



**COMMISSION  
AGENDA MEMORANDUM**

**Item No.** 8K

**ACTION ITEM**

**Date of Meeting** November 16, 2021

**DATE:** November 12, 2021

**TO:** Stephen P. Metruck, Executive Director

**FROM:** Wendy Reiter, Director Aviation Security  
Jim Witzman, Sr Manager Security Operations

**SUBJECT: Authorization for the Executive Director to Execute an Agreement in an Amount Not-to-Exceed \$600,000 for Public Security Services at the Seattle-Tacoma International Airport**

**Amount of this request:** \$600,000

**Total estimated project cost:** \$600,000

**ACTION REQUESTED**

Authorization for the Executive Director to execute a contract for public security services at Seattle-Tacoma International Airport in an amount not-to-exceed 600,000.

**SUMMARY**

SeaTac Airport has seen an increase in individuals in crisis at the airport since the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic. Primarily due to a recent increase in more serious offenses and disruptions to safety and security, this is an urgent request for approval.

Aviation security, in collaboration with operations and law enforcement, is seeking a contracted service to restrict entry to the airport on limited hours and provide additional visual presence primarily in baggage claim areas. We are currently seeking to contract with AGS our Maritime security provider for these services for an amount not to exceed 600k. The job title for contracted workers would be Public Support Specialists and their primary role would be to assist in ensuring a safe and secure public space for airport operations and employees. These Public Support Specialists would assist existing Port groups in identifying those in need of support, potential trespassers, and those in crisis.

Whether an individual is suffering from drug addiction, a mental health crisis, seeking to commit a crime of opportunity, or experiencing homelessness, the airport is seeing a dramatic increase in persons in the airport creating a threat to the safety and security of the public and airport employees.

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This additional security staff would provide an opportunity to identify individuals at the airport in need of support and/or conducting illegal activity. Public Support Specialists would also serve as a visual deterrent to bag thefts simply by their presence in baggage claim. Customers and employees could also use this resource to report concerns and connect individuals with appropriate resources.

**Pros of this course of action**

- Immediate opportunity to mitigate unsafe activities
- Opportunity to engage with those that need support

**Cons**

- Minor impacts to passenger flow
- New processes for traveling public could impact passenger experience

**Other Key Points:**

Public Support Specialists will notify the Airport Control Center if there is a need for a police response to any observed situation, they will not make physical contact with anyone, but rather act as a deterrent by their presence and a resource for those in need and the customers of the Port.

There are no attachments to this memo.