March X, 2023

The Honorable Pete Buttigieg  
U.S. Secretary of Transportation U.S. Department of Transportation 1200 New Jersey Ave, SE Washington, DC 20590

Dear Secretary Buttigieg:

On February 21, the FAA informed officials at the Leesburg Executive Airport (JYO) that air traffic control (ATC) services at the airport will end on June 14, 2023. This decision will severely compromise safety at a very busy airport inside the Washington, DC Special Flight Rules Area (SFRA).

Currently, ATC services are being provided at JYO through the Remote Tower program. This innovative and cost-effective use of technology has been highly successful, operating since June 2018 with 100% reliability and no operational errors for hundreds of thousands of aircraft operations. With over $30M appropriated by Congress since 2018 to fund the Remote Tower program, it seems short-sighted to cancel this program so abruptly.

Regardless of the future of the Remote Tower program, however, it is imperative that ATC services continue to be provided at JYO. Taking this airfield from a controlled environment to an uncontrolled environment, particularly given the 47% increase in aircraft operations since June 2018, is inviting disaster. Has the FAA assessed the impact of the cessation of ATC services on the safety of operations at JYO?

As a pilot who regularly flies in and out of JYO, I strongly urge the FAA to reconsider this

decision. [add any personal experiences you may have had at the airport] Sincerely,

Name

**Contact Information for Remote Tower/ATC Services Letters**

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