

PORT OF SEATTLE
MEMORANDUM

COMMISSION AGENDA
STAFF BRIEFING

Item No. 7c
Date of Meeting February 10, 2015

DATE: January 16, 2015
TO: Ted Fick, Chief Executive Officer
FROM: Elizabeth Leavitt, Director, Aviation Planning and Environmental
Leslie Stanton, Manager, Environmental Strategy and Sustainability
SUBJECT: Strategy for a Sustainable Sea-Tac (S3) Briefing

SYNOPSIS

Staff will brief Commission on our Draft *Strategy for a Sustainable Sea-Tac (S3)*, the next phase of the Airport's sustainability program. The Airport's first environmental strategic plan, *Sea-Tac's Environmental Strategy Plan 2009: A Vision for 2014 and Beyond* was developed in 2009. The Airport has achieved many of the strategic goals in the plan. Today's definition of sustainability now includes social and economic factors, so an updated plan was called for. Staff will brief the Commission on these proposed goals, accomplishments, and objectives and discuss how the objectives will be integrated into the Sustainable Airport Master Plan.

BACKGROUND

In the 2009 Plan, Sea-Tac presented a framework and roadmap for the Airport to meet a variety of ambitious environmental sustainability goals and objectives. The Plan covered the following five years ending in 2014.

Since 2009, Sea-Tac has achieved a number of environmental goals from the Plan including:

- Achieving and maintaining best management practices for water quality treatment and flow control at 100% of Airport industrial areas,
- Reduced our electricity use to levels below Tier 2 power rates, and
- Reduced water consumption to less than 200 million gallons per year.

At the same time, Sea-Tac also made progress on other focus areas but not enough to reach the goals included in the 2009 Plan. For example, Sea-Tac successfully increased our recycling rate from 23 percent in 2009 to over 33 percent in 2013, but has not reached our original goal of 50 percent. Similarly, greenhouse gas emissions were not reduced to 15 percent below 2005 levels, despite a number of energy efficiency projects and extensive research into low-carbon fuels.

After Commission adoption of the Century Agenda in 2012, the Airport adopted the strategic goal to "Lead the U.S. airport industry in environmental innovation and minimize the airport's environmental footprint." Leading-edge airports now include goals beyond environmental in

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their sustainability programs as the definition of sustainability includes social and economic considerations.

At the same time, the Airport began working on a new master plan. Planning for the future of the Airport in a manner that meets the demands of the travelling public and the Century Agenda environmental goals presents a unique challenge for Airport staff. Doubling the number of Airport passengers while minimizing our environmental footprint creates a set of potentially conflicting goals that cannot be mutually achieved without careful planning and an integrated approach. Given this challenge, staff determined that pursuing a sustainable airport master plan was the right course, and sought out a Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) grant to work on integrating sustainability into airport master planning. Sea-Tac will be the first large U.S. airport to complete a Sustainable Airport Master Plan (SAMP).

The final S3 document will include objectives that set strategic direction in how we operate the Airport in a sustainable manner (recycling and waste reduction, electrification of equipment) along with objectives that inform how we build Airport facilities (LEED, energy and water conservation, etc). The S3 objectives that address how we build Airport facilities will be integrated into the master plan. The remaining objectives that address how we operate the Airport will be used to guide the programs to minimize the environmental footprint of the Airport operation.

ATTACHMENTS TO THIS BRIEFING

- PowerPoint presentation

PREVIOUS COMMISSION ACTIONS OR BRIEFINGS

- August 4, 2009 - Seattle-Tacoma International Airport's Five-Year Environmental Strategy Plan (2009) as it relates to the Century Agenda.