

April 21, 2020

Steve Dickson, Administrator
Federal Aviation Administration
800 Independence Ave Southwest
Washington, DC 20591

Dear Mr. Dickson,

Concerns have been brought to our attention by many elected officials and residents in our Districts that the analysis of impacts currently underway of expanding capacity at SeaTac Airport is inadequate. We believe that a comprehensive cumulative impact assessment as part of an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for the Port of Seattle's Sustainable Airport Master Plan (SAMP) is critical to assess the growth that has occurred in the last five years and is projected to occur within the next decade. The surrounding jurisdictions have inequitably borne the impact of SeaTac Airport's increasing traffic for decades and deserve a complete assessment of how this affects their health and neighborhoods.

In recent communications with the City of Burien, the FAA has indicated that it's planned Environmental Assessment (EA) on the SAMP will consider only certain "Near Term Projects" that will aid in meeting demand for the next seven years, but will not consider "the entire SAMP." Given that the scope of a cumulative impact assessment must consider reasonably foreseeable and not just projected demand, as well as recent incremental actions (estimated to have added approximately 14 new gates over the last five years), the current FAA EA proposal is unlikely to meet any definition of "adequate" environmental assessment. We believe that the FAA must conduct a deeper and broader scoping to meet requirements under the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA).

We are asking you to please look into this matter as soon as possible, rather than allowing analysts to expend time conducting a limited EA for the next several months, only to be told of its inadequacy upon delivery. This could very well result in delays in building out some of the needed infrastructure being called for at SeaTac Airport if the courts are asked to intervene.

Please reach out if you would like to discuss this further or need additional information on our concerns. Thank you for your attention to this matter. We look forward to your response.

Best regards,

Representative Pramila Jayapal
Representative Adam Smith
Representative Rick Larsen
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Cc: David Suomi, Northwest Regional Administrator FAA