

Date:

Dear **Nicole Notz**,

Please accept this as an acknowledgment of support in establishing a User Fee based Customs facility to be located at Witham Field in Martin County.

The facility would increase aviation traffic at Witham Field. The operations are currently down. Costs are up. Many flight departments just simply stay where they cleared customs rather than spend the money to proceed to their intended destination. This would allow aircraft to come straight into their true final destination.

SUA Anti Airport supporters write letters stating that they represent more people than they do (less than 50), and that the community does not support anything for the airport. Actually the community does want it. 2,000 -3,000 aircraft operations want it. These numbers were verified by the Counties independent consultant. The occupants of these operations are community citizens. 3000 operations 3 people per plane average equals 9,000 people!

- The airport traffic is down which is hurting the Airport. More traffic more flowage fees for the County. FBOs build out to match demand. Rents get paid to the Airport fund.
- A customs presence is also an increase in our local Homeland security.
- Customs enhances Martin County/Stuart as a “Destination” location and increases Airport usage.
- Customs allows for International Air Ambulance Service for our citizens who travel abroad.
- The project facilitates International aviation humanitarian support.

Please provide Aviation funding for this project as it is for the benefit of Aviation.

Sincerely,