

Policy Working Group

MEETING SUMMARY

AUGUST 5, 2024; 5:00 PM – 6:00 PM

VIA ZOOM VIDEOCONFERENCE

Meeting Objectives:

- Federal Update
- State Policy Discussion

Meeting Summary:

- I. Welcome: Facilitator Andres Mantilla, Uncommon Grounds, opened the meeting and covered meeting ground rules.
- II. Federal Policy Update, Eric Schinfeld, Port of Seattle
 - FAA Reauthorization Bill
 - As mentioned, the legislation was signed in May including four of our policy priorities. Since then, we have been working on finding a path to implement our secondary noise insulation language that was not included; this bill would allow federal funding to be used for failed insulation packages
 - In the Senate version of the FY25 Transportation appropriations bill, we were able to get the following language included in the report that accompanies the legislation:
 - *"Sound insulation.-The Committee is aware that certain sound insulation projects installed prior to 2002 caused physical damage to the residence or the materials used for such insulation have deteriorated, broken, or are otherwise no longer functional. As such, the Committee directs the FAA to consider residences that were mitigated prior to 2002 with sound insulation as "unmitigated", and any new sound insulation would be considered a one-time mitigation, subject to current requirements for determining eligibility for sound insulation, if an airport can verify that-*
 1. *the residences continue to fall within the latest day-night average sound level (DNL) 65 decibel (dB) contour;*
 2. *the residential structure is experiencing an average interior noise level of DNL 45 dB or higher;*
 3. *any previously installed sound insulation for which prior Federal financial assistance or Passenger Facility Charges resulted in structural deterioration that was not caused by any actions attributed*

to the owner or occupant of the residence, nor by the failure of a property owner to repair or maintain a residential building; and

4. the applicant and the property owner demonstrate having made good faith effort to exhaust any amounts available through warranties, insurance coverage, and legal remedies for the sound insulation treatment previously installed on the eligible residence;

- *The FAA has previously determined other sound insulation treatments to be considered as "unmitigated" and should provide the same flexibility to these treatments. The FAA should continue to require applicants and property owners to conform to currently published FAA standards that would achieve a measurable reduction in interior noise levels."*
- [Link is here](#)
- Once final FY25 appropriations become law, this language gives clear direction from Congress to the FAA, although it does not have quite the same force as a change in statute. We will have to work with our Congressional delegation to ensure that the FAA acts on this direction.
 - Depending on the November election, the appropriations legislation will be signed into law as early as December or sometime in 2025
- Huge thanks to Senator Murray for her help getting this language in the committee report
- *Question: does this change eligibility for who can get their broken package fixed? For federal dollars, there is currently no eligibility; this language would make homes that meet the criteria eligible for federal funding for repair and replacement.*
- Congratulations to cities that had their earmarks included in the House and/or Senate appropriations bills. Thanks to Reps. Smith and Jayapal and Senators Murray and Cantwell. Special thanks to Alex Dilley in Rep Smith's office for all her help

III. State Policy Discussion, Eric Schinfeld, POS

- Eric discussed the notes from last meeting, outlining draft state legislative agenda, and next steps
- We will write up a one-pager and send to everyone to vet with their cities and then plan on adopting this for the 2025 state legislative session
- StART State legislative priorities:
 1. State funding for sound insulation repair and replacements (passed last session) – making sure that program is being implemented appropriately. Depending on need, may advocate for additional state funding

2. Continuing to look at regional commercial air service capacity. The new CAWG is up and running (presentation at last full StART meeting). Need to advocate for a solution to relieve pressure on SEA. Airport capacity, high speed rail and other potential solutions to be looked at.
 3. Sustainable Aviation Fuel – benefits not only carbon reduction but also addressing air particulates and air pollution. Continuing progress at the state level; what are additional incentive and investments that can be made.
 4. Electrification of aviation and ground transportation.
- *Question: will electrification matter?* Adding to the list, next regional airport could host smaller regional flights. The greener it can be, the more likely it is to be allowed to expand/be sited.
 - *Question: Concerns expressed about the sound insulation pilot program potentially being a “gift of public funds”* Program is not finalized, Port will ensure that this issue will be addressed. Can add to agenda if it needs to be fixed or if there is solution, that will be communicated.

Background: SECTION 7 CREDIT NOT TO BE LOANED. No county, city, town or other municipal corporation shall hereafter give any money, or property, or loan its money, or credit to or in aid of any individual, association, company or corporation, except for the necessary support of the poor and infirm, or become directly or indirectly the owner of any stock in or bonds of any association, company or corporation.

