

Federal Policy Working Group

MEETING SUMMARY

APRIL 5, 2021; 5:00 PM – 7:00 PM
VIA ZOOM VIDEOCONFERENCE

Meeting Objectives:

Presentation on legislative outlook by guest speaker. Discuss updates related to the StART federal policy agenda.

Meeting Summary:

- I. Facilitator welcome, introduction and meeting agenda, *Brian Scott from BDS Planning & Urban Design*
- II. Potential Aircraft Noise and Emissions Policy Opportunities for 2021, *Annie Russo, Senior Vice President of Government and Political Affairs, Airports Council International – North America*

Infrastructure Plan - The Biden Administration's major infrastructure plan presents new opportunities. While the bulk of the plan is geared toward highways and surface transportation - and not airports - some of the funds would go to airport improvement programs. These programs include noise abatement and insulation, air traffic control towers, and sustainable terminal projects. There are two avenues forward:

 1. Bipartisan bill
 - o President Biden favors a bipartisan bill, which would open the door for policy changes in terms of eligibility for projects.
 - o A bipartisan bill would require 60 votes for Senate approval.
 2. Budget reconciliation
 - o Because this is a fiscal-only process it is really difficult to make policy changes through this path.
 - o Budget reconciliation would only require 50 votes for Senate approval.

Annual Appropriations – This presents new opportunities on new policies even if the Biden administration's appropriation budget is not yet known. This year Congress re-instituted earmarks (funding for individual districts), which may restore some regular order in the appropriation process. Fewer amendments are expected due to this change because they will have a much larger stake in each of the bills.

FAA Reauthorization Act – The bill expires in 2023 opening the door for policy work in 2022. A lot of aviation noise and emissions bills could be included in the Reauthorization Act as it is easier to put them in a package rather than creating standalone bills.

Additional Airport Funds – The Biden administration's interest in climate change and a sustainable environment may also offer additional funds to airports. These are:

 1. Sustainable Aviation Fuels – Reduction of aviation emissions.
 2. VALE Program – Carbon neutrality.
 3. Terminal Program - Energy efficient buildings.
- III. Policy Updates, *Eric Schinfeld, Port of Seattle*
 1. Airport Improvement Program Eligibility Expansion of Sound Insulation
 - o FAA is expanding Airport Improvement Program eligibility to include replacement of sound

- insulation in residences previously mitigated prior to 1993.
2. Letter to FAA: Request for Input on Research Activities to Inform Aircraft Noise Policy – The letter is a response to the recent release of the Federal Aviation Administration’s (FAA) Neighborhood Environmental Survey (NES) to:
 - o Urge swift and strategic decision-making about whether and how current FAA noise policy should change based on the results of the survey.
 - o Ask the FAA to review existing scientific studies, including international research, to determine what additional research is needed for a timely and decisive action on policymaking.
 - o Encourage FAA to conduct further evaluation on the role in annoyance driven by the frequency of noise-generating incidents; the timing of those events (i.e. – daytime vs. late night); and the trends in overflight frequency in a given period of time.
 3. Appropriation Process/Member-Directed Spending Updates
 - o Port of Seattle asked for a \$2.5 million earmark (funding for individual districts) to fund re-insulation in eligible pre-1993 residences. This pilot program proposal by POS is positioned not only for SEA, but also to serve as a national model. The appropriation process is expected to be concluded by late 2021.
 4. Virtual DC Fly-ins
 - o Meeting with staff members of Representative Larsen is scheduled for 9:00 am on April 14, 2021
 - o Meeting with staff members of Senator Cantwell is scheduled for 10:00 am on April 16, 2021

IV. Next Steps

1. Eric will send out talking points ahead of the Virtual DC fly-ins.

MEMBER	INTEREST REPRESENTED	PRESENT
ALEX STONE	OFFICE OF CONGRESSMAN ADAM SMITH	✓
AMANDA WYMAN-BRADLEY	OFFICE OF CONGRESSMAN ADAM SMITH	-
ANTHONY HEMSTAD	DES MOINES	✓
BILL VADINO	FEDERAL WAY	✓
BRANDON MILES	TUKWILA	-
BRIAN WILSON	BURIEN	✓
CHRIS HALL	FEDERAL WAY	✓
ERICA POST	TUKWILA	-
JENNIFER FERRER-SANTA-INES	NORMANDY PARK	✓
JESSICA MULLIGAN	OFFICE OF CONGRESSWOMAN PRAMILA	-
KYLE MOORE	SEATAC	✓
LANCE LYTTLE	PORT OF SEATTLE	✓
LAVANYA MADHUSUDAN	OFFICE OF CONGRESSWOMAN PRAMILA	✓
MEGAN UTEMEI	OFFICE OF SEN. PATTY MURRAY	-
MICHAEL MATTHIAS	DES MOINES	-
ROBERT AKHTAR	SEATAC	-
TOMMY BAUER	OFFICE OF SEN. MARIA CANTWELL	-
GUEST PRESENTER	TITLE	PRESENT

ANNIE RUSSO	AIRPORTS COUNCIL INTERNATIONAL	✓
AMANDA LA JOIE	AIRPORTS COUNCIL INTERNATIONAL	✓
RESOURCES	TITLE	
ARLYN PURCELL	PORT OF SEATTLE	-
CLARE GALLAGHER	PORT OF SEATTLE	✓
DAVE KAPLAN	PORT OF SEATTLE	✓
ERIC SCHINFELD	PORT OF SEATTLE	✓
JUSTIN BIASSOU	FAA	-
KELLY SCHIMELFENIG	PORT OF SEATTLE	-
LESLIE LARDIE	FAA	-
MARCO MILANESE	PORT OF SEATTLE	✓
PATRICIA LY	PORT OF SEATTLE	-
STAN SHEPHERD	PORT OF SEATTLE	✓
CONSULTANT		
BRIAN SCOTT	BDS PLANNING & URBAN DESIGN	✓

NEXT MEETING: JUNE 7, 2021 - TENTATIVELY 5:00 PM - 7:00 PM

LOCATION: ZOOM VIDEOCONFERENCE