Levesque, Jennifer

From: Susan Amussen

Sent:Sunday, June 20, 2021 12:33 PMTo:cityclerk; Perez, Bertha; Perez, BerthaSubject:Comment for June 21 Meeting, Item M-1

To the City Council,

I am a resident of Merced and was gravely concerned about the decision to recommend Advanced Air rather than Boutique Air for Essential Air Service. I urge you to reconsider the recommendation of Advanced Air.

I am a faculty member at UC Merced, and regularly travel. Whenever I can, I fly out of Merced. What is most important to me is the ability to easily make connections at my destination. Boutique Air code shares with United Airlines. The code sharing allows seamless connections. Next Saturday, I will fly from Merced to London. When I check in at MCE, I am not only checked in for the whole trip, but so are my bags. I never have to go through security again. While Advanced Air promises to get passengers from Hawthorne to LAX in 20 minutes, they omit mentioning that you would still have to check in for your new flight and go through security, so you would need to allow an additional 1 1/2 hours for your connection, or at least 2 hours including the transfer.

In addition to the ease of travel to multiple locations that Boutique Air provides, I am excited by their plan to make Merced the base for operations and invest in the City.

I encourage you to support Council Member Echevarria's request to reconsider the recommendation of Advanced Air to the DOT. Yours,
Susan Amussen

Susan D Amussen Merced, CA

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