



August 1, 2018

RE: Opposition to Any Proposed Regulation of Airport Ground Transportation

Dear Members of the California Congressional Delegation:

On behalf of the California Airports Council (CAC), an association of the 32 commercial service airports in the state, I write to express our strong opposition to any proposed regulatory scheme on ground transportation fees and access at airports. Airports need flexibility to regulate access by ground transportation providers in order to ensure safety, quality, and availability of ground transportation services for passengers.

We understand Congress may consider a federal working group to examine ground transportation operations at airports and develop recommendations for the Department of Transportation to implement. Airports are unique facilities as they each have distinctive characteristics that must be taken into consideration when addressing ground transportation activities, including congestion, safety and environmental impacts.

Passenger levels have increased exponentially with the recovery of the economy, and airports are also facing the emergence of rideshare companies such as Uber and Lyft, along with un-permitted commercial vehicle sharing enterprises. With over 200 million passengers moving throughout California's commercial airports annually, finding solutions to manage curbside congestion and traffic flow has been a high priority. Airports charge ground transportation providers access fees based, in part, on the value of the resources they consume (i.e., curbside space) and the privileges they seek (i.e., the right to transport passengers for financial gain). **The imposition of federal regulation on airport ground access and requiring airports to charge "equal rates" overlooks the different value of such resources and privileges between different types of providers.**

Because of our unique individual circumstances, a one size fits all approach is unworkable for airports. The responsibility of ground transportation fees and access should remain with individual airports and local communities, as they understand the intricacies and exceptional factors for their specific area. We urge you to oppose any legislation that places new regulatory constraints on airport ability to manage fees and the curbside space in front of passenger terminal buildings.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Jim Lites'. The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Jim Lites
Executive Director