Meeting Objectives: To establish the START Noise Working Group (Working Group). To begin discussion and prioritization of a list of potential actions for START to explore related to preventing, reducing, and/or mitigating aviation noise. To consider constructive next steps.

Meeting Summary: The Working Group attendees included START members, as well as resource representatives from the airlines, the FAA, and Port of Seattle. To assist the Working Group, the Port hired a technical consultant, Vince Mestre, who specializes in airport noise and has experience working with stakeholder groups. Vince introduced himself and shared information about his expertise.

The 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 can also be identified and considered as part of a future work plan. The Working Group suggested that it is important to clarify and identify who has authority to influence/make decisions for each specific potential action. Port staff and the consultant provided context for each of the initial strategies including identifying relevant history, opportunities, challenges, and examples from other airports (domestic and international) including best practices. Potential strategies discussed 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 as well as the resource representatives reviewed the potential strategies and confirmed that these potential strategies are worthy of further exploration.

Next Steps: The Working Group decided to meet monthly, at least for the next three months. Members identified additional information to be brought to the next meeting including statistics on night operations (including arrivals, departures, carriers, aircraft type, seasonal data), clarification of what Port funds can be applied to noise mitigation, and examples of runway use agreements MOUs. Suggested topics for the next meeting’s agenda included:

- Review of a draft work program for the Working Group that identifies potential actions, additional analysis or information needed to evaluate each strategy, and who will follow up with each task
- Suggestions for additional potential measures including measures or best practices that the consultant may be aware of