

## Federal Policy Working Group

### MEETING SUMMARY

JUNE 5, 2023; 5:00 PM – 6:00 PM

VIA ZOOM VIDEOCONFERENCE

#### Meeting Objectives:

- Discussion of DC Fly-in and next steps
- Potential joint FAA Noise Policy Review Comment Letter

#### Meeting Summary:

- I. Facilitator welcome, introduction and meeting agenda, Andres Mantilla from BDS Planning & Urban Design; Andres is the new facilitator as Brian Smith transitions off the project. Introduction of Cheryl Swab and Dori Krupanics; Cheryl is transitioning to the Project Manager as Dori moves on to other projects.
  1. Andres covered the ground rules for the meeting and the agenda
- II. Federal Policy Update, Eric Schinfeld, Port of Seattle
  1. Eric provided a quick introduction to the Federal Policy Workgroup for those who are new to the group: Federal Policy working group focuses on changes at the federal level to add policies, resources, and flexibilities in order to better address community concerns about aircraft noise and emissions. The group developed a shared federal policy priorities list that we took to DC and presented jointly to our elected officials. The list focuses on seven agreed upon priorities (attached separately).
  2. What's Happening in DC
    - a. Debt ceiling debate is past us and US will not default on its commitments; silver lining for us is it paves the way for FY 24 appropriations. They must pass all 12 appropriations bills by end of year which smooths out the process. Earmarks are included with budget topline and budget deadlines which will allow us to know whether the earmarks are coming through. They will start marking up their bills in the coming weeks.
    - b. FAA Reauthorization Act: every five years this must be reauthorized by Congress (all FAA policies, programs, and funding levels). Both House and Senate committees are very hard at work with the goal of draft bills in mid-June. This is the start of a long process of committee mark-up work which then moves on to the full House and Senate. Fingers crossed our priorities are included.

- c. Representative Adam Smith is having an aviation town hall Saturday, June 10th. Port Commissioner Mohammed will be there as well. They will have a chance to reinforce our priorities with the community. It's from 10-11AM and there is an Evite Brite RSVP link on Adam Smith's website. You do not have sign-up to attend.

## II. DC Fly-in Report Out, Eric Schinfeld, Port of Seattle

### 1. Report out:

- a. Over the years, we have developed a list of FAA priorities. We honed it down to seven including bills from Representative Smith on secondary noise insulation; FAA noise policies and changes; sustainable aviation fuels; research on ultrafine particles; and new regional airport capacity.
- b. We agreed that the best way to push these priorities was to go to DC as a unified group and meet all the Congressional offices (except Representative Strickland who was not available). We also met with the FAA at their headquarters. Elected officials from Des Moines, Burien, Normandy Park, and SeaTac plus staff from those cities went to DC with the Port for the meetings. Cities and the Port meeting together with our Delegation was a first and was well received. The agreed upon priorities had a tremendous impact and lobbying together was powerful. We had substantive conversations with all the available Members. The FAA conversations were also very productive. Because Rep Strickland was not available, we are planning to meet virtually with her on June 8th. She is a key person to understand our issues and priorities, due to her role on the House Transportation & Infrastructure Committee.
- c. Feedback from participants:
  - Electeds felt it was very impactful and are ready to go again; good job to Port to putting it together
  - Time getting the list of priorities down to seven was well spent
  - Cities each determined who was sent to DC; only electeds and staff attended
  - Perhaps community reps might be sent by their cities in the future – might need to find a way to help defray the costs of the trip but would be great to have them attend if possible
  - Missed opportunity that the delegation didn't include community members
  - Need to think through time, opportunity, balance of what might be expected of community reps
  - Helpful to have both state and local elected officials there, which contributed to being seen as representing a broad-based group
  - FAA meeting very helpful; Des Moines is following up with their local person
  - Sustainable air fuel (SAF): need to confirm whether there are truly ultra-fine particulate reductions. More information could be shown to the community; there is some skepticism about that benefit
  - Bringing state legislators with us was particularly valuable to show that we are working on local and state angles and need federal government to their part as well; thanks for recruiting Tina Orwall and David Hackney for attending with us

- Appreciate folks who would like to have been included, we will look for local opportunities for you to participate in local meetings with federal officials as well as for the next DC trip
- For those who did go, thanks so much to everyone for going with us

