

**NELLIE POU**

9th District, New Jersey

1007 LONGWORTH HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING  
WASHINGTON, DC 20515  
(202) 225-5751

100 HAMILTON PLAZA, SUITE 1400  
PATERSON, NJ 07505  
(973) 523-5152

<http://pou.house.gov>



**Congress of the United States**  
**U.S. House of Representatives**  
**Washington, DC 20515**

COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION AND  
INFRASTRUCTURE

SUBCOMMITTEE ON AVIATION,  
VICE RANKING MEMBER

SUBCOMMITTEE ON HIGHWAYS AND TRANSIT  
SUBCOMMITTEE ON WATER RESOURCES  
AND ENVIRONMENT

COMMITTEE ON HOMELAND SECURITY

SUBCOMMITTEE ON COUNTERTERRORISM  
AND INTELLIGENCE

June 4, 2026

The Honorable Rodney S. Scott  
Commissioner  
U.S. Customs and Border Protection  
1300 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW  
Washington, DC 20229

Dear Commissioner Scott:

I write regarding the U.S. Customs and Border Protection's ("CPB") preparedness for the increase in international air travel expected during the FIFA World Cup. Business aviation and reliever airports will play an important role in transporting teams, officials, sponsors, and visitors. Accordingly, airports in or around host cities must have resources necessary to screen and process travelers entering the United States.

As you know, the New Jersey-New York region has the busiest and most complex airspace in the country and will serve as a major gateway for World Cup visitors. MetLife Stadium, located in East Rutherford and New Jersey's Ninth Congressional District, will host eight World Cup matches, including the championship final, and is expected to draw more than a million visitors to North Jersey. New Jersey's Ninth District is also home to Teterboro Airport, located just four miles from MetLife Stadium. As a major reliever airport for the region, Teterboro will play a critical role in accommodating international business aviation traffic, including sponsors, officials, dignitaries, and other visitors. While the Port Authority of New York and New Jersey and airport stakeholders have undertaken extensive preparations for the tournament, concerns remain that Teterboro's limited customs and security processing capacity could create significant congestion and delays.

International arrivals at Teterboro Airport are currently limited to designated locations on the airfield where customs and security processing services are available. After clearing customs, aircraft must taxi back across the airfield to their fixed base operator, creating bottlenecks on taxiways and ramps and delaying arrivals and departures. These operational constraints are likely to become more pronounced as international traffic increases during the World Cup.

Letter to Commissioner Scott

June 4, 2026

Page 2 of 2

Expanding customs officers staffing levels and ensuring adequate personnel coverage at Teterboro would help address these challenges. Additional improvements could include expanding the use of mobile or remote processing capabilities across the airfield and coordinating closely with airport stakeholders on operational planning and contingency measures to support safe and efficient aircraft movement. These steps would help reduce congestion, limit diversions to surrounding airports, and improve the flow of international arrivals during the tournament.

At the same time, reports of a proposal to remove international processing capabilities from Newark Liberty International Airport and divert that travel elsewhere are deeply concerning. Such a move would increase congestion throughout the region, create operational challenges at surrounding airports, and undermine efforts to efficiently process international visitors ahead of the World Cup. CBP should reject this proposal and instead ensure that airports throughout the region have the resources necessary to handle increased travel demand.

With less than one week until the first World Cup match in the United States, it is critical that federal agencies take every reasonable step to ensure both the safety and efficient movement of international visitors. In addition to rejecting any proposal to divert international travel away from Newark Airport, I urge your agency to work with Teterboro Airport, the Port Authority, and other stakeholders to strengthen processing capacity and operational readiness by taking the following steps:

- 1) Increase customs staffing at Teterboro Airport, as needed in coordination with airport officials and the Port Authority, to meet projected international arrival demand;
- 2) Expand the use of mobile or remote clearing capabilities across the airfield;
- 3) Coordinate with airport stakeholders on operational planning; and
- 4) Develop contingency plans to maintain safe and efficient aircraft movement.

Thank you for your attention to this time-sensitive matter. I also request that you provide an update on your agency's plans to manage increased international traffic at Teterboro Airport before the first World Cup match.

Sincerely,



---

Nellie Pou

Member of Congress