April 30, 2019

David Young, Superintendent of School  
Gary Marckres, Director of Operations  
South Burlington School District  
500 Dorset Street  
South Burlington, VT 05403

Re: Burlington International Airport (BTV) Positive Ventilation Package; Analysis, Design, Funding and Installation Schedule

Dear Mr. Young and Mr. Marckres,

This letter follows my April 18 letter and our meeting on April 19 and serves to confirm the Airport’s intention to move the Chamberlin Elementary School (CES) positive ventilation system project forward.

As you are aware, the Airport responded to the South Burlington School District’s (SBSD) request to perform an acoustical test to verify Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) eligibility of sound insulation as part of the Airport’s Noise Compatibility Program. The Airport was granted funding on July 17, 2018 from the FAA to perform such testing in accordance with FAA Order 5100.38D, AIP Handbook, Appendix R. This test was performed on August 15 and 16, 2018, to determine whether the existing interior noise levels of learning and administrative office spaces as indicated on the acoustical testing results would be eligible for sound mitigation. As indicated by the test results and the final letter from our consultants, CES does not meet the FAA’s eligibility requirement for sound insulation treatments. However, under current FAA guidelines and the FAA approved Acoustical Testing Plan, CES qualifies for installation of a positive ventilation system so that existing windows and doors may remain closed at all times.

As we discussed recently, a number of steps must occur prior to the submittal of a grant application to receive federal funds. First, a formal assessment of the existing mechanical and electrical systems must be completed by our consultant, The Jones Payne Group. This entails multiple site visits concluding with a report regarding the systems in place. The Airport and consultant will need to coordinate with SBSD to decide on which products to install. Additionally, an energy modeling report will review the impacts each
option has on utility cost, energy use, peak loads and carbon footprint. It will also allow review with the FAA and SBSD to determine alternatives and determine preferred options for design. The Airport estimates that this phase will take approximately 30-60 days.

The second phase requires completing a full system design so that the Airport can bid the design in accordance with all local and federal guidelines. This design work and bidding is expected to take approximately 3 to 6 months, contingent upon extensive communication and coordination with the SBSD. The bidding must be completed with a recommended responsible low bidder in order to apply for federal grants. When a contractor is determined, we will be able to finalize a grant application, and formally apply for FAA Airport Improvement Program grant funds. Based on the schedule of the assessment, design, and bidding, we anticipate applying for federal grant funding prior to the end of 2019. As we have stated before, there is no guarantee that federal funding will be awarded. If funds are received, we will work with the SBSD to appropriately schedule construction in the most efficient and accommodating way possible. In all likelihood, this would occur outside of the school year (approximately June or July of 2020). The full assessment and design will help determine the length of construction of the positive ventilation system and may help SBSD align their schedule.

As I stated in my previous letter, moving this project forward is contingent upon written receipt of financial support from the SBSD and the City of South Burlington to cover the local 10% share of all project costs. As you can see from the timeline, the assessment and design work must be completed prior to grant funds being awarded; therefore, time is of the essence in determining how these initial funds and local share costs are supported.

Again, thank you for your time last week. We look forward to moving this project forward and working with you on the assessment, design, and scheduling construction upon receiving the grant funds.

Best,

Nic Longo
Deputy Director of Aviation