### **Regional Airports Continue to Play A Vital Role in Meeting Aviation and Development Needs**

**Presentation to** 

#### **Washington State Senate Transportation Committee**

by

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## **Regional Airports Continue to Play A Vital Role in Meeting Aviation and Development Needs**

- 1. Many regions have multiple airport systems
- 2. Multiple airport systems have advantages
- 3. Regional airport need is well recognized
- 4. Airlines are developing regional airport service
- 5. Regional airports are developing airline service
- 6. Several airports are not fully utilized
- 7. Corps of Engineers identified several promising regional airport sites
- 8. Recent drop in demand gives time for studies

#### **1. Many Regions Have Multiple Airport Systems**

As regions grow, multiple airport systems develop:

Chicago – O'Hare, Midway Dallas – DFW, Love Field Los Angeles – LAX, Burbank, Long Beach, Orange County, Ontario San Francisco – SFO, Oakland, San Jose New York – Kennedy, La Guardia, Newark Washington DC – Dulles, National, Baltimore

Low cost & regional airlines look for low cost and service advantages

#### 2. Multiple Airport Systems Have Advantages

- Reduce ground access time, cost, pollution
- Provide competition in price and service
- Provide a long-term solution that is not possible with a single airport
- Spread economic benefits across the region
- Improve regional aviation security
  - A single airport is vulnerable (can be closed by a single event or threat)
  - A regional airport provides redundancy and can be designed to meet new security requirements

#### **3. Regional Airport Need is Well Recognized**

- FAA forecasts that more than 19,000 airline operations per year will move from Sea-Tac to regional airports FAA Record of Decision, August 8 2001, Pages A9 A11
- The Port of Seattle and PSRC both recognize the need for a supplemental airport in the long term

http://www.portseattle.org/seatac/projects/3runwayfaqs.htm

- PSRC asked the state to undertake a long-range planning process <a href="http://www.portseattle.org/seatac/projects/3runwayfaqs.htm">http://www.portseattle.org/seatac/projects/3runwayfaqs.htm</a>
- Airlines are developing service at regional airports

### 4a. Airlines Are Developing Regional Airport Service Today



## 4b. Airlines Are Developing Regional Airport Service Today

**Kenmore Airlines** From: Seattle (Lake Union) Victoria, BC, To: **San Juans Oak Harbor** Vancouver **Gulf Islands** 



### 5. Regional Airports Are Developing Airline Service

#### **Big Sky Airlines Olympia Regional Airport**

Port of Olympia Commissioner Bob Van Schoorl (left) walks with Big Sky Airlines President Kim Champney during a visit to the airport Thursday. South Sound market impresses airline boss. Big Sky leaders, port officials resume talks about air service.



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#### 6. Several Airports Are Not Fully Utilized

**Examples:** 

- Arlington
- Boeing Field
- Bremerton
- McChord AFB
- Olympia Regional
- Paine Field

## 7. Corps of Engineers Identified Several Promising Regional Airport Sites

- Stanwood
- Arlington
- Sanderson Field, Shelton
- Olympia
- McChord

(Including sites outside the PSRC region)

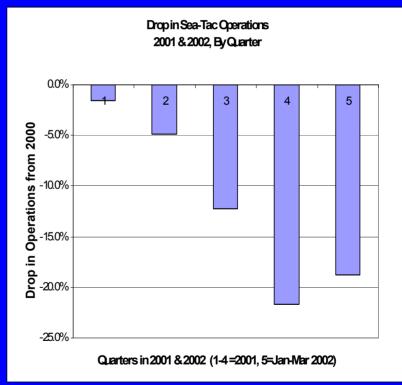
US Army Corps of Engineers, Memorandum for record (MFR) April 30, 2001

#### 8. Recent Drop in Aviation Demand Gives Time for Needed Regional Studies

Seattle demand dropped rapidly (~ 20% in recent quarters) 7 years of growth was lost

The mix of airlines and aircraft types has changed dramatically

There is now time to update previous outdated regional studies



# Summary

- A multiple airport system is better for the region and the State
- All major players realize that a supplemental regional airport will be required
- Many alternative regional airports or sites exist (not only in PSRC counties)
- New situation requires an updated regional study and gives time for the study