

# BLUEPRINT

A Port of Seattle publication about construction progress at Seattle-Tacoma International Airport



## The connection is made: SeaTac/Airport Station opens

Sound Transit's Link light rail made an on-time arrival at the new winged steel and glass SeaTac/Airport Station in time for the holiday season at Sea-Tac Airport.

Officiating on Dec. 19, 2009, as Sound Transit dedicated the new station were Seattle Mayor and Sound Transit Board Chair Greg Nickels, Port of Seattle Commissioner John Creighton, City of SeaTac Mayor Ralph Shape, Regional Administrator-Federal Transit Administration Rick Krochalis,



In mid-November, Seattle Mayor Greg Nickels, Port Commissioner John Creighton, and King County Executive Kurt Triplett (left to right) were on hand when Sen. Patty Murray revealed the Dec. 19 opening date. King County Council Member Dow Constantine also attended the announcement ceremony at the SeaTac/Airport Station. (Sound Transit photos)



A Sound Transit Link Light Rail train pulls into the new SeaTac/Airport Station, signaling the launch of light rail service for air travelers, airport employees and others.

Governor's Chief of Staff Jay Manning, Rep. Dave Upthegrove, King County Council and Sound Transit Board Member Julia Patterson, Port CEO Tay Yoshitani and other special guests.

About 10 a.m., the first train carrying light rail passengers to the airport was met with a celebration that included members of the world famous Radio City Rockettes, the Highline High School Jazz Band and other fanfare.

The airport connection is part of the Link system that began running between downtown Seattle and Tukwila in July 2009. The light rail trains operate 20 hours a day on weekdays, starting just after 5 a.m. (6 a.m. on Sundays) and run until nearly 1 a.m. (midnight on Sunday). They arrive about every 10 minutes. During rush hours, trains operate even more frequently. You can buy tickets,

passes and ORCA (frequent user) cards for riding the train at the SeaTac/Airport Station's ticket vending machines using cash, credit or debit cards. For fare information and other details visit [www.soundtransit.org](http://www.soundtransit.org).

The SeaTac/Airport Station is connected to the fourth floor of the airport's parking garage via a pedestrian bridge. A covered and level walkway—separated and screened from the main parking area—connects passengers to the north end of the Main Terminal via the northernmost skybridge. The walk takes about four minutes. Luggage carts, printable airline boarding pass kiosks, restrooms, flight information and a seating area are available at or near the station.

Sound Transit gave the new station the apropos theme of "flight." Its prominent design, together with a dramatic new pedestrian bridge from the station over

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Life is Good employee Madlina Nena, right, with Louise McKinney, an Airport Concessions Disadvantaged Business Enterprise partner in the Hudson Group operation at Sea-Tac.

## Good Job!

### Merchants open new stores

Sea-Tac Airport recently added more inviting new concessions to the Pacific Marketplace selection.

Hudson Group opened their newest **Life is Good** store in the airport's Central Terminal.

The Life is Good concept was created by Bert and John Jacobs, two brothers from Boston. Their cheery alter ego, a grinning stick figure named Jake, is the basis of the brothers' success. This cartoon has blossomed into an icon of optimism for Life is Good, with the objective of spreading good cheer through their retail outlets.

The Sea-Tac location is proving popular.

Customers are surrounded by comfortable, soft-hued merchandise. Apparel, toys and even pet products can be found at the new store. So now, airport employees and travelers alike can take home a piece of Jake – and more importantly a smile – from Life is Good.

Hudson also has a license to sell official **2010 Winter Olympics** and **USA** brand merchandise at a new temporary mini-store on Concourse C next to Alaska Lodge. It will be open until March, after the games, in Vancouver, B.C., conclude.

For burger lovers, Concessions International opened **Runway Grills** on Concourse D and in the South Satellite, with hot dogs, chicken items, garden burgers, breakfast sandwiches and more.

## Offerings by Airport Jobs

Port Jobs' Airport Jobs Employment Center is offering the following classes, workshops and assistance to airport employees:

- Food Handlers Card training
- Alcohol Serving Card training
- Basic Food Education & Training Program Assistance
- Financial and Community Resources
- Airport University programs, through partnerships with South Seattle and Highline Community Colleges: Basic & Intermediate Computer classes and Leadership & Supervision
- Free tax preparation, provided by United Way, Jan. 12 to April 15, 2010

For details, call (206) 835-7501, email [airport-jobs.mailbox@portseattle.org](mailto:airport-jobs.mailbox@portseattle.org), or visit [www.airportjobs.org](http://www.airportjobs.org).