- *Question: is this the first time we’ve discussed the gift of public funds?* Local residents and officials expressed some concern. Program is moving full speed ahead. If this becomes a concern, that will be shared with StART. Port will provide a formal response.
 - **Port Legal Response:** “The Port is currently collecting data to scope out the extent of the problem based on a statistical approach. Once the Port and other federal/state elected representatives have a better understanding of the need and the resources available to address it, the Port will design a program that is consistent with federal and state law, including the gift of public funds. The Port remains committed to consistency with applicable laws and believes there are different ways to structure the program consistent with those laws, but is also working with state and federal elected representatives to make this program available as broadly as possible.”
- *Question: State bill was more than the failed packages. Can we discuss about whether we want to expand outward of the 65DNL? Also, the spirit of the Mike Pellicciotti bill that looked beyond the 65DNL. Can we discuss? Are there other airport investments that could be part of that discussion potentially included in the Pellicciotti bill?*
- State agenda will be sent out for review and approval via email. We will need to approve via email or move the October meeting up for this to be ready for the state legislative session.

- *Comment: would like to see the failed insulation packages get more time at meeting including previous questions raised. Why weren't the surveys sent out to the broader group? 3,200 questionnaires were sent out. 31% response rate. That amount of data will be helpful; data is being analyzed; acoustic testing is taking place and photos of windows are being taken. Survey went to most impacted homes. However, what is happening inside the 65DNL is like very similar to what's happening outside that area.*
 - *Comment: disappointment that in the survey, there was no opportunity to report on the new roof vents that were put in as part of the insulation packages. The vents leak and cause damage.*
 - Ryan McMillan is making a full presentation on this at Aviation Working Group on August 12th and will address this issue.
 - Aviation Working Group will be dedicated to noise issues; there will be no Part 150 meeting. Meeting will include China Airlines Cargo meeting and a primer on our noise abatement procedures. Addressing concerns about early turns heard from residents in Burien.

IV. Wrap Up

- Next meeting is October 7, 2024, 5-6 pm.

MEMBER	INTEREST REPRESENTED	PRESENT
ADOLFO BAILON	BURIEN	-
AMY ARRINGTON	NORMANDY PARK	✓
ANTHONY HEMSTAD	DES MOINES	✓
BILL VADINO	FEDERAL WAY	✓
BRANDON MILES	TUKWILA	-
DAVE BERGER	FEDERAL WAY	-
GARMON NEWSOM II	BURIEN	✓
JASON WOYCKE	DES MOINES	-
JEFF HARBAUGH	BURIEN	✓
JOE DUSENBURY	DES MOINES	-
KYLE MOORE	SEATAC	-
LANCE LYTTLE	PORT OF SEATTLE	-
MIKE BRUGATO	FEDERAL WAY	✓
MOIRA BRADSHAW	NORMANDY PART	-
ROGER KADEG	SEATAC	✓
STEVE NOVAK	DES MOINES	-
NON-MEMBER		
ALEX DILLEY	OFFICE OF CONGRESSMAN ADAM SMITH	✓
PAUL QUINONEZ	OFFICE OF SENATOR MARIA CANTWELL	-
MARIELLE TRUMBAUER	OFFICE OF CONGRESSWOMAN JAYAPAL	-
MEGAN UTEMEI	OFFICE OF SEN. PATTY MURRAY	-
RESOURCES	TITLE	

CLARE GALLAGHER	PORT OF SEATTLE	-
DAVE KAPLAN	PORT OF SEATTLE	-
ERIC SCHINFELD	PORT OF SEATTLE	✓
JOHN FLANNAGAN	PORT OF SEATTLE	-
MARCO MILANESE	PORT OF SEATTLE	✓
NATE CAMINOS	PORT OF SEATTLE	-
PARIS EDWARDS	PORT OF SEATTLE	-
RYAN MCMILLAN	PORT OF SEATTLE	✓
SARAH COX	PORT OF SEATTLE	-
CONSULTANT		
ANDRES MANTILLA	UNCOMMON BRIDGES	✓
CHERYL SWAB	UNCOMMON BRIDGES	✓

NEXT MEETING: OCTOBER 7, 2024, 5:00 PM - 6:00 PM

LOCATION: ZOOM VIDEOCONFERENCE