

Federal Policy Working Group

MEETING SUMMARY

JULY 11, 2022; 5:00 PM – 6:20 PM
VIA ZOOM VIDEOCONFERENCE

Meeting Objectives:

Federal policy update on the Infrastructure Bill, Appropriations, and the Build Back Better Act. Review of US Representative Smith's Aviation Impacted Communities Act bill that would require the Federal Aviation Administration to provide funding for noise mitigation beyond the existing FAA noise contours. Review of draft 2023 FAA Reauthorization Priorities Letter. Discussion about a Potential Joint Comment Letter on FAA Fuel Efficiency Rulemaking.

Meeting Summary:

- I. Facilitator welcome, introduction and meeting agenda, Brian Scott from BDS Planning & Urban Design
- II. Aviation Impacted Communities Act, Thomas Mayo, Office of US Representative Adam Smith
 - Noise is the single biggest issue constituents raise to Rep. Smith and solving this remains one of his most important priorities. This bill is the result of all the noise complaints, predominantly from Beacon Hill and Federal Way, and the increasing noise level and unresponsiveness of the FAA. If passed, designated communities would be eligible for FAA Airport Improvement Program noise mitigation program funds. The goal is to engage the FAA effectively, and to require them to be responsive to communities under flight paths.
 - The bill aims to prompt actions and get solutions from the FAA including 1) conducting a study on aviation impacts, 2) creating designated communities that provide feedback on aviation impacts, 3) developing an action plan to address community concerns on aviation impacts, and 4) establishing noise mitigation funds for designated communities.
 - The bill was reintroduced on May 19, 2022, and so far, has 13 cosponsors.
 - Some members of the StART working group expressed their concern about the definition of community used in the bill. They felt that communities closer to the airport are more impacted, and the voices representing communities should be those that are most impacted.
- III. Federal Policy Update, Eric Schinfeld, Port of Seattle
 1. Infrastructure Bill
 - There are a lot of opportunities coming down the pipe in the next couple of months, including the \$10 million award the airport received from competitive dollars through FAA, which will be used on restroom modernization projects in concourse B, C, and D. This is the first grant award from the bill to the Port.
 - The US Department of Transportation will make determination on the RAISE grant in next month or so.
 2. FY23 Appropriations
 - House of Representatives should start passing their vision of the FY 2023 version mid to late July,

while the Senate has not even started the process on their version of the bills.

- This year's funding level will continue into next year at least until the elections are over.

3. Build Back Better Act

- There is a last-ditch effort to revive it but there is a lot of pessimism there. Sustainable aviation fuels, and the implementation of sustainable fuels is what we want if it happens.
- Biden nominated Phil Washington as the new FAA administrator. He is currently the CEO of the Denver International Airport. Most of his background is in transit and not airports but he is a respected guy, and the aviation community is supportive of Phil. Lance Lytle knows him well.
- Senator Roger Wicker of Mississippi said that he was surprised that Biden would nominate someone with so little aviation experience. The nominee was not immediately embraced by every senator.

IV. Review of draft 2023 FAA Reauthorization Priorities Letter, Eric Schinfeld, Port of Seattle

- The working group reviewed the letter and shared the follow suggestions.
 - Change language for III. 7. 1) to make the language more specific so that it does not suggest new airport capacity means expansion at SEA.
 - Refer to CACC language more specifically and clarify that it's not the Port putting forward something new rather the Port/WG members are supporting the state's course in this legislative activity.
 - Under Section III, insert a new sentence (sentence #2), "The CACC was created by the Washington Legislature after communities around Sea-Tac Airport advocated for this need for an alternative location for additional flights.
- Members of the working group will send further written feedback

V. Potential Joint Comment Letter on FAA Fuel Efficiency Rulemaking, Eric Schinfeld, Port of Seattle

- Working group members agreed to update our joint EPA comment letter on this same topic and submit a version of the letter to the FAA.

VI. Next Steps

1. Eric will update the draft 2023 FAA Reauthorization Priorities Letter, and BDS will send it to the working group members.
2. Eric will update the Joint Comment Letter on FAA Fuel Efficiency Rulemaking and will send it to the working group members.
3. Bring in a speaker for a future Federal Policy Working Group meeting to speak about the FAA's support for new regional airport capacity, specifically on streamlining FAA regulatory review and agency collaboration with cities and states in high air travel demand regions looking to invest in new airport capacity.

MEMBER	INTEREST REPRESENTED	PRESENT
AMY ARRINGTON	NORMANDY PARK	✓
ANTHONY HEMSTAD	DES MOINES	✓
BILL VADINO	FEDERAL WAY	✓
BRANDON MILES	TUKWILA	-
CHRIS HALL	FEDERAL WAY	-

DIANA SMITH	BURIEN	-
GARMON NEWSOM II	BURIEN	✓
JEFF HARBAUGH	BURIEN	-
KYLE MOORE	SEATAC	✓
LANCE LYTTLE	PORT OF SEATTLE	✓
MICHAEL MATTHIAS	DES MOINES	-
ROBERT AKHTAR	SEATAC	✓
VIK UBERIO	FAA	✓
NON-MEMBER		
ALEX STONE	OFFICE OF CONGRESSMAN ADAM SMITH	✓
AMANDA WYMAN-BRADLEY	OFFICE OF CONGRESSMAN ADAM SMITH	-
JESSICA MULLIGAN	OFFICE OF CONGRESSWOMAN JAYAPAL	-
MARIELLE TRUMBauer	OFFICE OF CONGRESSWOMAN JAYAPAL	-
MEGAN UTEMEI	OFFICE OF SEN. PATTY MURRAY	-
TOMMY BAUER	OFFICE OF SEN. MARIA CANTWELL	-
RESOURCES	TITLE	
CLARE GALLAGHER	PORT OF SEATTLE	✓
DAVE KAPLAN	PORT OF SEATTLE	-
ERIC SCHINFELD	PORT OF SEATTLE	✓
JUSTIN BIASSOU	FAA	-
KELLY SCHIMELFENIG	PORT OF SEATTLE	-
LESLIE LARDIE	FAA	-
MARCO MILANESE	PORT OF SEATTLE	-
PATRICIA LY	PORT OF SEATTLE	-
STAN SHEPHERD	PORT OF SEATTLE	-
CONSULTANT		
BRIAN SCOTT	BDS PLANNING & URBAN DESIGN	✓
DORI KRUPANICS	BDS PLANNING & URBAN DESIGN	✓

NEXT MEETING: SEPTEMBER 19, 2022, 5:00 PM - 6:20 PM
 LOCATION: ZOOM VIDEOCONFERENCE