Tammy Lathan, general manager of Concessions International, trains restaurant workers through the Airport Jobs Employment Center. Concessions International operates Seattle's Best Coffee, Kobo and Runway Grill.



**BLUEPRINT** is a publication about construction at Seattle-Tacoma International Airport. If you have questions or comments about the content, call Aviation Public Affairs, (206) 787-4604, write to Editor, Blueprint/Public Affairs, Seattle-Tacoma International Airport, P.O. Box 68727, Seattle, WA 98168-0727, or send e-mail to [st.laurent.m@portseattle.org](mailto:st.laurent.m@portseattle.org).

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## The connection is made: SeaTac/Airport Station opens

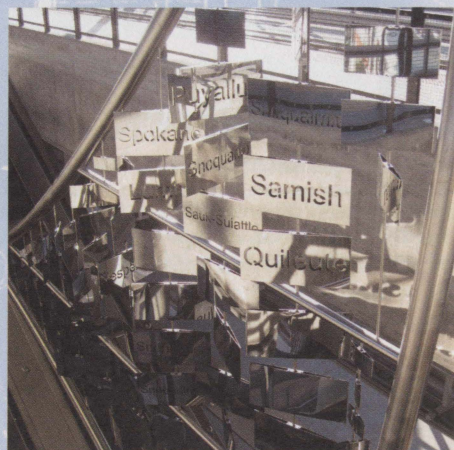
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International Boulevard, strengthens the connection between the airport and the City of SeaTac, where there is a passenger drop-off/pick-up location. The bridge was built in cooperation with the city.

The Port and Sound Transit began working together in 2004 to prepare for the project. In 2006, they launched the first large work contract to bring light rail to the airport and upgrade and expand road capacity to handle increasing airport-area traffic. The project team relocated roads to accommodate the rail guide way, and built a new return-to-terminal road loop to reduce traffic congestion on airport roads, particularly in front of the terminal.

The free Link Connector 575 bus shuttle that operated between the Tukwila International Boulevard Station at South 154th Street and the airport was discontinued with the launch of light rail service to SeaTac. Metro Transit's bus 194 express service between downtown Seattle and the airport is scheduled to end in early 2010.

Minor work and finishing touches on the station, parking garage walkway and roadways are scheduled for 2010. Roadway improvements will include landscaping; final paving of ramps near the station and garage; and artwork, clock tower and entry sign installations to greet motorists as they arrive at the airport.



The SeaTac/Airport Station features art installations such as "Flying Sails," by artist Werner Klotz, which spans the mezzanine and platform levels. The plates feature the names of First Nation tribes from Washington state and cities from around the world that share the same latitude or longitude as Seattle.

The crew painting markings on the reconstructed runway accommodate aircraft passing through the work area. Taxiing aircraft were part of the scene throughout this project. Hundreds passed through daily.



Airport Duty Manager Michelle Moshner, who coordinated the runway reconstruction activity for the Port of Seattle's Airport Operations Department, has the fresh pavement to herself in this photo shot prior to the runway reopening.

## Runway rebuilt in 180 days

SeaTac Airport's oldest and longest runway was closed and rebuilt in 2009 and returned to service in the fall as planned.

One of the finishing touches was painting the runway markings, including the designations at each end of the runway for identification by approaching aircraft, 16L on the north end and 34R on the south. Numbers are determined by the compass location of the runways and their alignment with the two other runways (right, center and left).

When originally built in the mid-1940s, this runway was about 5,000 feet long. It was extended several times to reach the current length of 11,900 feet. The reconstruction project completed a comprehensive rebuilding of the entire runway—from runway lights to the concrete pavement itself. The new 20-inch thick runway and adjoining taxiways were built in 180 days while maintaining a fully operational airfield. Nearly 1,000 aircraft passed safely through the work area daily.



