

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515-4317

January 25, 2011

The Honorable Charles F. Bolden, Jr.
Administrator
National Aeronautics and Space Administration
300 E Street, SW
Washington, DC 20546

Dear Administrator Bolden:

I am writing in support of the Brazos Valley Shuttle Project and the efforts underway to secure one of the three remaining retired shuttle orbiters for display in a newly constructed museum of science and history in the Brazos Valley. I appreciate any attention and consideration that you may give this request.

In cooperation with the George Bush Presidential Library and Museum and Texas A&M University, a retired space shuttle would not only be a fitting addition to the Brazos Valley Museum of Natural History, but would also be the centerpiece of its planned Museum of Science and History.

I am confident that this new museum, centrally located within Texas and our Nation, will not only successfully highlight the history and accomplishments of the Space Shuttle program, but will also educate and inspire future generations in science and space exploration. Also, as a space-grant university, Texas A&M proudly maintains this distinguished designation and has the highest regard for National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) research and accomplishments. Furthermore, in partnership with Texas A&M, area community leaders are fully committed to securing and enhancing critical investments necessary to prepare for this venture.

It is my hope that NASA will select Texas A&M and the Brazos Valley as home to a retired shuttle orbiter. The state of Texas and this space-grant university have a long history with space flight and a deep connection to NASA and the Space Shuttle program. I am certain that if chosen to house one of these retired shuttles, not only will it be properly cared for and displayed, but will be cherished, respected and honored by the people of the Brazos Valley.

Again, thank you for your attention to this matter. If I can ever be of service to you, please do not hesitate to let me know.

Sincerely,



Bill Flores
Member of Congress