



## AirTrain LGA Community Benefits Fact Sheet

*As Itemized in the FAA's Environmental Impact Statement*

### Improvements to Flushing Bay Promenade / local parks:

- \$23 million for significant enhancements of the Flushing Bay Promenade including improvements to landscaping, pathway, and railings, new park facilities and public activity areas, extensive improvements to bridge crossings and other entry points into the park; improved pedestrian and bicycle connectivity to the park; addition of bicycle and pedestrian lanes to the improved Promenade pathway; new gatherings areas; new drinking fountains; addressing community concerns regarding cleanliness.
- At least \$20 million in additional funds for capital improvements in the broader Flushing Meadows Corona Park and parks in adjacent community districts, with priority given to further Promenade funding as necessary.
- \$7.5 million in dedicated funding to support enhanced maintenance of the Promenade for 15 years, exceeding basic upkeep, to improve the cleanliness of the promenade, and to ensure new amenities are properly maintained.
- Funding for up to 5,000 new trees as part of AirTrain tree remediation planted in the local project area (Promenade, Flushing Meadows Corona Park, elsewhere in Queens Community District 3 and/or other neighborhoods in close proximity to the AirTrain).
- Up to \$75,000 per year during construction for programming in local parks in collaboration with East Elmhurst Corona Civic Association.

### Economic benefits and job creation:

- The project will deliver more than \$500 million in contracting opportunities for minority and women-owned businesses as well as contracting opportunities for local, Queens-based businesses.
- The AirTrain project will create approximately 3,000 union construction jobs, with a focus on minority and women for construction employment opportunities.
- The project has set a target of 80 percent local hiring for new permanent AirTrain operations and maintenance jobs for residents within communities in the local project area, building on the successful local hiring initiative at AirTrain JFK.
- The project will implement multiple workforce development programs such as training for union apprenticeships and job referral programs to see that local residents are

trained for jobs that long outlast the project by funding (a) 75 new pre-apprenticeship seats in coordination with the Building & Construction Trades Council of Greater NY and the Apprenticeship Readiness Collective to provide a pathway to union apprenticeship positions, with a priority for local residents; and (b) the expansion of the CAO LaGuardia Career Center from 2022-2025, in partnership with Elmcor and Queens Neighborhood Housing Services, to match local residents with permanent AirTrain operations and maintenance jobs, in addition to the on-airport operations, maintenance, and concessions jobs.

### **Educational benefits:**

- The project will continue to invest in the community by funding (a) youth STEM programming for 700 students over four years, (b) additional funding for the LaGuardia Redevelopment Opportunity Scholarship program which provides full-tuition college scholarships during the project for local students, with paid summer internships and job placement post-graduation, and (c) other educational and community events.

### **Community impact mitigations:**

- The project will offer compensation based on evaluations by independent, third-party real estate professionals to property owners with significantly impacted views identified in the Final EIS (estimated at approximately \$4 million in total). The project will also allocate \$2 million for community beautification projects within the affected area identified in the Final EIS, as prioritized by Queens Community Board 3.
- The project will take an innovative and accountable approach to alleviate construction impacts, including the installation of specific air quality, noise, and vibration monitors to be located in the community and around the construction site during construction. An ongoing community engagement process will be in place throughout construction to ensure all concerns are addressed, including posting bi-annual (twice per year) reports on implementation of mitigation commitments to our public website.

### **Environmental benefits:**

- Once in operation, AirTrain LaGuardia is projected to reduce traffic on local streets and highways by millions of vehicles per year – reducing traffic congestion and vehicle emissions significantly.
- The agency will install new solar energy panels on all new rooftops created by the AirTrain program. A program like this could lead to approximately 170,000 square feet new of solar PV installations that could be the basis for a community solar initiative which is undergoing a final feasibility assessment as noted in the Final EIS