### Other project facts:

- The concrete from the original 1944 runway was recycled by crushing it into gravel and used as the sub base for the new runway. More than 60,000 cubic yards of concrete was crushed on site.
- 120,000 cubic yards of new concrete was used to create the new runway and taxiways. In comparison, 65,000 cubic yards of concrete was used for the third runway—8,500 feet long and 17 inches thick.
- 100,000 cubic yards of asphalt was milled and trucked off-site, equal to 12,500 dump truck loads, and 60,000 tons of new asphalt was brought onto the site.
- Materials also included 20,000 linear feet of storm drain pipe, 20,000 linear feet of electrical duct bank, 12 inches of crushed rock sub base, four inches of asphalt-treated base, and 20 inches of portland cement concrete.
- More than 500,000 pounds of metals were salvaged from the old runway, equal to the takeoff weight of a Boeing 777.
- Striping required more than 3,000 gallons of paint.



## Work goes full speed ahead

Construction of the new rental car facility to serve SeaTac Airport is nearly 25 percent complete and moving forward on schedule for opening in 2012.

Current work includes building the first of two helixes, or spiral ramps, that cars will use to get into, out of and between floors in the five-level structure. Concrete is being poured for footings, walls, foundations, columns and decks. Crews recently installed the third and tallest crane for lifting the super-sized components of the structure into place. A storm water vault to serve the facility and two fuel farms are complete.

This facility is being built on a 23-acre site north of the airport. Designed to serve the needs of up to 45 million customers a year, it will house 11 full-

service rental car companies and about 5,400 vehicles. The project includes Main Terminal improvements to support bus service for rental car customers, a bus maintenance facility, and off-site road improvements.

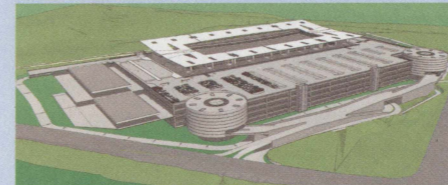
Rental car companies that serve SeaTac are now housed in the airport garage and other locations.

Consolidating operations and the bus service supports the Port's sustainability efforts. The Port is in the process of seeking Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) certification for the rental car facility and the bus maintenance facilities.

This project created about family-wage 1,000 jobs in 2009, and by the time it opens, construction activities will have generated more than 3,000 jobs.



Above, a worker assembles a curving helix wall for SeaTac's consolidated rental car facility. Below, an artist's rendering shows what the completed structure will look like when it opens two years from now.



## New facility includes 'green' treatment for storm water

SeaTac Airport's consolidated maintenance warehouse and distribution center not only supports maintenance efficiency, but also handles storm water runoff in an environmentally friendly way.

The Port of Seattle's Aviation Maintenance Department will start transferring stores to the new facility and accepting deliveries there in early 2010. Located a few blocks south of the airport, it will house as much as \$5 million of material that will support 15 maintenance shops and nearly a dozen labor trades. It will allow the storage of spare parts in one primary location and quick delivery of parts and equipment needed to keep the airport functioning.

This new facility was built using a low-



SeaTac Airport's recently completed maintenance warehouse and distribution center manages storm water in a way that is better for the environment.

impact development approach. It will manage storm water through a system that infiltrates runoff into the surrounding soil more slowly, mimicking Mother Nature. It includes a retention "swale" (shallow, sloped area) with a secondary chamber of crushed oyster shells. Runoff is directed into the swale, where it drains slowly through layers of grass, a mix

of soil and organic material, sand and pea gravel, drain rock and finally, the underlying native soil. Any storm water that doesn't infiltrate through these multiple layers is filtered by a two-foot-by-20-foot bed of crushed oyster shell, which reduces metals in the water.

This is the first large-scale use of oyster shell as a storm water treatment media, and exemplifies the Port's commitment to sustainability and finding alternative uses for natural products.





✈ Limousine drivers picking up arriving travelers at Sea-Tac Airport are now credentialed through a program similar to the one for taxi cabs that has been in place for many years.

The Port of Seattle worked with some members of the limousine industry to develop standards designed to increase customer confidence and ensure chauffeurs are safe and friendly. Drivers must be trained in customer service and driver safety and must pass a health exam, drug screening and background check. Drivers who do not have the required credential are no longer allowed to pick up passengers at Sea-Tac.

