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From: Port of Seattle <[PortofSeattle@public.govdelivery.com](mailto:PortofSeattle@public.govdelivery.com)>

Subject: Port of Seattle Connections, March 20, 2020

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## In the Community

### Updates on the Port's COVID-19 response



Commission President Peter Steinbrueck, Executive Director Steve Metruck, and Airport Director Lance Lytle briefed media on Tuesday on the [Port's response](#) to COVID-19 (coronavirus) and actions to protect the health, safety, and wellbeing of our community. The briefing covered the current status of activity at Seattle-Tacoma International Airport (SEA), as well as maritime activities, and capital projects.

The Port is open and operating, but it is not business as usual right now. This time last year 50,000 passengers would be headed through security checkpoints at SEA at the beginning of the spring break travel season. Right now, the airport is averaging 16,000 passengers through the checkpoints. The decline in passengers impacts every business and worker that depends upon the airport economy for their livelihood.

Maritime operations are experiencing similar challenges. We are working urgently with our

tenants and partners to discuss how the Port can effectively join federal, state, and local relief packages to support businesses and workers across our industries.

In the last few weeks the Port has announced cancellations and operational changes. To stay up to date, bookmark the Port's COVID-19 response page For additional updates please review:

**>> Airport Operational Updates**

**>> Cruise and Maritime Updates**

**>> Airport COVID-19 FAQs**

**>> Dining and Retail Tenants at SEA**

**>> March 20 Port COVID-19 Update**

## Commission

**Comment by email or teleconference at next Commission meeting**



To reduce risk of exposure for the public to COVID-19 (coronavirus), the Port will not accept in-person, verbal comments during the regular Commission meeting on March 24, 2020. This process varies from the process used in the past. Community members will be able to provide public comment the following ways:

1. **Deliver public comment via skype for business teleconference:** To take advantage of this option, please email [commission-publicrecords@portseattle.org](mailto:commission-publicrecords@portseattle.org) with your name and the topic you wish to speak to by 9:00 a.m. PT on Tuesday, March 24. You will then be provided with a link to join the skype meeting.
2. **Deliver public comment via email:** All written comments received by email to [commission-public-records@portseattle.org](mailto:commission-public-records@portseattle.org) will be distributed to commissioners and attached to the approved minutes.

To comply with state public health rules, a maximum of 49 individuals will be allowed to attend the meeting, including Commissioners and Port staff. Due to recommended social distancing and limited space in the meeting room, it is possible less than 49 people will be able to be in the room. This process will be in place until further notice.

For additional information, contact [commission-public-records@portseattle.org](mailto:commission-public-records@portseattle.org). The agenda and related materials are available on the Port's website.

[Learn more](#)



# Seattle-Tacoma International Airport

## Port Commission approves first-in-the-nation airport biometrics policies



The Port of Seattle is moving forward with efforts to lead the development of biometric policies and procedures that protect travelers' privacy and civil liberties, while ensuring a safe, respectful, and efficient customer experience for those passengers departing Seattle-Tacoma International Airport (SEA) on international flights.

Following months of engagement with the aviation industry, federal officials, and civil liberties groups, the Commission directed staff to implement new policies governing the implementation of "Biometric Air Exit" at SEA. Biometric air exit is a federally regulated program that uses facial recognition to confirm the identities of departing international passengers at the boarding gate.

[Learn more](#)

## In the Community

### (Wo)man on Fire: Austen Stutsman



*The Port of Seattle is celebrating Women's History Month by recognizing and honoring women who are redefining women's roles in traditionally male-dominated industries.*

Growing up, Austen Stutsman never would have imagined she'd be a firefighter. As a physical therapy grad student, on a whim she applied to be a volunteer at a local fire

department and hasn't looked back since. After balancing her love for fire service and physical therapy for a while, Stutsman made the switch to a fulltime career as a firefighter at the Port of Seattle three years ago.

We sat down with Stutsman to talk about her path toward becoming a firefighter, what she loves about her job, what it's like to be a woman in a traditionally male career field, and how she's working to inspire other young women to pursue a career in the fire service.

[Learn more](#)

## Healthy Habitats and Communities

### Apply for an Airport Ecology Grant through March 30



Have a project that will improve livability and the local environment in near airport communities? The Airport Community Ecology (ACE) Fund Small Matching Grant program is now accepting applications through March 30. The ACE Fund offers grants to organizations to improve the natural environment through projects and programs that improve livability in near-airport communities. Recognizing that communities adjacent to the airport experience more impacts from operations, the Port of Seattle Commission directed the program offer additional environmental benefits to neighborhoods in Burien, Des Moines, and SeaTac.

