Nuts + Bolts: See what's new in SEA Airport construction

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Expanding workforce diversity in construction

In this time of necessary change, the Port is expanding construction opportunities and measures that reinforce equity, diversity, and inclusion. We are supporting women and people of color with training and direct access to a construction career, and prioritizing jobs for local workers in economically disadvantaged neighborhoods.

Our Priority Hire Program works with qualifying priority hires to enroll in training such as the ANEW pre-apprenticeship programs, supports job placement for pre-apprentice graduates and apprentices, and maintains and improves diverse and inclusive construction job sites.

Building together while working safely

Construction crews serve as part of the Port’s frontline resources during the pandemic, building the region’s critical maritime and aviation gateways.

To support essential operations and the local workforce, the Port and its partners are working together to develop, implement, and refine construction practices and worksite requirements to keep workers safe and construction moving forward. Everyone, from the Port and general contractors to work crews and trades, is adapting to new rules, necessary personal protective equipment (PPE), and novel ways to approach construction and implement safety requirements for construction restart.

International Arrivals Facility

Transformation of the Arrivals Hall continues
The International Arrivals Facility’s (IAF’s) 450,000-square-foot grand hall will house SEA’s international baggage claim and customs processing. Crews completed nearly all terrazzo flooring and installed six of seven baggage carousels. The new baggage claim devices are triple the size of the old carousels and will increase capacity to get travelers on their way faster. The new baggage system has completed its testing and will soon tie in with the airport’s optimized baggage handling system.

The ongoing construction of the elevated pedestrian walkway is one of the most complex components of the IAF program. Crews achieved a major milestone this quarter by pouring 430 cubic yards of concrete along the 780-foot-long walkway to complete the bridge deck.

**Looking Ahead:** Interior work is finishing up on the landside while exterior cladding work is installed on the elevated pedestrian walkway. Crews will soon be preparing for installation of vertical circulation connections (such as escalators and elevators) between the elevated pedestrian walkway with Concourse A and the South Satellite.

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**North Satellite Modernization**

**Central core's open concept brings in light**

With the south end of the North Satellite now enclosed with its glass-paneled exterior, crews have started interior work on the dramatic 80-foot-tall Central Marketplace and train station lobby. The project team re-sequenced this work and expanded construction zones to enhance worker safety and maintain physical distancing.

The refreshed train station lobby will feature new terrazzo flooring, architectural finishes, signage, and audio/visual technology matching the recently completed Concourse C station. The train lobby leads to the central core (the vertical space for elevators, escalators, and stairs) that will transport passengers up to the Central Marketplace and concourse level.

The central core’s structural improvements create an open space to bring in natural light and support elevator and escalator system components. Glass behind the stairway handrails and elevator enclosure mirrors the open and airy feel.

**Looking Ahead:** The central core and train station lobby are critical milestones to opening the Central Marketplace for future dining and retail tenants to begin building out their storefronts. SEA’s first pet relief area, designed as a permanent amenity, will soon be completed on the train station level.

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**Central Terminal**

**Infrastructure improvements pave the way for expansion**
Infrastructure upgrades such as air flow improvements and a new heating, ventilation, and air conditioning (HVAC) system support the new mezzanine level constructed for the Central Terminal Renovation project.

The HVAC system will be housed in the new mechanical penthouse located on the airport’s roof. The rooftop location provides the HVAC system with access to fresh air to meet exhaust requirements while keeping components out of sight. A new air handling unit is also being installed and will regulate and circulate air in the expanded space.

The new glass elevator, located on the northern end of the Central Terminal, is at the halfway point of installation and will give travelers access between the future Salty’s restaurant on the concourse level to Brewtop Social on the mezzanine.

**Looking Ahead:** With infrastructure improvements finishing up, the build-out of new storefronts will soon be underway. Prior to opening, a third-party commissioning agent will oversee final testing of new systems to verify all improvements are code compliant and safe.

### Baggage Handling System Optimization

**Baggage system designed to grow with SEA**

Have you ever wondered, “how do my bags get through the airport?” This fascinating and critical airport-wide function has been made better through a major upgrade to the complex highway of baggage conveyors hiding below the concourse at SEA.

The first phase of the Baggage Handling System Optimization program went online in April with the ability to screen more bags, operate more efficiently, and provide a safe and healthy work environment. For more on these behind the scene improvements, read our Five Fast Facts on SEA’s Baggage Handling System Upgrade.
Construction Safety
Committed to a Culture of CARE

The Port continues its pledge to the Association of General Contractors of Washington's Culture of CARE by attracting the workforce of tomorrow, retaining skilled workers and diversity, and empowering all to live and work a Culture of CARE. We reinforce these values across our construction practice from hiring and worksite guidance, to the safety training materials delivered to every worker on a Port project. Learn more →

Diversity in Contracting
PortGen workshops move to webinar format

PortGen workshops connect participants with Port staff and create unique opportunities to ask questions and learn about how to do business with the Port. The May 20 Consulting webinar covered insider tips ranging from preparing a success proposal and the negotiations process, to successful preparation of an inclusion plan. Future workshops will be held online – register today!

Bid Opportunities
Find Port Procurement and Contract Info at VendorConnect

Learn About Upcoming Projects
PortGen workshops give small, women- and minority-owned, and disadvantaged businesses interested in doing work at the airport an opportunity to hear from Port staff, learn about new projects, and network. Register now!

- 6/24 – DBE Compliance Training
- 7/21 – Goods and Services
- 8/11 – Importance of DBE Participation and Reporting