



North Central Texas Council Of Governments

TO: Regional Aviation Education Stakeholders

DATE: February 3, 2010

FROM: Michael Morris, P.E.
Director of Transportation

SUBJECT: North Texas Aviation Education Initiative Study

As the nation's largest inland port, the region's economic prosperity is tied to the success of our region's aviation system. From a widely recognized need for additional aviation workforce regionally and nationally, the North Central Texas Council of Governments (NCTCOG) has recently completed the North Texas Aviation Education Initiative study to expand aviation education resources and opportunities in the region. The broad goal was to outline mechanisms to fulfill the workforce needs of our aviation and aerospace industries over the next few decades and ensure continued success for our aviation industry.

A key finding of the Aviation Education Initiative is that the region must work together expeditiously as industry and academic partners to create a comprehensive and robust aviation education center in North Central Texas. Our region is expected to grow to nearly 10 million residents with over 5 million jobs by 2030. The study showed that as early as 2016 we will have a deficit of pilots, aircraft mechanics, and avionics technicians in the region. Proper planning is crucial so that we may supply our vital aviation industry with the workforce it needs to be competitive both nationally and globally. This study has produced a variety of reports to be used as resources for implementing a strong regional aviation education system, which begins with integration at the primary and secondary school levels. An Executive Summary has been developed for a quick review of these findings and is attached for your reference.

As we work toward a coordinated regional aviation education system, I would like to commend Mayor Bobby Waddle of DeSoto, current NCTCOG Executive Board President, for his vision and leadership on this project. His passion and dedication were instrumental to secure funding and to build regional momentum.

Regional academic and industry commitment is essential to the future of aviation in North Central Texas and NCTCOG staff will strive to facilitate this process as we move forward. To learn more about next steps, and how you can be part of the implementation efforts, please join us at the **Aviation Education Summit on Monday, February 15, 2010, at 1:30 p.m. at NCTCOG Offices, 616 Six Flags Drive, Arlington, Texas** to discuss these recommendations and next steps.

February 3, 2010

For more detailed information regarding the event and the North Texas Aviation Education Initiative, please visit www.nctcog.org/aviationeducation or contact Michael Mallonee at (817) 704-2513 or mmallonee@nctcog.org.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Michael Morris". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large loop at the end of the last name.

Michael Morris, P.E.
Director of Transportation

MWM:lk
Enclosure

cc: Rachel Wiggins, P.E., NCTCOG