

**Congress of the United States**  
**House of Representatives**  
**Washington, DC 20515-4305**

March 29, 2023

The Honorable Tom Cole  
Chairman  
Subcommittee on Transportation, Housing  
and Urban Development, and Related  
Agencies  
U.S. House of Representatives  
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Mike Quigley  
Ranking Member  
Subcommittee on Transportation, Housing  
and Urban Development, and Related  
Agencies  
U.S. House of Representatives  
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Chairman Cole and Ranking Member Quigley,

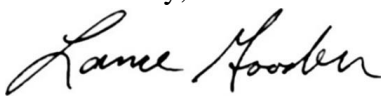
As you consider the Fiscal Year (FY) 2024 Transportation, Housing and Urban Development, and Related Agencies Appropriations bill, I respectfully request \$1.5 million in funding to install a STAR radar display in the federal contract tower at the Mesquite Metro Airport owned by the City of Mesquite, Texas. The Mesquite Metro Airport is the second busiest general aviation towered airport with over 107,000 takeoffs and landings per year, but it remains the only towered airport in the State of Texas lacking a RADAR display. A radar display is a required piece of equipment at a tower staffed with federal contractors, which Mesquite Metro Airport employs.

A RADAR display will improve safety standards and provide air traffic controllers with vital information regarding aircraft location, altitude, speed, and call sign/tail number. Currently, around 75% of the daily traffic at Mesquite comes from low time student pilots, which has led to situations where the student pilot makes a position report that is inaccurate. A RADAR display will prevent a wrong position report from leading to an unsafe scenario. Without the RADAR display, controllers must use binoculars to establish visual contact with an aircraft and then estimate their speed, convergence rate with other traffic, and altitude.

There has been robust community support for this project, and we hope the project can be fully realized with federal assistance.

Thank you for your consideration of this request.

Sincerely,



Lance Gooden  
Member of Congress