

**From:** [laura.gibbons](#)  
**To:** [Commission-Public-Records](#)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Port Commission testimony 10/24/20  
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Hi, I would like to comment at the 10/24/20 Port meeting. Here is the written version of my testimony which includes the references.

Commissioners,

I am Laura Gibbons, a Seattle resident, and a volunteer member of the Aviation Team of 350 Seattle, a group that works for climate justice.

In your last meeting, you passed a resolution "To examine Port operations and policies for sources of racial bias and discrimination and to develop programs and policies eliminating inequity in all aspects of the organization". Once again, I'm impressed with the Port as it incorporates social justice and environmental sustainability in its internal operations.

And once again, I'm going to ask you to think more broadly. I'd like you to read the many references I've cited so that you understand the impact of your planning.

Continued growth of aviation promotes disproportionately high adverse human health effects (see references 1-7) on people of color and those with low income, due to the higher proportion of people of color and low-income residents who live near airports (8-9). On a broader scale, climate change is already having a disproportionate effect on people of color and low-income communities (10-13).

If you really care about social justice and environmental sustainability, you will cancel your plans to expand flight capability at SEATAC.

Sincerely,

Laura Gibbons

#### References

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9. <https://www.commerce.wa.gov/serving-communities/growth-management/growth-management-topics/sea-tac-airport-impact-study/>
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11. <https://www.washingtonpost.com/climate-solutions/2020/06/29/climate-change-racism/>
12. <https://www.nap.edu/catalog/25381/framing-the-challenge-of-urban-flooding-in-the-united-states>
13. Tessum et al. Inequity in consumption of goods and services adds to racial-ethnic disparities in air pollution exposure. *PNAS* March 26, 2019; 116 (13): 6001-6006.