the same in the San Francisco-Mexico City market.

The San Francisco Chamber of Commerce urges the Department of Transportation to award Alaska Airlines the MEX slots necessary to implement daily nonstop service to Mexico City from San Francisco.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jim Lazarus". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Jim Lazarus
Senior Vice President of Public Policy