Policy Work Group

MEETING SUMMARY
AUGUST 24, 2026; 5:00 PM – 6:00 PM
VIDEOCONFERENCE VIA ZOOM

Meeting Objectives:

- Federal policy update and planning for next steps
- State agenda input and drafting

I. Facilitator Welcome & Introductions
Andrés Mantilla, Facilitator, Uncommon Bridges

II. Federal Update
John Flanagan, Senior State Government Relations Manager, POS

- Repair & Replace Pilot Program: Port of Seattle (SEA) was selected as one of two national pilot program locations. Funding/legislation was driven by Senator Cantwell. Formal FAA updates are pending.
- The Particle Emission Act & Study on ultrafine particles was successfully funded. Timelines for when the study begins will come from the Port's environmental team.
- Advocacy efforts with the FAA are advancing. Work is moving forward around possibly modifying the Day-Night Average Sound Level noise metric.
- Advocacy Trip to DC: The group plans to target March–May 2027 for the next fly-in to DC, expanding participation beyond elected officials to include community members and city partners.
    - Comment: Suggest aligning the 2027 federal priorities with the Roundtable of Roundtables and the Quiet Skies Caucus (focusing on ultrafine particles and noise).

III. StART Agenda
John Flanagan, POS

- The group reaffirmed removing SAF from both federal and state priority lists based on:
    - Focus & Capacity: The group wants a streamlined agenda focusing on core local issues (noise mitigation, second regional airport capacity) rather than a scattershot approach.
    - Coalition Overlap: Other industry coalitions are already pushing heavy SAF advocacy.
    - Unproven Near-Term Air Quality Benefits: Commercially viable SAF blends today do not yield meaningful near-term air quality benefits for local communities around

SEA. High-blend SAF with tangible local benefits remains years away.

- Proposed state legislative agenda centered on:
  - Aircraft Noise Mitigation Funding: Securing ongoing state funding for residential sound insulation (repair and replace).
  - Regional Airport Capacity (Commercial Aviation Work Group / CAWG): Pushing the state to establish hard statutory deadlines and requiring active leadership/governance from the Governor's office to force progress on a second regional airport.
  - Inclusion of Emerging Technologies: Proposed adding a state legislative goal to fund/direct studies (e.g., via WSDOT Aviation or Joint Transportation Committee) into near-term (5-year) provable technologies that mitigate noise and improve air quality (e.g., ultra-geared turbofans, blended wing-body aircraft).

IV. Summary + Discussion

Andrés Mantilla, Uncommon Bridges

- Comment: Raised concerns from Beacon Hill residents regarding noise from Boeing Field. While the primary group focus is SEA, broader FAA rule changes would apply regionally.
- Comment: Raised questions regarding sound insulation requirements for newer vs. older homes, mobile home parks, air quality impact (black soot/particulates), and local vs. federal building code standards.
  - Answer: Federal funding criteria often restrict who gets sound insulation highlighting the need for state-funded programs to cover gaps ("donut holes").

V. Next Steps

Andrés Mantilla, Uncommon Bridges

- Draft initial language for the 2027 Federal Policy Agenda and circulate it to community members and participating cities for feedback.
- Coordinate with the federal lobbying team to join an upcoming meeting to brief the group on achievable FAA timelines and feasible legislative targets.
- Connect with the Roundtable of Roundtables to align federal lobbying strategies.
- State Agenda Language Refinement:
  - Add language addressing gaps/secondary priorities in noise mitigation funding (for homes outside strict federal contours).
  - Incorporate a bullet advocating for state-funded research (via WSDOT/JTC) on near-term emerging noise and emission reduction technologies.

Members	Interest represented	Present
Amy Arrington	Normandy Park – City	X
Bill Vadino	Federal Way – City	X

Jeff Harbaugh	Burien – Community Representative	X
Joe Dusenbury	Des Moines – Community Representative	X
Kathleen Wilson	Tukwila – Community Representative	
Will Booth	SeaTac – Community Representative	X
Resources		
John Flanagan	Port of Seattle	X
Consultants		
Andrés Mantilla	Uncommon Bridges	X
Julia Martinez	Uncommon Bridges	X
Other		
Sky Laron	FAA	X
Anthony Hemstad		X