



DEPT OF TRANSPORTATION
DOCKETS

FEB 23 11:03

Alexander Van der Bellen
Managing Director and
Associate General Counsel

Delta Air Lines, Inc.
1212 New York Avenue NW
Washington, DC 20005
202.842.4184
sascha.vanderbellen@delta.com

February 23, 2010

Dennis DeVany
Chief, EAS and Domestic Analysis Division
U.S. Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Ave, SE
Washington, DC 20590

Re: Request for EAS Service Pattern Modification
At Fort Dodge (FOD) and Mason City (MCW)
Dockets OST-2001-10684; OST-2001-10682

Dear Mr. DeVany:

On behalf of Mesaba Aviation, Inc. d/b/a Delta Connection, we respectfully request a change in the authorized service pattern for Fort Dodge (FOD) and Mason City (MCW) in order to eliminate "tag" flying and provide all nonstop service to the Minneapolis/St. Paul hub.¹ This change will provide more convenient and efficient service, benefitting both communities. The current pattern of service authorized by Order 2009-4-20 provides for:

FOD – 18 weekly one-stop flights to MCW
MCW – 18 weekly non-stop flights to MSP

Under the proposed new service pattern, Mesaba would operate:

FOD – 14 weekly non-stop flights to MSP (4 fewer frequencies, but non-stop flights)
MCW – 18 weekly non-stop flights to MSP (no change)

A new schedule detailing the revised service pattern is provided at Attachment A.

Ft. Dodge and Mason City strongly support the proposal. Mesaba would provide the modified service pattern at the same overall combined subsidy level applicable to these cities. However, since Ft. Dodge will receive 4 fewer flights (but on an improved nonstop basis) and adjustment to the compensation formula is required.

¹ Mesaba is also changing the service patterns at Alpena (APN), Sault Ste. Marie (CIU) and Watertown (ATY), and is considering changes at Escanaba (ESC), Iron Mountain (IMT) to eliminate "tag" flying and provide nonstop service to the authorized hubs. However, since these modified service patterns all represent a clear and improvement in service with no change to the compensation formula, Mesaba was advised by the Department staff that no further Department action is necessary for those cities. In each case, the service change is supported by the relevant community.

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Thank you for your consideration and assistance in this matter.

Sincerely,



Alexander Van der Bellen

cc: citymanager@fortdodgeiowa.org
fdairport@fortdodgeiowa.org
mayor@masoncity.net
posgood@netconx.net
John Spanjers, President, Mesaba
Maximillian T. Shemesh, General Counsel, Mesaba

Appendix A

Mason City (MCW)

<u>Freq</u>	<u>Dept Arp</u>	<u>Dept Time</u>	<u>Arvl Arp</u>	<u>Arrv Time</u>	<u>Subfleet</u>	<u>Block Time</u>
Daily, except Sun	MCW	5:40	MSP	6:24	XJ SF3	0:44
Daily, except Sat	MCW	12:40	MSP	13:31	XJ SF3	0:52
Daily, except Sat	MCW	16:30	MSP	17:22	XJ SF3	0:52
Mon-Fri Only	MSP	11:20	MCW	12:19	XJ SF3	0:59
Daily, except Sat	MSP	15:15	MCW	16:04	XJ SF3	0:49
Sat only	MSP	17:15	MCW	18:11	XJ SF3	0:56
Daily, except Sat	MSP	21:20	MCW	22:16	XJ SF3	0:56

Fort Dodge (FOD)

<u>Freq</u>	<u>Dept Arp</u>	<u>Dept Time</u>	<u>Arvl Arp</u>	<u>Arrv Time</u>	<u>Subfleet</u>	<u>Block Time</u>
Daily	FOD	7:10	MSP	8:24	XJ SF3	1:14
Daily	FOD	14:43	MSP	15:57	XJ SF3	1:14
Daily	MSP	13:05	FOD	14:23	XJ SF3	1:18
Daily	MSP	19:05	FOD	20:23	XJ SF3	1:18