ADDENDUM TO THE
FINAL SEPA MITIGATED DETERMINATION OF NON-SIGNIFICANCE (MDNS) OF
PROPOSED ACTION

Seattle-Tacoma International Airport (Sea-Tac Airport)
Flight Corridor Safety Program – Phase 1

Addendum to: Flight Corridor Safety Program – Phase 1 Final Mitigated Determination of Non-Significance (MDNS). The Final MDNS was issued by the Port of Seattle on August 26, 2016 following the provisions of the Washington State Environmental Policy Act (SEPA) under Revised Code of Washington (RCW) Chapter 43.21C, Washington Administrative Code (WAC) Chapter 197-11, and Port of Seattle Commission Resolution No. 3650 – SEPA Policies and Procedures. The Flight Corridor Safety Program Final MDNS is available for review at the Port of Seattle, Pier 69, Environment and Sustainability Department, Third Floor, 2711 Alaskan Way, Seattle or Sea-Tac Airport, Environment and Sustainability Department, Fifth Floor, 17801 Pacific Highway South, Seattle, WA 98158 (POS SEPA File No. 16-07).

Name of Project: Flight Corridor Safety Program – Phase 1

Project Sponsor: Seattle-Tacoma International Airport (Sea-Tac Airport)

Purpose of this Addendum: The Port of Seattle (Port) issued a Final MDNS for this project on August 26, 2016 for public and agency comment pursuant to WAC 197-11-340. This addendum adds an additional mitigation site.

Flight Corridor Safety Program

The Port of Seattle’s Flight Corridor Safety Program (FCSP) at Sea-Tac Airport is designed to remove obstructions to ensure safe airplane navigation, per FAA regulations. Obstructions were identified on both Port property and sites surrounding the airport. The FCSP Phase 1 called for removing trees on seven sites on Port property where trees were identified as obstructions, as specified in the POS SEPA No. 16-07 and the associated SEPA checklist.

Approved activity on two of the sites, Sites P-4 and P-5, located south of South 200th Street adjacent to 18th Avenue South (see Attachment A), required removing a number of large conifers. The Port of Seattle had originally proposed full site clearing and on-site revegetation with a low-growing forest. Based on public comment, the Port revised the plan to include a phased tree removal over ten years, with an additional tree planting area (mitigation area) off site to increase the revegetation area and the number of trees replanted. This addendum addresses the additional mitigation area.
Offsite Mitigation Area

In fall 2018, the Port of Seattle will replant approximately 1,760 trees as mitigation for FCSP Phase 1 tree obstruction removal that occurred in spring 2018 at sites P-4 and P-5. A total of 172 trees were removed from sites P-4 (38) and P-5 (134). Mitigation at site P-4 and P-5 will consist of planting shorter trees where the removal occurred.

The Port, based on public comments received, will also plant approximately 570 native, tall-growing trees similar to the species removed at an additional site. This site, called the Offsite Mitigation Area (OMA), is located immediately adjacent to site P-5 on Port of Seattle property west of 18th Avenue South between South 203rd Street and South 208th Street (see Attachment A). The OMA is occupied by predominantly invasive species (i.e. blackberry, ivy, and Scotch broom) with very little existing tree canopy. In preparation for the OMA plantings, the Port will remove existing invasive plant species while protecting existing trees. The removal of invasive species and replanting of trees will also occur in fall 2018.

SEPA Review: The additional proposed mitigation is a restorative action that will not incur significant environmental impacts. The Port will remove invasive species while protecting existing native shrubs and trees, and then will plant native tall-growing coniferous trees.

Date Addendum Issued: October 1, 2018

SEPA Lead Agency: Port of Seattle (SEPA No. 18-02)

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(SEPA Responsible Official Signature)
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