### III. Potential Joint FAA Noise Policy Review Comment Letter, Eric Schinfeld, Port of Seattle

1. Introduction: 65 DNL (day night average sound level) FAA policy is that we can only use airport revenue and federal grants to sound insulate buildings within a specific contour around the airport. FAA released a noise annoyance survey; a lot of people are annoyed by noise beyond the 65 DNL. FAA has the data but is still in the thinking mode. Trying to get them to move to action mode. Part of our federal priorities are for the FAA to be mandated to set up a stakeholder committee and within a year get to next steps on noise policy. Noise policy review announcement was made two days after DC Fly-In. Not action but a review.
2. <https://www.faa.gov/noisepolicyreview>
3. Action Item:
  - a. Key piece is request for comments. They list a number of very specific questions that they'd like answered. Some are relevant; some are not.
  - b. This group has been successful in developing shared comment letters. Noise annoyance research question; FAA and EPA emissions; we sent joint letters. Good opportunity to do another joint letter. We will get into the weeds with extensive comments but it's in line with the work we've been doing
  - c. Question: Do you want to do a joint letter? Response was yes/comments
    - If so, Eric does a first draft, then sends out to others to get a final shared product?
    - Deadline for response is July 31st.
    - Support for joint letter; comments representing a larger group could get their attention.
    - Should the StART noise working group be pulled into this as well?
    - Doesn't preclude cities from doing their own as well but more powerful together
    - Next StART meeting could technical discussion about 65DNL and where it comes from
    - Need for a shared letter writing platform or techniques
    - Even general concerns (e.g., nighttime noise) are welcome feedback for the letter drafting; Vince Mestre will be key to this as well
    - Survey could be done from the public; each city could get that from their communities; nothing has been done in recent years; benefit would be to collect first-hand experience from community members
4. Follow up: POS and BDS will work on the logistical part of this; we'll send information out to committee for timeline and expectations
5. Next meeting of this group; need to move the meeting to mid-July rather than the current one in August in order to get the letter done by the July 31st deadline.

### IV. Next Steps

- 1. Wrap-Up and Next Steps, Andres Mantilla, BDS Planning & Urban Design
  - Change date of next meeting
  - Plan for letter

MEMBER	INTEREST REPRESENTED	PRESENT
ADOLFO BAILON	BURIEN	✓
AMY ARRINGTON	NORMANDY PARK	✓
ANTHONY HEMSTAD	DES MOINES	✓
BILL VADINO	FEDERAL WAY	✓
BRANDON MILES	TUKWILA	-
DAVE BERGER	FEDERAL WAY	✓
DIANA SMITH	BURIEN	✓
GARMON NEWSOM II	BURIEN	✓
JEFF HARBAUGH	BURIEN	✓
KYLE MOORE	SEATAC	✓
LANCE LYTTLE	PORT OF SEATTLE	✓
MICHAEL MATTHIAS	DES MOINES	-
ROBERT AKHTAR	SEATAC	✓
<b>NON-MEMBER</b>		
ALEX STONE	OFFICE OF CONGRESSMAN ADAM SMITH	✓
AMANDA WYMAN-BRADLEY	OFFICE OF CONGRESSMAN ADAM SMITH	-
JESSICA MULLIGAN	OFFICE OF CONGRESSWOMAN JAYAPAL	-
MARIELLE TRUMBAUER	OFFICE OF CONGRESSWOMAN JAYAPAL	-
MEGAN UTEMEI	OFFICE OF SEN. PATTY MURRAY	-
DIANA CARMICHAEL	BURIEN	✓
HOLLY MOUSER-GUERRA	BURIEN	✓
<b>RESOURCES</b>	<b>TITLE</b>	
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	-
TOM FAGERSTROM	PORT OF SEATTLE	-
<b>CONSULTANT</b>		
ANDRES MANTILLA	BDS PLANNING & URBAN DESIGN	✓
CHERYL SWAB	BDS PLANNING & URBAN DESIGN	✓
DORI KRUPANICS	BDS PLANNING & URBAN DESIGN	✓

NEXT MEETING: JULY 17, 2023, 5:00 PM - 7:00 PM  
LOCATION: ZOOM VIDEOCONFERENCE