

March 28, 2023



To whom it may concern,

I write in support of the request submitted by the Jackson Municipal Airport Authority (JMAA) on behalf of Jackson-Medger Wiley Evers Airport (JAN) for the funding of the “Chiller Replacement at Jackson-Medger Wiley Evers Airport” project for Fiscal Year 2024. If awarded, this funding will allow JAN to conduct design-phase activities that is essential to carrying out this important community project.

JAN is the largest and busiest airport in the state of Mississippi and a critical fixture to Jackson, and Mississippi at large. JAN is vital to commerce both locally and in the region. In addition, serving as the hub of commercial air travel in the state of Mississippi, the airport provides air cargo operations and housing the 172d Airlift Wing (172 AW) of the Mississippi Air National Guard. With the airport’s significant increase in passenger enplanements, the Chiller Replacement at Jackson-Medger Wiley Evers Airport will see JAN transform and revitalize its facilities to serve the region well into the future. The current 34-year-old chiller system at JAN is operating well beyond its expected end-of-life expectancy of 15 years. The age and status of the chillers leaves them both at risk for failure leaving the JAN terminal at risk of major issues regarding passenger comfort, health, and safety, with regards to temperature control.

A new chiller system will ensure the comfort and safety of those moving through and working at JAN. Undertaking the work of replacing the Chiller Replacement project at Jackson-Medger Wiley Evers Airport is an essential project for the operations at JAN, and federal funding would be a substantial contribution towards providing vital benefits to the airport, Jackson, and Mississippi at large. By fulfilling the JMAA’s request, Congress will help ensure the health and safety of Jackson-Medger Wiley Evers Airport staff, passengers, airlines, and tenants.

Thank you in advance for your consideration of this request. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to reach out.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "John Means, AAE". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the initials "AAE" clearly visible at the end.

John Means, AAE, CFM, MBA, BKR, SSBB
Acting CEO, COO

Warren Herring
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Vice Chair

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Commissioner