



U.S. Department
of Transportation

**Federal Aviation
Administration**

Office of the Administrator

800 Independence Ave., S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20591

JUL 5 2007

The Honorable Henry A. Waxman
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Congressman Waxman:

Thank you for your letter of May 22 about the need for safety upgrades at Santa Monica Municipal Airport (SMO).

Our Associate Administrator for Airports, Mr. D. Kirk Shaffer, visited SMO on May 21. At that time, the airport manager, Mr. Robert Trimborn, gave a full tour of the airport and the areas at each end of the runway. I can affirm that the Federal Aviation Administration is very interested in finding an acceptable way to enhance the safety area for the runway, consistent with all the special circumstances that exist at this popular airport.

Mr. Shaffer met again with Santa Monica representatives in Washington, D.C., on June 12, and identified additional information that we will need. I believe we are now closer to a final determination on an acceptable configuration for safety enhancements at the airport. Ms. Zahava Goldman from your office also attended that meeting.

If I can be of further help, please contact me or Ms. Megan Rosia, Assistant Administrator for Government and Industry Affairs, at (202) 267-3277.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Marion C. Blakey".

Marion C. Blakey
Administrator