



To the Honorable Seattle Port Commissioners: Albro, Bowman, Creighton, Gregoire and Felleman.

The Washington State Civil Rights Coalition along with a number of civil rights organizations, minority business advocates and Airport Concessions Disadvantaged Business Enterprises (ACDBE) at Seattle Tacoma International Airport have serious questions about the injustices that are still being imposed on the three ACDBE's who were discriminated against and forced to take a shorter lease than Host and Hudson. Here are a few of the issues that we would like to have you address at Tuesday's (August 8, 2017) Port Commission meeting.

*Were Commissioners Albro, Bowman, and Gregoire aware of the racism and discrimination at Airport, Dining and Retail before they accepted the staff recommendation to shorten the three (3) ACDBE's leases? (See attachments).

*Some of the present leadership at the Port were at Sea Tac when the Air Projects plan, with the assistance primarily of Mark Reis, Deanna Zachrisson, Elaine Lincoln, and others was developed and is now being used to oust the three ACDBE's. It appears that racism and discrimination is occurring in this instance. Zachrisson, Lincoln, and Reis (and others) by their actions and from what we are seeing aided, abetted and promoted racism and discrimination and a number of unfair practices.

*A Coalition member was told by a Port executive that Host and Hudson got "No Bid" lease extensions because they committed to investing millions of dollars. Why did the ACDBE's not receive the same consideration? If they didn't, it's racial discrimination, disparate treatment and a violation of the law.

*One of the ACDBE's invested \$400,000.00 in his store last year, his lease is up at the end of the year. His space is being examined by potential store owners. Do you think his staff is looking for another job? He will not recover his investment. These practices are why the Port of Seattle's ACDBE program was rated as the second worst in the country. The Inspector General's Report that was sent to you dated January 17, 2017 didn't show any improvement at Sea Tac.

*Air Projects staff assisted Zachrisson by documenting how Zachrisson could terminate the three ACDBE's leases early. This was in concert with other Port employees also making adverse decisions about the three ACDBE firms. All of the actions by Port staff including Zachrisson and the actions of Air Projects staff were singularly directed at the three ACDBE's.

Again, it is apparent and it appears that a pattern and practice of race discrimination has occurred and is continuing to occur when reviewing all of the facts in this matter as revealed by and during "discovery" (emails attached). All of the foregoing illustrates how both former and present Port employees along with Air Projects personnel have and are continuing to maintain a pattern and practice of discrimination.

The Washington State Civil Rights Coalition highly recommends that you, the Port Commissioners remedy and make right these clear violations of the FAA ACDBE requirements and clearly take a stance to fully embrace both the "Spirit and Intent" of Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964. Please afford and give the three ACDBE's the same opportunity as you did for Host and Hudson. We will anxiously await your response.

Respectfully,
John Yasutake, Member
Washington State Civil Rights Coalition
(206) 920-0812