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Congress of the United States
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**COMMITTEE ON
APPROPRIATIONS**

**NATIONAL SECURITY AND
DEPARTMENT OF STATE**
Ranking Member

**LABOR, HEALTH AND HUMAN
SERVICES, EDUCATION**

**DEMOCRATIC WOMEN'S
CAUCUS**
Chair Emerita

January 20, 2026

The Honorable Sam Graves
Chair
House Committee on Transportation and
Infrastructure
United States House of Representatives
Washington DC, 20515

The Honorable Rick Larsen
Ranking Member
House Committee on Transportation and
Infrastructure
United States House of Representatives
Washington DC, 20515

Dear Chairman Graves and Ranking Member Larsen,

Thank you for the opportunity to testify at the House Transportation and Infrastructure Committee's Member Day hearing. I write to follow up on my testimony regarding the Federal Aviation Administration's (FAA) new flight restrictions around Mar-a-Lago, their significant impact on Palm Beach County, and to request the Committee's support in advancing a reasonable solution.

As has long been and continues to be the practice, President Trump has been at his Mar-a-Lago in Palm Beach primarily on weekends during the winter. Flight and road restrictions have been imposed only during those limited periods. As I shared with the Committee, at the request of the U.S. Secret Service, the FAA implemented a 24-hour, one-nautical-mile no-fly zone around Mar-a-Lago on October 20, 2025. The practical effect of this decision is that the FAA is now primarily allowing only a single flight pattern for aircraft taking off from and landing at Palm Beach International Airport (PBI). These restrictions are in effect every day, year-round, whether or not President Trump is at Mar-a-Lago.

Under the new restrictions, more than 11,000 homes and 21,000 residents across multiple neighborhoods are now affected by aircraft. For decades prior, flight paths in Palm Beach County were shaped by environmental reviews and noise-mitigation efforts that limited impacts to approximately 2,200 homes and 5,000 residents. Since these changes took effect, the Palm Beach County Department of Airports has received hundreds of complaints citing constant noise, increased air pollution, declining property values, and growing concerns about flight delays and safety at PBI.

Protecting the President and our nation is essential. At the same time, my community is seeking solutions that preserve strong security while minimizing unnecessary harm to residents' quality of life, property values, and airport operations.

I appreciate that both the Secret Service and the FAA have engaged with me on this issue. I respectfully ask that, as Committee leaders, you encourage continued collaboration with the FAA, local officials, and affected communities to work toward a fair and reasonable resolution.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Lois Frankel". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Rep. Lois Frankel
Member of Congress