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September 2025

#### **A Welcoming Port**

Dear Friends,

The Port of Seattle Commission first adopted its Welcoming Port Policy Directive as Resolution No. 3747 on May 8, 2018. The policy affirmed the Port of Seattle's commitment to the safety, inclusion, and engagement of immigrants, refugees, and international visitors who interact with our facilities or services.

For our organization, this directive prioritizes our goal of being a welcoming and inclusive port, while also recognizing the central and critical nature of immigrant communities in carrying out our mission and operations. Our facilities rely on international engagement in a wide variety of ways, from the maritime and aviation workforce that includes many immigrants to the international passengers and cargo that travel through our airport.

Since 2018, the Port has fully implemented this policy, including the development of many deep partnerships with community groups and organizations and the passage of our Language Access Policy. In addition, in 2019, the Washington State Legislature passed the Keep Washington Working Act, which made numerous changes to state law for the stated purpose of "ensuring the state of Washington remains a place where the rights and dignity of all residents are maintained and protected to keep Washington working." The Port has fully complied with these mandates.

Given recent changes in federal immigration policies, programs, and practices, the Port Commission is working to update our Welcoming Port Policy so that we may expand our strategies to respond to current events and new challenges to our vision for an inclusive, welcoming port.

At the <u>September 9 Commission meeting</u>, Port staff introduced draft updates to the Welcoming Port Policy (<u>proposed updates</u>; <u>slide deck</u>). We are currently in the process of receiving feedback from Port employees and community members about the proposed changes. After incorporating input, the policy will

be reintroduced and potentially adopted at the Commission's October 28 meeting. If you'd like to provide any feedback on this policy, please don't hesitate to contact <u>Strategic Advisor Tyler Emsky</u>.

As we've said before, our mission, values, and commitment to fostering an inclusive, thriving, and safe community are unchanged. We will continue to embed our values in all we do for the people of our region and our workforce. This policy is one action toward that end, and we'd love to hear your thoughts about this important work.

In Unity,

Bookda Gheisar

Senior Director, Office of Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion

#### **Centering Equity and Taking Action**

# Port of Seattle Seeks Community Feedback to Support Airport Managing Director Search



The Port of Seattle is seeking an experienced, visionary leader to serve as the next Managing Director of Seattle-Tacoma International Airport (SEA). Community members are encouraged to share feedback on the attributes they would like to see in the new Managing Director for SEA — for example, what

leadership qualities are most important, which improvements or focus areas are important for the passenger experience, and what kind of experience you would like to see in making community connections. Email feedback to <a href="mailto:AVDirectorSearch@portseattle.org">AVDirectorSearch@portseattle.org</a> or share your feedback through the Port's <a href="mailto:CommunityEngagement Survey">CommunityEngagement Survey</a>. Learn more about the search process →

# Join the Port for the Part 150 Noise and Land Use Compatibility Study Workshops



The Port of Seattle invites you to attend a public workshop to learn about the Part 150 Study for Seattle-Tacoma International Airport (SEA). The multi-year study evaluates SEA's aircraft noise compatibility with the surrounding communities and current and possible new efforts to reduce the effects of aircraft noise on these communities.

The workshops will share information on the study's timeline and current and projected aircraft noise levels in the surrounding communities. Attendees will have the opportunity to offer feedback on the draft Noise Exposure Map (NEM) report and suggest potential noise reduction measures for evaluation within the study. You may attend any workshop at any time during the hours listed. Learn more about SEA's Part 150 Study. Learn more about SEA's Part 150 Study →

- Thursday, Oct 2, 6–8 p.m., Seahurst Elementary School
- Saturday, October 4, 10 a.m.-12 p.m., Glacier Middle School
- Wednesday, October 15, 6 p.m., virtual (Zoom)

#### \$500,000 in Port Funding Available for Community-led Environmental Improvements

The Port of Seattle is now accepting applications from community-based organizations for projects that improve the environment in historically underrepresented communities that surround Seattle-Tacoma International Airport (SEA) and South King County, extending up to Beacon Hill, Rainier Valley, and the Duwamish Valley.



A total of \$500,000 is available in this cycle of the South King and Port Communities Fund (formerly the South King County Community Impact Fund)

Environmental Improvements Program (EIP). Proposals must be submitted by 12 p.m. PST on October 31, 2025. <u>Learn more including how to apply →</u>

# Increasing Investments in Maritime and Aviation Workforce Development



During September, the Port of Seattle Commission approved funding for an expanded maritime workforce development strategy, authorizing up to \$2.17 million from 2026 to 2028 for recruitment, employer engagement, job training, and career services in the maritime industry. Learn more via the Commission presentation, memo, and slide deck.

Additionally, the Commission authorized up to \$417,000 over six years (2026-2031) to create and operate an Aviation Security Training Program, modeling the program after the successful Aviation Maintenance Technician and Ground Support Equipment Maintenance programs. Read more about this new training program. Through the Port's investments in workforce development, we are creating pathways for community members to gain employment in quality, family-wage careers in port industries.

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Port of Seattle Commission

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