

Kenneth Maenpa
President
kmaenpa@flyRMMA.com

Lorie Hinton
Vice President
lhinton@centennialairport.com



Steve Lee, AAE
Secretary/Treasurer
Steve.Lee@flydenver.com

Troy Stover
Past President
tstover@springsgov.com

March 1, 2013

The Honorable Michael P. Huerta
Federal Aviation Administration
Office of the Administrator
800 Independence Ave. SW
Washington DC 20591

RE: Contract Tower - Front Range Airport/Spaceport Sequestration Impacts

Dear Administrator Huerta:

The Colorado Airport Operators Association (CAOA) represents 76 general aviation and commercial service airports in the State of Colorado. I would like to express our concerns regarding the potential impacts of sequestration and the FAA announcement of the closures of the contract tower that provides services at Front Range (FTG) Airport in the Denver metropolitan area.

FTG is a (Contract Tower) general aviation reliever airport to DIA (the nation's 5th busiest airport), just 9 miles to the southeast. FTG has also been a focus for Spaceport Colorado and is a key player to the economic future of Colorado's aerospace industry. A lack of an air traffic control tower will significantly impact the success of the Spaceport application and future development. We also ask that you consider the impacts to the overall Denver metropolitan areas safe and efficient use of airspace.

CAOA requests that you reconsider the closing of the FTG ATC; approve the continued operation of the tower; recognize the benefits of having coordinated air traffic control services for FTG, DIA, Denver metropolitan airspace, and Spaceport Colorado.

Respectfully,

Kenneth E. Maenpa, President
Colorado Airport Operators Association

cc: Christa Fornarotto, FAA Associate Administrator for Airports
Catherine (Kate) Lang, FAA Deputy Associate Administrator for Airports
Sarah Dalton, FAA NW Airport Division Manager
CAOA Board