March 19, 2020

American Airlines is proud to safely transport and serve nearly 600,000 passengers every day. We are 130,000 employees strong and 85% unionized. Together, we implore our country’s leadership to act quickly to ensure our livelihoods are protected and our country’s air system remains intact.

This pandemic and its impact are unprecedented. And while the U.S. government is taking urgent action to protect public health, our industry is seeing an extraordinary erosion in demand for air travel. American recently announced it is reducing international capacity by 75% year over year, and domestically reducing flying by nearly 30% from last year. This is equivalent to parking 135 of American’s 150 widebody aircraft, and parking approximately 300 narrowbody aircraft. Without passengers on those aircraft, American and every other airline, can’t afford to fly. And without airplanes to fly, mechanics, flight attendants, pilots, dispatchers, fleet, and airport workers, just to name a few, will lose the ability to provide for their families. Importantly, we share a common goal to keep employees on payroll so that American is ready to fly when this crisis is behind us.

The actions taken by American to date, while substantial, will not be enough to overcome the impacts COVID-19 is having on our industry. We join with the President and many members of Congress who have recognized that a vibrant airline industry is fundamental to our national security, freedom, safety and commercial enterprise. We urge you to take all available steps to invest in the continued viability of the industry and our airline so that we can properly lead our country’s return to stability when this crisis inevitably subsides.
The investment being sought by our airline is necessary to ensure its continued viability and to, most importantly, lessen the impact of this pandemic on our employees and passengers. American vows to do its part to seek additional liquidity from capital markets.

However, governmental assistance, with appropriate conditions, is an essential component of our path to sustainability and recovery.

The President has pledged that the airline industry will be “number one” on the list of those to receive federal assistance. We, management and labor of American Airlines, join together to support that pledge and urge you to promptly provide our industry and our airline the appropriate and necessary support. Any sustained damage to our industry and the supply chain is contrary to our national interests.

We are grateful for your leadership and we stand ready to support your efforts.

Very Respectfully,

Doug Parker
Chief Executive Officer
American Airlines, Inc.

Capt. Eric Ferguson
President
Allied Pilots Association

Lori Bassani
National President
Association of Professional Flight Attendants

Capt. David Bourne
Director
Airline Division – International Brotherhood of Teamsters

Chris Shelton
President
Communication Workers of America

Sito Pantoja
General Vice President
International Association of Machinists and Aerospace Workers

Alex Garcia
International Executive Vice President
Transport Workers Union

Damon Wood
President
Professional Airline Flight Control Association – AAL