

**CITY OF EL PASO, TEXAS
AGENDA ITEM
DEPARTMENT HEAD'S SUMMARY FORM**

AGENDA DATE: January 30, 2023
PUBLIC HEARING DATE:

CONTACT PERSON(S) NAME AND PHONE NUMBER: Sam Rodriguez, Aviation Director, (915) 212-1845

DISTRICT(S) AFFECTED: ALL

STRATEGIC GOAL: Create an Environment Conducive to Strong, Sustainable, Economic Development

SUBGOAL: Grow the core business of air transportation.

SUBJECT:

A resolution that the Director of Aviation is authorized to sign a letter of support to the Department of Transportation, between Allegiant Air and Viva Aerobus.

BACKGROUND / DISCUSSION:

Allegiant Air and Viva Aerobus are proposing an alliance to bring competition to the US/Mexico market. The goal is to increase competition and lower costs for passengers on international routes originating in the ELP market. The Department of Aviation support of this is in line with the Strategic Plan to grow the core business of air transportation by encouraging competition.

PRIOR COUNCIL ACTION:

N/A.

AMOUNT AND SOURCE OF FUNDING:

N/A

HAVE ALL AFFECTED DEPARTMENTS BEEN NOTIFIED? YES NO

PRIMARY DEPARTMENT: Aviation

SECONDARY DEPARTMENT: None

*****REQUIRED AUTHORIZATION*****

DEPARTMENT HEAD:

 1/24/23

(If Department Head Summary Form is initiated by Purchasing, client department should sign also)

RESOLUTION

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF EL PASO:

THAT the Director of Aviation for the City of El Paso International Airport is authorized to sign a letter of support directed to the Secretary of the Department of Transportation providing that the City of El Paso strongly supports the Department of Transportation approval of the Joint Application for Approval of and Antitrust Immunity for Commercial Alliance Agreement proposal submitted by Allegiant Air and Viva Aerobus regarding transborder air service between the United States and Mexico for the region of El Paso.

APPROVED this _____ day of _____, 2023.


CITY OF EL PASO:

Oscar Leaser
Mayor

ATTEST:


Laura D. Prine
City Clerk

APPROVED AS TO FORM:



Josette Flores
Senior Assistant City Attorney

APPROVED AS TO CONTENT:



Samuel Rodriguez, P.E.
Aviation Director



Department of Aviation

MAYOR

Oscar Leeser

CITY COUNCIL

District 1

Brian Kennedy

District 2

Alexsandra Anello

District 3

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District 5

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CITY MANAGER

Tommy Gonzalez

January 25, 2023

The Honorable Pete Buttigieg
Secretary
Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Ave., SE
Washington D.C., 20590-0001

RE: DOT-OST-2021-0152

Dear Secretary Buttigieg,

I write in support of the “Joint Application for Approval of and Antitrust Immunity for Commercial Alliance Agreement” submitted by Allegiant Air and Viva Aerobus.

Allegiant Air and Viva Aerobus are proposing an alliance to bring competition to the US/Mexico market. El Paso has the largest Hispanic community without international service from El Paso International Airport (EPIA). This lack of service causes thousands of local residents to cross the border and fly out of Ciudad Juarez and larger hub airports resulting in longer travel times and increased costs. The proposed alliance will pave the way for opportunities for both carriers for international routes from El Paso.

Based on the recently completed leakage study, EPIA has identified over 500 passengers the cross the border each day to use the airport in Ciudad Juarez. The primary destination markets for El Paso based passengers are Cancun, Mexico City and Guadalajara. EPIA has been meeting with airlines to develop new routes from El Paso to said markets in order to improve service for El Paso based passengers and to stimulate the markets between the pair cities. This agreement will allow more people access to international flights between the US and Mexico, giving a greater opportunity to El Paso to receive new international service routes.

We appreciate your consideration and support of this proposal that would potentially bring international service to the West Texas, Southern New Mexico region.

Thank you,

Sam Rodriguez, PE
Aviation Director



Sam Rodriguez, PE, CM, cfm, cnu-a
Aviation Director

El Paso International Airport | 6701 Convair Road | El Paso, TX 79925
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