The Sea-Tac Stakeholder Advisory Round Table (StART) meeting took place on August 21, 2018 with a focus on reviewing and discussing information from the initial meeting of the Aviation Noise Working Group as well as to develop shared understanding of Seattle region’s airspace and flight paths. This voluntary, advisory roundtable, convened by Seattle-Tacoma International Airport Director, Lance Lyttle, is a venue for the Port of Seattle to engage with the communities of SeaTac, Burien, Des Moines, Normandy Park, Tukwila and Federal Way. Representatives from Delta Air Lines, Alaska Airlines, and Lynden Transport are also members. The Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) participates as a non-member.

The Airport Director reiterated the StART objectives: to identify issues and to develop recommendations for relevant actions that could be implemented by the appropriate decision-makers. Subject matter experts will be brought on when needed.

The Aviation Noise Working Group (Working Group) reported on their first meeting and solicited feedback and questions from StART participants. To assist the Working Group, the Port hired a technical consultant who specializes in airport noise and has experience working with stakeholder groups. The first meeting’s main focus was to review, refine and/or expand upon the initial list of near-term strategies identified by StART at the June 27 StART meeting. Long-term potential strategies will be considered as part of a future work plan. Potential strategies discussed at the first working group meeting and shared with the StART members on August 21 included:

- Runway Use Agreement / Memorandum of Understanding (MOU)
- Nighttime Voluntary Curfew
- Glide Slope & Optimized Profile Descent Analysis
- Airfield Noise / Reverse Thrust Assessment

The Working Group members, Port staff and the consultant reviewed the potential strategies with the StART members. There was general concurrence that these potential strategies are worthy of further exploration.

The FAA Tower Manager gave a presentation and fielded questions on airspace and runway use at Sea-Tac. There were several questions following his presentation regarding the Burien automatic turn for turbo-props, FAA consideration of community impacts and the process for changing flight paths. The presentation can be found here.

Public comment was heard. The next meeting is scheduled for 6 p.m., October 24, at the Conference Center at Seattle-Tacoma International Airport. The public is invited to attend.

StART meeting documents may be found on the Port of Seattle website.