Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

July 23, 2013

Patrick Foye
Executive Director
The Port Authority of New York and New Jersey
225 Park Avenue South
New York, NY 10003

Dear Mr. Foye:

We write in strong support for the establishment of an airport advisory committee that would address the ongoing and future concerns of our constituents in the Metro Area. An official forum is necessary so that all concerns are heard and stakeholders can discuss viable solutions that will meet the needs of the aviation industry and our constituents.

Currently, no formal advisory committee exists for residents and local business owners to express how they are affected by flight patterns, construction, times and frequency of arrivals and departures, new runway configurations, and other airport issues. It is critical that they have the opportunity to offer their feedback on these matters.

Establishing an advisory committee would offer structure and cohesion to the process and create a formal environment for impacted parties, including residents, airline representatives, and community leaders, to voice their opinions and vote on the issues. This would also enable elected officials on the federal and state level, the aviation community and the Federal Aviation Administration to properly understand the concerns of our large community as a whole, instead of the segmented feedback we all work with now.

Community advisory committees have been successfully established in cities across the country including Los Angeles, San Francisco, Chicago, Louisville, Atlanta, Boston and Philadelphia. These committees have facilitated constructive dialogue and implemented initiatives to address community concerns. It is essential that the Metro Area has a means for constructive dialogue as well.

For these reasons, we respectfully request that the Port Authority of New York and New Jersey establish an airport advisory committee for the Metro area. Thank you for your consideration of this important matter. We look forward to working with you on this issue.

Sincerely,

GRACE MENG Member of Congress	STEVE ISRAEL Member of Congress	CHARLES SCHUMER United States Senator

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KIRSTEN GILLIBRAND
United States Senator

JOSEPH CROWLEY
Member of Congress

ELIOT ENGEL
Member of Congress

HAKEEM JEFFRIES
Member of Congress

CAROLYN MALONEY
Member of Congress

CAROLYN MCCARTHY
Member of Congress

GREGORY MEEKS
Member of Congress

JERROLD NADLER
Member of Congress

JOSÉ SERRANO
Member of Congress

CC: Thomas Bosco – Acting Director of PANYNJ Aviation
Carmine Gallo – Eastern Regional Administrator