April 28, 2021

Dear Chairwoman DeLauro and Ranking Member Granger,

I am requesting funding for the XNA ADA Compliance Lobby Renovation/Skybridge Project in fiscal year 2022.

The entity to receive funding for this project is the Northwest Arkansas National Airport. The Airport’s address is One Airport Blvd., Ste. #100 Bentonville, Arkansas 72713.

This project supports Northwest Arkansas National Airport (XNA) planned renovation of their lobby to ensure continued ADA compliance by adding necessary redundant elevators and escalators, along with other traffic management and throughput upgrades. The project also includes a bridge from the existing parking structure, over the existing two-lane airport drop-off/pick-up road, into the main terminal building. This bridge would allow passengers who are not checking a bag to proceed directly to TSA security checkpoint and further improve groundside throughput.

XNA’s current terminal configuration is a two level structure with ground entrance, ticketing, baggage claim, and rental-car services located on the ground level and the TSA checkpoint, along with the airport gates, on the second level. The current action plan when the single elevator is out of service or requires maintenance is to bring people requiring ADA accommodation out the terminal building, around the building onto the tarmac into a side door to access the second level (past the security checkpoint) and then back towards the security checkpoint for screening. All of this must be done with a badged, airport employee for each person to follow security protocols. This project is projected to cost $31,487,307 and will ensure ADA compliance while also providing groundside throughput improvements and more ease of access for XNA users.

I certify that neither I nor my immediate family has any financial interest in this project.

Sincerely,

Steve Womack
Member of Congress