✈ The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, which has staff in Sea-Tac's South Satellite, offers a wealth of information on the H1N1 influenza on their Web site: [www.cdc.gov/h1n1flu](http://www.cdc.gov/h1n1flu) or [www.flu.gov](http://www.flu.gov). There is even information specifically for the workplace, including the travel industry and airline flight crews, at the following site: [www.cdc.gov/h1n1flu/guidance/#workplace](http://www.cdc.gov/h1n1flu/guidance/#workplace).

✈ Sea-Tac Airport now has free Wi-Fi—so anybody with a Wi-Fi-enabled laptop can go online anytime while at the airport.

Google, in partnership with the Port of Seattle, is providing the free access until Jan. 15, after which the Port will continue the free service.

✈ New parking rates for Sea-Tac Airport customers are now simpler with two flat-rate pricing options—"general parking" and "terminal direct."

This new program eliminated the hourly and daily designations and multi-tiered rates. The new terminal direct option gives parkers the fastest and most convenient place to park—the fourth floor of the garage with its easy access to the skybridges and Main Terminal.

The new parking fees are as follows: \$4 per hour for the fourth floor (terminal direct) and \$3 per hour for general parking. Both options are available for short-term or long-term parking. A full day of parking in general parking is \$26 and a full day on fourth floor is \$35.



The Delta Air Lines red, white and blue will be making more international connections to and from Sea-Tac Airport beginning in 2010.

## Delta in 2010: China, Japan & more Holland

Delta Air Lines recently announced plans to expand international service to Sea-Tac Airport for summer 2010. The airline expects to launch nonstop routes to Beijing, China, and Osaka, Japan—positioning Sea-Tac as a major gateway to Asia. Delta also announced plans for additional nonstop flights to Amsterdam.

Delta's Asian expansion is powered by its partnership with Alaska Air Group. The new nonstop flights to Beijing and Osaka will be timed to conveniently connect with Delta and Alaska's 267 combined daily departures to 64 destinations from Sea-Tac, and will complement Delta's existing daily service to Tokyo-Narita. Delta and Alaska offer

customers reciprocal code share, lounge and frequent-flyer benefits to make it easier to connect between the airlines' domestic and international networks at Seattle.

Each of Delta's new services will use Boeing 767-300 aircraft. Plans are for the five-times-weekly Beijing service to begin on June 4, 2010. The daily Osaka service is scheduled to begin on June 7, 2010.

Expanded service to Amsterdam will begin June 1, 2010, increasing from seven to 10 weekly flights aboard a combination of Airbus A330-300 and Boeing 767-300 aircraft.

Delta merged with Northwest Airlines in 2008, becoming the world's largest airline.

## Thank merchants for music & fun

Concessionaires—otherwise known as the Merchants at Sea-Tac—spread cheer again this season by sponsoring the annual Holiday Entertainment Program at Sea-Tac.

They arranged for musical entertainment and performances throughout the Main Terminal,

concourses and satellites, to coincide with the airport's busy year-end travel season.

The merchants also have been sharing in-store promotions and discounts on products and services. Word is they also were responsible for some zany characters organizing games and handing out coupons and prizes. And, hey, how about the coloring books, crayons and gift wrapping!



## Employees can help safeguard busy airport

Port of Seattle Police request employees' help in watching for suspicious behaviors, especially around the baggage carousels and parking garage, during peak travel times when Sea-Tac Airport is bustling with people.

"As members of the Sea-Tac community, we all can contribute to making travel during busy times as positive as possible for travelers," said Police Chief Colleen Wilson. "By being especially alert, employees help support the police focus on deterring thefts during the recent holidays and other times of year," she said.

Port Police work proactively with the Transportation Security Administration, Federal Air Marshals, the airlines and the Port Security Department to deter theft.

When you travel or advise others, Chief Wilson recommends the following luggage dos and don'ts:

- Pick up bags immediately upon arrival.
- Make your luggage easy to recognize (bright color or marking) and not expensive looking.
- Never leave items unattended.
- Avoid putting expensive items in checked baggage.
- Record serial numbers of your possessions.
- Report stolen items to police.

The same common sense applies to parked vehicles, the chief said, such as her following suggestions for employees and travelers who park at the airport or elsewhere:

- Roll up the windows and lock the car.
- Consider installing an anti-theft device.
- Take the removable face of your CD player with you.
- Never leave valuable items or garage door openers inside the vehicle—use the trunk.
- Do not hide a key on your vehicle.



Sea-Tac employees are encouraged to pay extra attention around baggage carousels.

