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OST-97-2557-2

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May 28, 1997

U.S. Department of Transportation
Attn: DOT Docket Office (OST-97-2557)
400 Seventh Street, SW
Washington, DC 20590

Re: **AirTran Airways Service to LaGuardia, New York**

Gentlemen:


I recently read with great interest about proposed service from Toledo to New York on AirTran Airways. Since AirTran began service to Toledo from Orlando last year, our traveling public has experienced a reduction in fares to Florida by nearly 50 percent! The Toledo Express Airport is one of the fastest growing airports in the United States this year.

The New York metropolitan area remains one of the top five destinations from Northwest Ohio--even though direct service does not exist. I am confident that this service will not only increase passenger traffic at Express but greatly assist the City of Toledo with the ongoing resurgence in economic development. Many of our top employers in Toledo and the surrounding communities have ties with New York and the Northeast.

On behalf of myself and my entire staff, I congratulate AirTran Airways in its efforts to continue to serve the "secondary markets" by offering great jet service at an affordable price to our consumers.

Please contact me at your convenience with any questions or comments.

Sincerely,


Mark A. V. Soske
President

cc: Mark D. VanLoh, Airport Director - Toledo Express

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