

June 24, 2020 Recap

Updated July 12, 2020

The SEA Stakeholder Advisory Round Table (StART) meeting took place on June 24, 2020, through video conference, with a focus on discussing and providing initial input on the Port of Seattle's Economic Recovery Framework. This voluntary, advisory roundtable, convened by the Airport Managing Director, Lance Lyttle, is a venue for the Port of Seattle to engage with the communities of SeaTac, Burien, Des Moines, Normandy Park, Tukwila and Federal Way. Representatives from Delta Air Lines and Alaska Airlines are also members. The Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) participates as a non-member. The cities of Burien, Des Moines, and Federal Way have temporarily suspended their involvement in StART.

The Airport Managing Director, Lance Lyttle, welcomed attendees and provided a brief update on airport operations. He stated that the airport is beginning to see some signs of positive change including a slight increase in passengers and that 51 of the airport's retail and dining entities have reopened.

Lyttle emphasized that the Port is continuing to offer support to retail and dining businesses including lease extensions. Also, the airport is prioritizing the health of airport employees, passengers and visitors including enhanced sanitizing and cleaning, the requirement that everyone wear masks, numerous hand sanitizer stations, and ensuring that all dining and retail entities are operating by health and social distancing requirements.

Randy Fiertz, Alaska Airlines and Scott Ingham, Delta Air Lines provided brief updates on airline operations. Fiertz stated that airline travel has shown some signs of rebounding and serious measures had been taken to maintain the health and safety of employees and passengers. Ingham stated that similar actions are being taken by Delta Air Lines including intensive cleaning between each flight and plexiglass barriers at ticketing and boarding areas.

Eric Schinfeld, Senior Manager, Federal and International Government Relations, provided an update on the status of the StART Federal Policy Working Group. He stated that Working Group meetings have been on hiatus due to Congress and the FAA being entirely focused on COVID-19 issues. In March, a group representing many of the neighboring communities was days away from taking an advocacy trip to Washington DC to meet with Congressional members, but the trip was canceled due to the pandemic. He acknowledged that there will likely be limited opportunities for proposing and passing legislation during the remainder of this year, but that it makes sense for the Working Group to begin to meet again. Lyndall Bervar, from U.S. Representative Adam Smith's office, emphasized that this year will be particularly challenging for the passage of new legislation. However, she shared that there are potential opportunities where legislation could be proposed as part of COVID stimulus package(s), appropriations legislation and a House Democratic-proposed infrastructure package. Rep. Smith continues to be committed to airport related legislative priorities.

Tom Fagerstrom, Airport Noise Program Coordinator, provided a recap of the StART Aviation Noise Working Group meeting. He reviewed the status of several items on the Working Group's near-term aviation noise action agenda. The StART Aviation Noise Working Group May 11 Meeting Summary can be found [here](#)

The focus of the meeting was a presentation and discussions on the Port of Seattle's Economic Recovery Framework (Framework). The presentation can be found [here](#). Dave McFadden, Managing Director, Economic Development Division, and Bookda Gheisar, Senior Director for Equity, Social Justice and Inclusion, presented the Framework and stated that the goals of the Framework are for Port investments to support the recovery, prioritize economic development and community investment programs, maximize partnerships to leverage funding and impact, and capitol program investments. Gheisar provided a brief overview of the Port's Office of Equity and how the vision and core principles of the Office informs strategies and elements of the Framework. Key recovery initiatives and investments include:

- Youth Employment Initiative
- South King County Fund
- Small Business Assistance
- Travel/Tourism Partnership
- Capital project investments
- Leveraging grants and partnerships

For additional information on the South King County Fund, visit the fund's [website](#). Also, the following links provide information related to motions over the last three years: [2018](#), [2019](#) and [2020](#).

After the presentation all participants on the video conference call held small group discussions to provide input into ways the Framework can support their communities. The small groups then reported out their ideas.

In closing, Jennifer Kester, City of SeaTac and Phyllis Shulman, StART Facilitator, are initiating a meeting for interested StART participants to explore additional ways that StART can create community engagement opportunities. Volunteers were solicited.

Public comment was heard. The next meeting is scheduled for August 26, 2020 at tentatively 6pm by video conference. The public is invited to attend.

All June 24, 2020 StART meeting documents can be found on the Port of Seattle [website](#).