



# CAPITOL

Land & Livestock

CATTLE PROCUREMENT AND HANDLING AT ITS FINEST SINCE 1946

December 8, 2016

Representative Larry Gonzales, Chairman  
Texas Sunset Advisory Commission  
P.S. Box 13066  
Austin, TX 78711

Dear Chairman Gonzales:

My name is Jim Schwertner, owner and Chief Executive Officer of the Capitol Land & Livestock Company, the largest cattle trading company in the country. I am also the Chairman of the Texas Aviation Advisory Committee, a committee created by the legislature to advise the Texas Transportation Commission on aviation matters.

My reason for contacting you is to bring to your attention the important role that the TxDOT Aviation Division plays in the improvement and maintenance of the Texas General Aviation Airport System. I own and operate a Business Aircraft, which is a major contributor to the success of my company, as it is for many other businesses. I use this aircraft to visit my customers statewide, as well as throughout the United States.

I first became acquainted with the TxDOT Aviation Division after meeting Dave Fulton, the Division Director, shortly after I was appointed to the Texas Aviation Advisory Committee on September 1, 2005. The Aviation Division provides federal and state grant funding and project management support for the improvement and maintenance of some 276 general aviation airports statewide. As I travel around the state, I see the many improvements to airports that have been made and hear numerous comments from people about how much they appreciate the relationship they have with the Aviation Division staff and the personal service they receive.

When Dave was selected as Director in 1992, the Texas General Aviation Airport System was in very poor condition, particularly in the rural areas of the state. Through the passion and commitment of the 31 employees who manage the airport development program, what was once one of the worst state general aviation systems in the nation is now one of the best. I have been flying airplanes across this state and throughout the country for over 50 years. I can tell you first hand that this transformation has been nothing short of remarkable. Today, Texas has a statewide General Aviation Airport System that is the best in the nation. This system plays a vital role in air transportation and economic development for the citizens of Texas.

I greatly appreciate the contribution that TxDOT Aviation has made to the State of Texas. As your commission reviews the duties and responsibilities of TxDOT, I hope that you will acknowledge their work. Thank you for providing me an opportunity to comment.



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Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Jim Schwertner', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Jim Schwertner, President / CEO  
Schwertner Farms, Inc. dba Capitol Land & Livestock

cc: Sunset Commission Members  
cc: Transportation Commission Chairman Tryon Lewis  
cc: TxDOT Executive Director James Bass