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## **Kathleen Padilla Elected Chairperson of Pennsylvania Unified Certification Program**

**PHILADELPHIA** – Philadelphia International Airport (PHL) has announced that Kathleen Padilla, Deputy Director of Aviation for Diversity and Inclusion, has been elected as Chairperson of the Oversight Committee of the Pennsylvania Unified Certification Program (PA UCP).

The PA UCP is the governing body for certification of Disadvantaged Business Enterprises (DBEs) seeking to participate in U.S. Department of Transportation (DOT) funded projects throughout Pennsylvania. The organization is supported by 36 transit agencies throughout the Commonwealth. The DBE program ensures nondiscrimination in awarding and managing DOT-assisted contracts in highway, transit and airport financial assistance programs.

In her new role, Padilla will oversee the operation of the PA UCP, making sure the organization complies with federal regulations, and guaranteeing diversity among the businesses applying for funding.

“I am grateful to receive the confidence of my colleagues to continue our mission to increase small and minority-owned businesses participation on U.S. Department of Transportation funded projects,” said Padilla. “Among my priorities in this new role, I look forward to the relaunch of the PA UCP website, which will make it easier for businesses to apply online and streamline internal processes for the certifying agencies.”

Meanwhile, PHL Airport CEO Chellie Cameron added, “At PHL we are very proud of having Kathy as our representative at the PA UCP and, even more so, to have her leading the Oversight Committee. We look forward to our continuing alliance with the PA UCP.”

The Oversight Committee members of the PA UCP are Allegheny County, Allegheny County Port Authority, the Delaware River Port Authority, the Pennsylvania Department of Transportation, the Pennsylvania Turnpike Authority, PHL, the Pittsburgh Airport, and the Southeastern Pennsylvania Transportation Authority.

For more information: <https://www.dotsbe.pa.gov/PAUCPWeb/paucp/viewHome.do>

Philadelphia International Airport is owned and operated by the City of Philadelphia. The Airport is a self-sustaining entity that operates without the use of local tax dollars. It is one of the largest economic engines in Pennsylvania, generating an estimated \$15.4 billion in spending annually and supporting more than 96,300 full-time jobs for the 11-county Philadelphia MSA.