

Rep. Slaughter has been a longtime leader for improved transportation options in Western New York- with the understanding that improved transportation options create a more vibrant local economy.

Upon first arriving in Congress, Congresswoman Slaughter succeeded in getting the Rochester Airport added to the Federal Aviation Administration's airport list. Inclusion on this list is critical to ensuring that airline carriers – not local taxpayers – fund airport expansion projects. Without a place on that list, the local government would have had to fund the millions of dollars in needed upgrades and we may not have the improvements we have today.

In 1999, Slaughter convened an Aviation Competition Listening Session with then Secretary of Transportation Rodney Slater to hear from local and national leaders on the problems and proposed solutions to high airfares plaguing mid-sized communities such as Rochester. This listening session provided a forum to highlight the significant challenges facing Rochester at that time.

Slaughter also lead the effort to convince JetBlue that they should serve the Rochester market by providing written commitments from Rochester-based corporations that would rely on their service. She also worked closely with federal transportation officials to ensure JetBlue landing and take-off rights at busy airports in New York and around the country. In 2000, Slaughter welcomed JetBlue to Rochester. JetBlue's low cost competition saved local travelers over \$12.5 million in its first year of service alone, and ushered in a wave of lower fares.

In 2005, Congresswoman Slaughter helped to secure a \$17 million Department of Transportation grant to add a buffer safety zone to the end of the airport's runway.

In 2006, she helped to secure another \$1 million Department of Transportation grant for additional safety improvements to the Airport's north ramp.

In 2009 she helped bring in another \$2.5 million for runway safety improvements.

In March 2011, Slaughter partnered with US Airways to announce temporary reductions on US Airways flights to and from the airport.

In June 2011, Slaughter announced that the Greater Rochester International Airport has been awarded more than \$1.5 million as part of a grant from the U.S. Department of Transportation to rehabilitate its runway and make other safety improvements.

In February 2012, Slaughter is scheduled to hold a roundtable discussion between Southwest Airlines, US Secretary of Transportation Ray LaHood, and local business leaders.