Continental

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May 8, 2004

The Honorable Norman Mineta
Secretary
U.S. Department of Transportation
400 Seventh Street, SW
Washington, DC 20590

Dear Secretary Mineta:

I would like to express the unqualified support of Continental Airlines for the application of the Abilene Regional Airport for funding under the Small Community Air Service Development Program. We have been closely involved with this community over several years as they have worked to demonstrate the potential of this community and region for service by Continental.

This program, as a part of the omnibus AIR 21 legislation, was created specifically to help communities like Abilene help themselves. As an airline evaluating numerous cities for new and additional service, we see the value that the program can bring to communities that develop meaningful ways to garner support for our continued service. We believe that Abilene Regional airport has taken a true leadership role in providing the best services to the citizens of the greater Abilene area.

On behalf of Continental Airlines, I ask you to give their application every favorable consideration.

Sincerely,

Bob Cortelyou
Staff Vice President-Scheduling
Continental Airlines