

From: [Bernedine Lund](#)
To: [Commission-Public-Records](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Public Comment for 5-25 PoS Commissioner"s meeting
Date: Monday, May 24, 2021 8:38:28 PM
Attachments: [5-25-2021 POS Public Comment.pdf](#)

WARNING: External email. Links or attachments may be unsafe.

Hi, here's a short public comment for the meeting tomorrow. How you're enjoying the weather. I need a break from the fastest growing weeds in the west - Some parts of the yard will just have to wait until fall to get weeded!

Bernedine Lund

Port of Seattle Commissioner's meeting, May 25, 2021. Public Comment by Bernedine Lund, a resident of Federal Way and a volunteer member of the Aviation Team of 350 Seattle.

Topic: toxic aircraft emissions absorbed by plants

Spring is my favorite season of the year, probably because plants of all types grow so fast now. Many residents also are starting or continuing to grow food and fruit gardens. For example, there is a community garden on Beacon Hill, just off 15th Ave and Columbia Way and just north of the VA hospital.

From the noise monitor data, we know that Beacon Hill has more aircraft overflights than any other neighborhood with noise monitors, with flights from SeaTac, Boeing Field, and other small nearby airfields. Small aircraft with piston driven engines still use avgas containing lead, and it is well known that there is no safe level of lead in humans.

We know from UW and other studies of the various chemicals and particles from jet engines are harmful when breathed in. Since learning about the emissions from aircraft engines, I have been wondering if it is safe for residents near the airport to eat food they grow in their gardens. For example, is it safe to eat the food grown in the Beacon Hill community garden? What happens to these same chemicals if they are absorbed by plants that we then eat? To alleviate resident concerns, would SeaTac offer chemical soil testing to help ensure the soil is safe for growing?

On a similar level, I have a small raspberry patch and have been giving raspberry freezer jam to neighbors for years. At 6 miles south of the airport, is it safe to eat any food grown in my yard? Unlike Beacon Hill, the planes have only been going overhead since the third runway use started. Would you offer similar soil testing for those in nearby neighborhoods?

Principle 1, Environmental responsibility, specifies the need to "allow for long-term environmental quality", and to meet today's needs "without jeopardizing the ability of future generations to meet their needs." So you need to ask: ***How is expanding aviation consistent with a livable climate for future generations?***

Principle 3, Social equity. The question here is: ***How can you ensure that the health costs of aviation emissions and noise are equitably distributed?***

Principle 4, Public benefit, "is defined as benefiting the greater good, or the broader public, over an individual entity or group." Here you need to ask: ***Who flies, and who pays the health costs of living near an airport?***

Also ask them: ***What is the best-case scenario for the climate impacts of Sustainable Aviation Fuel and Electric Aircraft recommended on Slide 4 between now and 2030? 2050?***

My last question is not related to the CACC presentation, but rather to your item 11a on Equitable Recovery. ***Why is there no mention of health or climate equity?***

Email your comments to commission-public-records@portseattle.org by 9 am Tuesday.

If you have time and inclination to do this live, even better. The meeting starts at noon but to testify orally you have to be on the line to check in at 11:45. Also, there are 2 things ahead of public testimony this week, so you may need to wait a while.

To make an oral presentation (2 minutes max), you need to sign up by 9 am Tuesday via email, commission-public-records@portseattle.org, with your name and topic (it can be general, like "degrowth of aviation"). You will then be emailed instructions and a link to join the Microsoft Teams meeting and a number to call in. I recommend joining by phone - it seems to work more smoothly. You can also email your written comments, possibly including any references you may have or any additional points that didn't fit in 2 minutes.

Note that we can't speak on behalf of 350 without going through proper channels, but we can say things like "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" if we want.

Laura

Links in the message (1)