



U.S. Department
of Transportation
**Federal Aviation
Administration**

Office of the Associate Administrator for
Commercial Space Transportation

800 Independence Ave., SW.
Washington, DC 20591

October 2, 2012

The Honorable Jennifer Carroll
Lieutenant Governor of Florida
The Capitol
Tallahassee, FL 32399

Dear Ms. Carroll:

Thank you for your letter of September 20 to Secretary LaHood regarding joint cooperation of the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) and National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) to facilitate acquisition by the State of Florida of certain property at Kennedy Space Center. The FAA's Office of Commercial Space Transportation (AST) is responsible for ensuring the protection of the public, property and the national security and foreign policy interests of the nation during commercial launch and reentry activities as well as to encourage, facilitate and promote the commercial space transportation industry. This is in alignment with the President's National Space Policy which commits to encouraging and facilitating the growth of the U.S. commercial space sector and advancing U.S. leadership in the generation of new markets and innovation-driven entrepreneurship.

We greatly appreciate your interest in developing new commercial space transportation facilities in the state of Florida. We look forward to partnering with the State of Florida and working with you with regards to future licensing efforts for these proposed facilities. AST has representatives resident in Florida and we have a strong ongoing dialogue with the leaders of your State, with NASA and the Air Force, as well as with Space Florida.

These efforts could certainly have great economic and employment impacts for Florida and for the commercial space industry as a whole and we intend to fully support you in this endeavor.

If I can provide further information or assistance, please feel free to call me at 202-267-7793.

Sincerely,


Dr. George C. Nield
Associate Administrator for Commercial
Space Transportation

cc: Administrator Bolden