

April 13, 2025

Mr. Bryan Farrell Interim Director Raspet Flight Research Laboratory Mississippi State University 114 Airport Road Starkville, MS 39759

Dear Mr. Farrell,

On behalf of the Golden Triangle Development LINK, I am writing to express our enthusiastic support for the planned expansion of Mississippi State University's Raspet Flight Research Laboratory at George M. Bryan Field in the City of Starkville. This initiative represents a pivotal investment in the future of aviation research and technological innovation in our region.

Raspet has long been a cornerstone of MSU's leadership in aerospace research, and its continued growth—both in capacity and capability—will directly benefit the Golden Triangle by creating new high-quality jobs and attracting forward-thinking industry partners. We fully support your vision to grow Raspet into a national hub for advanced technologies, and we are especially excited by your goal to attract manufacturers to collaborate with Raspet and establish production facilities right here in our region.

The synergy between Raspet and Mississippi State's new College of Integrative Studies presents a unique opportunity to build the next generation of autonomous systems education and workforce training. Together, we can make the Golden Triangle a premier destination for Uncrewed Aircraft Systems (UAS) education, industry collaboration, and career advancement.

We commend your ongoing efforts to engage local communities, governments, and industries in meaningful partnerships that support research, development, training, and real-world integration. With over 3,000 visitors hosted annually, Raspet not only showcases Mississippi State University's national leadership but also highlights the strength and potential of our local community.

The proposed expansion aligns perfectly with the LINK's mission to promote economic growth, innovation, and opportunity across the region. By investing in Raspet's future, we are investing in the future of the Golden Triangle.

1102 Main Street • Columbus, Mississippi 39701 • 662.328.8369



Please know that you have our full support, and we stand ready to collaborate and assist in any way to ensure the continued success of this transformative project.

Sincerely, Meryl Fisadkerly, CEcD

Chief Operating Officer GTR LINK

1102 Main Street • Columbus, Mississippi 39701 • 662.328.8369

WWW.GTRLINK.ORG



D. Lynn Spruill Mayor THE CITY OF STARKVILLE Mayor's Office CITY HALL, 110 W. MAIN STREET STARKVILLE, MISSISSIPPI 39759

Phone: 662-323-2525 Ext.3100 Fax: 662-323-4143

April 15, 2025

Mr. Bryan Farrell Director Raspet Flight Research Laboratory, Mississippi State University 114 Airport Road Starkville, MS 39759

Dear Mr. Farrell,

On behalf of the City of Starkville, I'm pleased to submit this letter of support for the planned expansion of Mississippi State University's Raspet Flight Research Laboratory at George M. Bryan field in the City of Starkville.

We have celebrated the 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the work that Dr. Raspet and the Raspet lab and MSU have achieved, and it is worth celebrating on so many levels. The Raspet lab has proven itself as a vital community partner driving innovation and creating new opportunities in partnership with the surrounding community. Raspet lab is one of our community's research gems. Physical expansion and upgrade for its future fit in with the understanding that research never rests. It must continue to grow and stretch to achieve the most in its field. The additional physical space will enhance its abilities to continue growing its research staff and allow its physical presence to better match its research prowess.

I have been witness over the many years to that growth and development. Please know how incredibly important the work you do means to our success. I am pleased to present my strong support for your efforts toward that growth and dynamic research. It enhances the City of Starkville to have such a strong presence in cutting edge aviation technology. We are the better for your work and anticipate the success that will accompany this grant and the ensuing expansion.

Sincerely,

Muel

D. Lynn Spruill Mayor, City of Starkville

www.cityofstarkville.org

Rodney Lincoln Airport Director



Phone: 662-418-5900 Phone: 662-722-8815 Email: rlincoln@cityofstarkville.org

April 29, 2025

Mr. Bryan Farrell, Director Raspet Flight Research Laboratory 114 Airport Road Starkville, MS 39759

Mr. Farrell:

We are pleased to offer full support for the RFRL renovation project as a longstanding aviation partner.

George M. Bryan Airport, centrally located in Starkville, Mississippi, holds a significant place in our community's history, dating back to its establishment in the mid-20<sup>th</sup> century. Over time, we have observed the profound impact of RFRL on our locality, driving innovation and fostering growth.

RFRL's increasing prominence in research has not only enhanced our region's standing but also spurred economic development, creating employment opportunities, and retaining local talent. With RFRL's track record of nurturing successful ventures in aviation, this expansion promises to further prosperity in our city and beyond.

Additionally, this project seamlessly integrates with our own plans for airport upgrades, bolstering its role as a pivotal hub for transportation and economic activity. Through strengthening our infrastructure and collaborative efforts, we aim to advance aviation research, spur innovation, and serve as a cornerstone for aviation activities in Starkville.

Given our shared objectives, we wholeheartedly endorse RFRL renovation initiative and eagerly anticipate collaborating to maximize the potential of both RFRL and George M. Bryan Airport. Together, we are committed to shaping a future filled with opportunities and prosperity for our community.

Warm regards

Rodney Lincoln STARKVILLE-OKTIBBEHA COUNTY AIRPORT

RL/msp

www.cityofstarkville.org