

Greater Jamaica  
Development  
Corporation

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<b>ACTION</b> 11-11-10
S10-100318-038
CONTROL NO.

March 11, 2010

The Honorable Raymond H. LaHood  
Secretary  
U.S. Department of Transportation  
1200 New Jersey Ave, SE  
Washington, DC 20590

DEPT OF TRANSPORTATION  
 MAR 11 2010

Docket DOT-OST-2010-0018

Dear Mr. Secretary:

I am writing on behalf of Greater Jamaica Development Corporation, one of the country's oldest and largest community development entities. Greater Jamaica Development Corporation is a community-building organization that plans, promotes, coordinates and advances responsible development to revitalize Jamaica, Queens and strengthen the region. Marshalling the resources of the public, private, and not-for-profit sectors, the Corporation's work expands economic opportunity and improves quality of life for the ethnically and economically diverse residents of Jamaica and for the region, which benefits from rational, well-planned and sustainable metropolitan growth. For over forty years, GJDC has advocated a comprehensive strategy of building upon Downtown Jamaica's strong transportation and infrastructure assets as an essential foundation for attracting new investments, affordable housing, cultural and civic activity, retail and commercial activity, and employment and entrepreneurship opportunities. GJDC's focus and dedication to its core mission have made significant contributions to transforming Downtown Jamaica into a sustainable, healthy, attractive, and prosperous destination place for those who live and work there. GJDC has worked collaboratively with a diversity of government, community, corporate, and foundation partners to make the following contributions to the growth of Downtown Jamaica. With Jamaica adjacent to John F. Kennedy International Airport, the competitiveness of major carriers operating at the airport is of great concern to us.

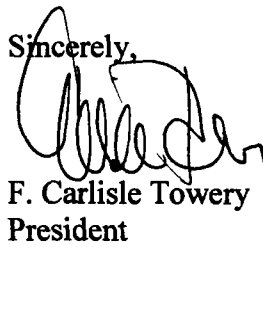
I respectfully ask you to approve American Airlines' request for allocation of two daily U.S.-Haneda slot pairs to operate year-round scheduled air transportation from New York and Los Angeles to Tokyo Haneda. American's proposed service clearly represents the best public interest use for two of the four frequencies to be awarded in this proceeding, as New York and Los Angeles are far and away the largest travel markets between the U.S. mainland and Tokyo.

Furthermore, American's proposed service will provide significant connecting opportunities, providing benefits to even more consumers. A total of 17 U.S. cities will enjoy on-line service beyond New York in one or both directions, and 20 beyond Los Angeles. All 10 of the largest U.S. mainland-Tokyo markets will gain on-line service to Haneda under American's proposal, including San Francisco, Chicago, Las Vegas, Seattle, Washington, Boston, Orlando, and Portland through roundtrip connections.

I encourage the Department of Transportation to approve American's application, as it will benefit the broadest public interest and will have a positive impact on air travel by offering customers more service, scheduling and pricing options to choose from.

American Airlines is an important employer and a key driver of economic activity in Southeast Queens. In these difficult financial times, I would respectfully request you support American's efforts to remain a strong, viable competitor in the transatlantic market. The economic vitality of Jamaica is dependant upon the aviation industry, the borough's largest employer. I am grateful for your consideration, and thank you for your support.

Sincerely,



F. Carlisle Towery  
President