MAYOR
REX RICHARDSON

May 30, 2025

The Honorable Robert Garcia
United States House of Representatives
109 Cannon House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

RE: Support for H.R. 2932 (Garica)—Cutting Lead Exposure and Aviation Relief (CLEAR) Skies Act

Dear Congressman Garcia,

On behalf of the City of Long Beach (City), the City strongly supports of H.R. 2932, the Cutting Lead Exposure and Aviation Relief (CLEAR) Skies Act. The City strongly supports policies and legislation to advance the development and transition to unleaded aviation fuel for general aviation use to improve air quality and health outcomes for airport adjacent communities. The federal production tax credit for unleaded aviation gas created by this legislation will encourage additional investment in safe and clean aviation fuel, benefiting neighborhoods and fliers across the country.

Long Beach Airport (LGB) is dedicated to sustainability and has made significant efforts to operate in an environmentally responsible manner to minimize impacts on the environment and surrounding community. However, the air pollution caused by leaded aviation fuel nationwide continues to be an environmental challenge that accounts for approximately 70 percent of all airborne lead emissions.

In alignment with City and federal goals to transition to unleaded fuel, LGB has taken key steps to begin this process through the implementation of various incentive programs. The Long Beach City Council adopted a resolution to amend the Master Fee and Charges Schedule to exempt unleaded aviation fuel from fuel flowage fees for the annual periods of 2023-2025. Additionally, the Long Beach City Council approved a policy to authorize the reimbursement of Supplemental Type Certificate (STC) costs to LGB-based pilots. An STC is a certification of an aircraft's capability to use the currently available unleaded fuel. These incentive programs are supported by the Airport Enterprise Fund. In 2024, the Long Beach City Council approved a $200,000 subsidy program, to offset the cost of unleaded fuel for general aviation users. This will allow fuel providers to sell unleaded aviation gas at the same price as other traditional fuels, encouraging pilots to transition to cleaner alternatives at no additional cost.

Incentivizing the production of unleaded aviation fuel with the tax credit created by H.R. 2932 will further lower costs for consumers and encourage additional adoption and use of unleaded alternatives. Ensuring the availability and cost competitiveness of such alternatives will improve local air quality, especially for the many schools, homes and businesses surrounding the Long Beach Airport. For these reasons, the City strongly supports H.R. 2932.

Sincerely,

Mayor Rex Richardson
City of Long Beach

562.570.6801 — mayor@longbeach.gov — @longbeachmayor
411 W. Ocean Blvd., Long Beach, California 90802