[Apply now](#)

## Port Commission Actions

The Port is committed to a future of expanded opportunity. Waterfront and airport investments commit to today's residents and the next generations that this Port will continue expanding economic opportunity, social inclusion, and environmental and community health.

### March 24

The Port Commission will consider authorization to provide residential sound insulation for up to 60 single-family homes and the Villa Enzian Condominiums within the current Airport noise remedy boundary at Seattle-Tacoma International Airport.

The Commission will also consider the adoption of a resolution relating to the Flight Corridor Safety Program, providing for the acquisition of certain easement and access interests in real property located in King County, Washington, and hear a briefing on the Diversity in Contracting Annual Report

[Full agenda](#)

## March 10

The Port of Seattle Commission approved the contract for a Biometric Air Exit system for up to 30 international boarding gates at Seattle-Tacoma International Airport, and passed a motion for the Port to use its influence as an institution to promote workforce development. The Port Commission will also approved a budget increase for the North Satellite Modernization Project budget, and heard a 2019 financial performance briefing.

[View video](#)

## In the Media

### A little grace at the airport

Westside Seattle shared how a therapy dog team at Seattle-Tacoma International Airport eases stress for passengers.

### Mammoet installs second-ever walkway suitable for 747 at SEA

Construction Equipment Guide shared that Mammoet has successfully completed the transport and lift of Seattle-Tacoma International Airport's newest expansion, an elevated pedestrian walkway for the future international arrival's facility.

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## In Case You Missed it On Social Media

To help keep you safe, we have installed 119 hand sanitizers in and around the terminal with more on the way. [Learn more on Facebook](#), [Twitter](#), [Instagram](#).

[Learn how to prevent the spread of COVID-19 SEA Facebook](#), [Twitter](#), [Instagram](#) or [Port Twitter](#), [Instagram](#), [Facebook](#).

## Interested in More Industry News?

The Northwest Seaport Alliance (NWSA) is a marine cargo operating partnership of the Port of Seattle and Port of Tacoma. [Sign up to receive the NWSA newsletter](#) or [subscribe to the Port of Tacoma newsletter](#).

*Photos by Port staff.*

**Stay tuned for our next issue of Connections April 10.**

Port of Seattle Commission

Stephanie Bowman | Ryan Calkins | Sam Cho | Fred Felleman | Peter Steinbrueck

Executive Director: Stephen P. Metruck

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News about maritime, airport, and community

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In the Community

Updates on the Port's COVID-19 response  
port of seattle

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\*>> Cruise and Maritime Updates\* [ <https://www.portseattle.org/news/port-cancels-first-two-sailings-seattle-cruise-season> ]

\*>> Airport COVID-19 FAQs\* [ <https://www.portseattle.org/node/11309> ]

\*>> Dining and Retail Tenants at SEA\* [ <https://www.portseattle.org/blog/dining-and-retail-tenants-sea-adjust-operations-covid-19> ]

\*>> March 20 Port COVID-19 Update [ [https://www.portseattle.org/sites/default/files/2020-03/COVID-PortResponse\\_3-20-20\\_2.pdf](https://www.portseattle.org/sites/default/files/2020-03/COVID-PortResponse_3-20-20_2.pdf) ]\*

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Seattle-Tacoma International Airport

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Learn more [ <https://www.portseattle.org/news/first-nation-airport-biometrics-policies-enhance-traveler-awareness-port-accountability-and> ]

In the Community

(Wo)man on Fire: Austen Stutsman  
austen stutsman

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Learn more [ <https://www.portseattle.org/blog/woman-fire-austen-stutsman> ]

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Learn more on Facebook [ <https://www.facebook.com/126440017409096/posts/2703303549722717/> ], Twitter [ <https://twitter.com/flySEA/status/1237499861668372480> ], Instagram. [ <https://www.instagram.com/p/B9ke2nEAl dg/> ]

Learn how to prevent the spread of COVID-19 SEA Facebook [ <https://www.facebook.com/watch/?v=568216397406948> ], Twitter [ <https://twitter.com/flySEA/status/1238189535537688576> ], Instagram [ <https://www.instagram.com/p/B9pEB2RAjhr/> ] or Port Twitter [ <https://twitter.com/PortofSeattle/status/1238576488426786816> ], Instagram [ <https://www.instagram.com/p/B9sI62FgaRh/> ], Facebook [ <https://www.facebook.com/watch/?v=2294135984222934> ].

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"Photos by Port staff."

Stay tuned for our next issue of Connections April 10.

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\*Port of Seattle Commission\*

Stephanie Bowman | Ryan Calkins | Sam Cho | Fred Felleman | Peter Steinbrueck

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