

From: Nicole Grant [<mailto:Nicole@MLKCLC.org>]
Sent: Tuesday, May 24, 2016 9:26 AM
To: Schone, Jim
Subject: RE: Comments for today's commission meeting

Dear Jim Schone,

Please read the following comments at the May 24th Port Commission meeting.

"I am grateful to the POS for asking Labor to participate in the award process for Lease Group 2. I was impressed with the through consideration that all proposals received. Many small businesses that showcase the culture of the Pacific Northwest invested their time to compete for these leases and I thank them for their effort. As travelers I think we all appreciate a unique and local marketplace at SeaTac Airport.

While participating in the lease awards I did see some red-flags that I would like to draw the Commissioners attention to:

1. The CEP process, in contrast to the RFP process, is intended to aid small, local businesses giving them access to the lucrative SeaTac Airport market. While there is a place for big business chains, in both food and retail, at the airport they should not get to use the CEP process without demonstrating that they will provide outstanding jobs with high quality benefits that go above and beyond what is required by law. I would go as far as to say that national corporations that are awarded a lease in Lease Group 2 without providing those high quality jobs should have to re-bid through the RFP process as a part of Lease Group 3.
2. It appears that several Lease Group 2 applicants, both those looking to renew their leases and those seeking new leases, are not adhering to or planning to adhere to SeaTac Prop 1. In particular the "Promoting Full Time Employment" requirement of Prop 1, which requires employers to offer shifts to part-time employees before hiring more people, seems to be being violated. This keeps workers from having access to benefits and from making a living. Enforcement of SeaTac Prop 1 is direly needed and I recommend that POS convene a Prop 1 enforcement taskforce with Union participation.
3. Adherence to SeaTac Prop 1 is the law. A business that wants to be competitive on the basis of their great treatment of employees should offer wage and benefit improvements that go beyond the minimum wage and Prop 1; they should also encourage workplace democracy."

Sincerely,

Nicole Grant
Executive Secretary Treasurer
MLKCLC