

SEA Stakeholder Advisory Round Table
Shared Policy Priorities - 2026 State Legislative Session

The growth of operations at Seattle-Tacoma International Airport (SEA) has provided significant benefit to the region, however near-airport communities also face elevated levels of aircraft noise and emissions from transportation. Meanwhile, the airport is near its capacity, meaning that the region must immediately identify additional capacity to move people and goods, or else risk increased congestion and a chokepoint on economic growth. To help address these issues, the Port of Seattle and near-airport communities suggest passage and implementation of the following state-level policy and budget items. We hope to partner with the State Legislature and State Government to create these new tools, resources, and approaches that can make a tangible difference in our communities.

1) Noise Insulation Repair and Replacement Program

- As necessary, pass legislation amending RCW 53.54 and the Port District Equity Fund / Grant, to ensure that State regulations and programming are complementary to Federal and Port programs and funding.
- Renew advocacy for additional resources from the State to ensure continual progress with the goal of addressing the full scope of issues identified by ongoing surveys and assessments.

2) Identifying additional regional airport capacity

- Either administratively or via legislation, assign deadlines for the Commercial Aviation Working Group (CAWG) to identify and achieve clear, substantive, recommendations for action.
- As part of its work, direct the CAWG to explore opportunities to provide incentives to sites of future commercial air service development.

3) Sustain programs to enhance Air Quality

- Support continued investment in existing air quality mitigation programs at the Dept. of Ecology for residences, recreational facilities, and education facilities not covered by other programs.
- Support continued investment in OSPI programs to improve air quality in schools.
- Engage regularly with state-level agencies that administer air quality-related programs (OSPI, Ecology, etc.) to educate those agencies on the circumstances and needs of overburdened communities in South King County with the goal of ensuring that rule-making and decision-making are sensitive to those communities' needs.
- Establish recurring engagement opportunities with implementing state agencies to ensure that residences, schools, and other public buildings within near-airport communities have adequate, ongoing access to existing air-quality programs.

4) Maintain and expand Sustainable Aviation Fuel (SAF) production and use in Washington

- Ensure effective implementation of enacted SAF incentives
- In partnership with the broader coalition of SAF stakeholders; advocate for the creation of more policy supports and funding programs benefitting SAF production and supply chain development.
- Continue to support the work of the SAF Research and Development Center at Paine Field, including pushing for additional monetary support from the State.

5) Decarbonizing ground transportation, reducing transportation emissions, and electrification

- Support proven strategies, policies, and investments intended to phase out the use of fossil fuels and to reduce overall emissions from ground transportation networks that serve the airport. This includes, but is not limited to:
- Investments in EV charging infrastructure and clean trucking incentives;
- Continued investments in multi-modal networks, active transportation facilities, and transit; and
- Active engagement in state and federal efforts to create a regional high-speed rail network;