

**PORT OF SEATTLE**  
**MEMORANDUM**

**COMMISSION AGENDA – STAFF BRIEFING**

**Item No.** 7a

**Date of Meeting** February 22, 2011

**DATE:** February 4, 2011

**TO:** Tay Yoshitani, Chief Executive Officer

**FROM:** Michael Ehl, Director Aviation Operations

**SUBJECT:** Briefing on Seattle-Tacoma International Airport's Annual FAA FAR Part 139 Airport Certification/Safety Inspection

**BACKGROUND**

On January 27, 2011, the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) completed their annual Federal Aviation Regulation (FAR) Part 139 Airport Certification/Safety Inspection at Seattle-Tacoma International Airport (Airport).

The FAA requires annual airport inspections to determine an airport's capability of operating in all weather conditions, day and night. They may conduct any inspection to test compliance with Federal standards. This four-day inspection includes:

- Airport self-inspection program
- Training programs
- Safety procedures, with a focus on preventing runway incursions
- Low visibility procedures
- Fire Department response times
- Vehicle driver training on the airfield
- Airport emergency plan
- Snow and ice control procedures
- Ground vehicle movement
- Aircraft fueling procedures and fuel truck safety
- Runway and taxiway markings
- Runway and airfield conditions
- Electrical systems
- Wildlife management
- Examination of all Airfield and Fire Department operational records

During the outbriefing, FAA inspectors complimented Airport staff for the professionalism and spirit of partnership. Specific accolades were made in regard to the Airport's training records, wildlife management, and emergency preparedness program.

## **COMMISSION AGENDA**

Tay Yoshitani, Chief Executive Officer

February 4, 2011

Page 2 of 2

The inspection noted three discrepancies involving paint reflectivity of certain surface markings, minor rutting in one location of the grassed runway safety area, and exceeding required Fire Department response time to a simulated aircraft accident on the first attempt.

A great deal is owed to the many who make the success of these inspections possible. Thanks go to the Fire Department, Aviation Maintenance, Aviation Finance and Budget for upholding our FAA grant assurances, and Aviation Operations for the day-to-day stewardship of our Airport Operating Certificate.