The Cape Girardeau Regional Airport is one of few commercial airports in the state, and the only one in our region. The Missouri Department of Transportation notes Cape's scheduled commercial airline flights and high level of general aviation activity. Airports like Cape's provide access to the national and global economies and require investment.

Because of these critical national-global connections, the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) also invests in airports like Cape. Commercial air travel exceeding 10,000 enplanements will unlock $2.55 million in additional funds from the FAA. Leveraging the FAA and proposed CIST funds will provide the necessary $6.8 million to build a new control tower and terminal for the regional airport.

While access to supplies and people provided by the airport is important to the economy in everyday life, the airport provides this same critical access in the event of an emergency. Response to, and recovery from, natural disasters like tornadoes and earthquakes requires the efficient movement of resources. In these events, ground travel can be too slow or not available. In addition to the economic and leisure travel roles, our airport is also a critical link in our emergency plans.