

# Airport Customer Service Overview Briefing

June 11, 2019

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AV Customer Experience &  
Brand Strategy



# AV Customer Service Department Background

- AV Managing Director established the department in May 2018 to create a more intentional focus on improving the customer experience at SEA
- Primary functions include:
  - Front-line customer service representatives (Pathfinders, Volunteers)
  - Communications
  - Airport-wide training & recognition programs
  - Airport Lost & Found Office contract
  - Conveying the customer's perspective in decisions and discussions across the airport

# Customer Satisfaction Measurements

*CS leads an airport-wide team in developing and executing strategies to improve customer satisfaction rankings*

- **Key Benchmark: Airport Service Quality Survey**
  - International (320 Airports in 80 countries); 25 Peer Airports
  - 2500 passengers surveyed quarterly; 28 key attributes
  - Six focus areas at SEA: washroom cleanliness, Wi-Fi, security screening, staff courtesy, wayfinding, and comfort at gate hold rooms
- **Skytrax** has a prestigious five-star rating system for airports and airlines; also conducts stand-alone comprehensive reviews ; Dec. 2018 review
- **J.D. Power Survey**: high consumer recognition; #13 of 20 peer airports

# Customer Satisfaction Measurements

## 2019 Aviation Division Goal:

*Attain and exceed the five-year average ASQ scores for at least two of the six key service attributes*

## Recent Wi-Fi Improvements:

- Installing access points to expand coverage
- Eliminated log-in requirement and increased time before session timeout



ASQ Score: 5 Year Avg. – **3.82**    2019 Q1 – **3.85**

# ASQ Focus: Staff Courtesy and Helpfulness

## Improvements Underway:

- Customer Service Training Curriculum:
  - Over 58% of POS airport staff have participated in WE ARE SEA customer service classes in 2019
  - Several external stakeholders are also being trained (e.g. TSA)
  - Dedicated “train the trainer” staff cohort
- Hired Pathfinder Manager
- Hiring Volunteer Coordinator to grow the 20-year program; Currently have 80 dedicated volunteers with potential for more
- Increasing engagement with AV Operations and customer service contract staff (VIP Hospitality) in Federal Inspection Services area

**ASQ Score: 5 Year Avg. – 4.27    2019 Q1 – 4.28**



# Customer Experience Initiatives & Programs

## Internal & External Stakeholder Groups:

- **Customer Service Excellence Action (SEA) Team**
  - Engaged in program development: WE ARE SEA training and an airport-wide employee recognition program (launching in late 2019)
- **Sea-Tac Frequent Traveler Committee**
- **S.M.I.L.E.S.:** Sensational Art, Music, Immersive Innovations, Live Performances, Eating & Seating
- **Wayfinding Roundtable**
- **SEA App Coordination**

# Airport-Wide Customer Experience Initiatives

*Short-term & long-term improvements needed to improve customer satisfaction:*

- **Restrooms:** upgrades, janitorial, pilots (lights), apps, accessible
- **Amenities:** nursing suites, pet relief areas, meditation rooms, play areas, accessibility features, lounges, art displays
- **Hold Rooms:** new carpet, new seats w/power (B & C)
- **Airport Dining & Retail:** diverse offerings, app ordering
- **Expanded Terminal Events:** holiday parade, Lunar New Year
- **Customer Service:** information “hubs”, baggage claim wait area

# Customer Experience Initiatives & Programs

- **Seattle-Tacoma International Airport Brand Strategy**
  - Developing a distinct airport brand to create clear expectations for the customer and to differentiate SEA in the marketplace
  - The official name remains unchanged - will appear on major airport signage; no changes for local vernacular of “Sea-Tac” (e.g. I-5 signage)
  - Increased use of historic airport code “SEA” (e.g. on-line uses such as SEA App)
  - Continued engagement with stakeholders; Late-fall timing for introduction
- **Improving and expanding customer communication tools:**
  - Real-time engagement with customers via social, responding to phone calls and inquiries via e-mail and web site; close coordination with External Relations



# Customer Service Overview

***QUESTIONS?***