

**Congress of the United States**  
**Washington, DC 20515**

January 16, 2026

The Honorable Marco Rubio  
Secretary  
U.S. Department of State  
2201 C St NW  
Washington, DC 20541

Dear Secretary Rubio,

We write to commend the U.S. Department of State on its efforts to swiftly develop the new Kansas City Passport Agency. In 2023, after hearing from many constituents in Kansas and Missouri, our respective delegations took action to highlight this issue and re-emphasize the need for a Passport Agency within the Kansas City metro area.

Our offices have heard directly from constituents whose delayed or inaccessible passport services caused them to miss weddings, honeymoons, time-sensitive work travel, funerals, and other once-in-a-lifetime or critical obligations.

Currently, Kansans and Missourians are burdened with hours-long trips to receive expedited passport assistance. Specifically, from the Kansas City Metro Area, travel times to the nearest agencies include:

- Minneapolis, MN: 6.5 hours
- Hot Springs, AK: 7 hours
- Chicago, IL: 7.5 hours
- Dallas, TX: 8 hours
- Denver, CO: 8.5 hours

Soon, our constituents will have convenient access to a passport agency close to — if not directly in — their own community.

The future Kansas City Passport Agency will make travel and passport maintenance more accessible by shortening commutes and wait times for processing and renewal services for Kansans and Missourians. Once the additionally announced new passport facilities open for operation, ninety-six percent of Americans will be within a five-hour drive of a passport agency for urgent or emergency travel. Though this commute is still lengthy, it is a notable improvement and expansion from 2023.

The Kansas City Passport Agency will allow residents in Kansas, Missouri, and surrounding areas to receive federal assistance with increased accessibility and faster means to manage passport inquiries or possible issues that may arise with acquiring government documents.

Please accept our utmost appreciation for your collaboration in the long-awaited Passport Agency construction in Kansas City. This project will significantly strengthen communications within our states, expand opportunities, and enhance the overall well-being of the families and businesses we serve.

We are grateful for your commitment to this matter and the Department of State resources that have been dedicated to these efforts. We remain committed to supporting the development of the Kansas City Passport Agency at every stage and appreciate the significant impact of your involvement in this process.

Sincerely,



Sharice L. Davids  
Member of Congress



Derek Schmidt  
Member of Congress



Emanuel Cleaver, II  
Member of Congress



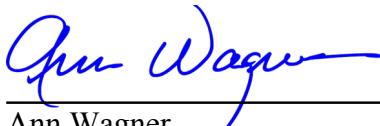
Mark Alford  
Member of Congress



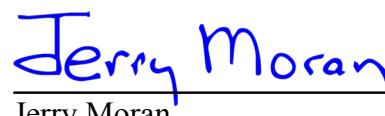
Tracey Mann  
Member of Congress



Wesley Bell  
Member of Congress



Ann Wagner  
Member of Congress



Jerry Moran  
United States Senator



Ron Estes  
Member of Congress



Robert F. Onder, Jr.  
Member of Congress