



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: Tuesday, October 22, 2019

Contact: Claire Burghoff

[mcburghoff@cgagroup.com](mailto:mcburghoff@cgagroup.com)

## Near Airport Parking Industry Trade Association Hosts Rep. Mast for Shuttle Ride-Along at MCO

*House Transportation & Infrastructure Aviation Subcommittee Member Rides with NAPITA to Orlando International, Learns about Curb Access Firsthand*

ORLANDO, FL, October 22, 2019—Yesterday, U.S. Representative Brian Mast (R-FL-18) joined the [Near Airport Parking Industry Trade Association](#) (NAPITA) for a Member Ride-Along aboard NAPITA member shuttles to Orlando International Airport (MCO).

NAPITA, an association of national parking operators dedicated to providing dependable and affordable travel options that improve the guest experience at major American airports, welcomed Representative Mast at The Parking Spot Orlando. The group then visited Fast Park Orlando before traveling to Orlando International Airport. Aboard the shuttle, Rep. Mast heard firsthand about the issues facing NAPITA members as a growing number of stakeholders seek access to limited curb space at America's airports.

Robert S. Chavez, Partner at Fast Park and a Member of the NAPITA Board, said, "We're thrilled to welcome Rep. Mast to NAPITA's member facilities in Orlando and show him firsthand the higher-value, higher-customer service alternative to airport parking that many traveling Floridians choose to get to Orlando International. To have our guests at the curb on time, our companies make significant investment and contributions to support the airport and drive system and environmental efficiencies. NAPITA believes these efforts should not be siloed from operator-to-operator or airport-to-airport and a federal ground transportation working group would be the appropriate venue to holistically look at the ground transportation industry, develop best practices to address myriad issues facing the airport curb, and craft transportation policy that best serves the traveling public."



Ground transportation operators are vital partners to the aviation industry. You cannot get to an airport or on a plane without some form of ground transportation, and when choosing how to get to the airport, upwards of 10,000,000 Americans choose to park with a NAPITA member. However, airports control access to their curbs for all types of ground transportation, including taxis, limos, ride-share services, rental cars, etc.

The curb space at our nation's airports is not only important for the safety and security of the airport, but it is also a scarce resource for an increasing number of travelers and the ground transportation industry and becomes more congested by the day. Just as delays on the tarmac harm economic productivity, issues at the curb lead to missed flights, lost time, and unhappy travelers.

Of these ground transportation operators, near-airport parking industry operators are the only ones that complement and directly compete with the airport for ground transportation services.

In Orlando, near-airport parking operators pay ten percent of gross revenue to drop their customers at the airport curb. Other ground transportation operators pay a flat fee per passenger pick up.

**Lance Meinershagen, The Parking Spot South East Regional Manager**, said, "Near-airport parking competes with and complements on-property parking; however, it often feels only as if the wolf is guarding the hen house. Resultingly, as each airport sets their own ground transportation access-fee structure for our companies, near-airport parking access fees can range drastically from a flat price per pick-up to a percentage of gross revenues. There needs to be transparency and an understanding of how ground transportation operators are treated differently from type-to-type and airport-to-airport."

NAPITA believes a federal stakeholder working group would provide the venue necessary to understand and address these and other issues, leveraging the expertise of our membership, the federal government, and airport operators to craft transportation policy that best serves the traveling public.

As the national organization for near-airport parking operators, NAPITA will continue to advocate for the industry and the vital role it plays within the broader air travel industry.

###