Employees are asked to call 911 if they see a crime or notice any activity that is suspicious. For non-emergencies or if you have any questions, call the Port Police business phone at 206-787-3490 (after business hours press 5).

## Scouts, interns gain insights into aviation

Sea-Tac Airport and airline employees continue to provide new learning opportunities and aviation-related experiences for area young people.

### Boy Scouts earn new badges

Alaska Airlines, working with the Chief Seattle Council of the Boy Scouts of America, recently sponsored the first-ever Aviation Merit Badge Day at Sea-Tac Airport. Port of Seattle Aviation Division and Federal Aviation Administration employees partnered with Alaska to provide insights into airport operations.

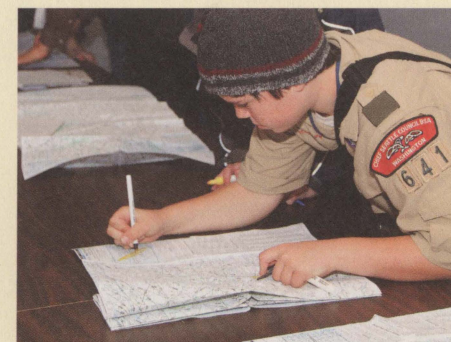
During the day's activities, the scouts learned about the dynamics of flight and the basics of flying an airplane. They packed classrooms at the Alaska Airlines Flight Operations Center in the City of

Sea-Tac, and visited the company's hangar at Sea-Tac Airport for a close look at a Boeing 737-700. They also learned about airport management, flight operations, air traffic control and careers in aviation. At the end of the day, 152 scouts had earned the aviation badge.

### Interns gain real-world experience

Nine high school and college students served as interns at Sea-Tac Airport in 2009, working in fields such as security, environmental programs, engineering and emergency planning. They also toured areas rarely seen by the public and removed invasive species from Walker Creek Basin as a service project.

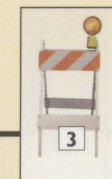
These paid internships show students



After creating a three-segment route using Alaska Airlines' reservation system, a Scout plots his trip on an aeronautical chart. Flight planning is one of the requirements for an aviation merit badge. (Alaska Airlines photo)

the variety of occupations needed to keep the airport running, and the extensive coordination that goes on with the airlines and Federal Aviation Administration.

College internships at the airport are open to all. High school internships are targeted to students within the airport communities. For details, contact Derek Bender at [bender.d@portseattle.org](mailto:bender.d@portseattle.org).





## Sea-Tac to grow recycling rate

**S**ea-Tac Airport, which *Scientific American* magazine reported as one of the airports saving the most money through recycling, recently set a goal to boost its recycling rate even more in the next five years.

Currently, Sea-Tac recycles 23 percent of its waste (trash) per year. By reducing the amount of trash going to landfills, the airport saves about \$180,000 annually. The latest target is to recycle 50 percent more and save about \$250,000 a year.

To help accomplish this goal, the Port of Seattle is expanding the Sea-Tac recycling program outdoors. The Port is installing six sets of large-capacity trash and recycling compactors on the ramp to handle recyclable and non-recyclable material from aircraft, ground support and other ramp operations. All six are expected to be in place by early 2010.

The new compactor locations are outside the following gates: A-10, B-4, C-1, D-11, N-6 and S-16.

An electronic key system will record usage by each tenant. Compactors will have sensors that monitor capacity and signal when they need to be emptied. There will be a fee for trash disposal but not for recycling.

This program has added benefits. By having compactors, the airport will reduce the number of trucks hauling trash. This is expected to improve ramp safety; and reduce emissions, fuel consumption and transportation costs. In contrast to open-top dumpsters, the compactors will have doors that close automatically to reduce debris and wildlife attractants on the airfield.

For help with general questions about recycling call (206) 787-5395.

*Sea-Tac Airport already recycles 880 tons of mixed paper, cardboard, aluminum cans and plastic and 140 tons of glass per year. About 145 tons of organic food waste and coffee grounds are composted. In addition, 43 tons of bulk grease from the airport is recycled as bio-diesel fuel annually.*



## A new way to save fuel & emissions

Thanks to a \$5 million grant from the U.S. Department of Energy, Sea-Tac Airport has a jump start on being the first airport in the United States to fully electrify its fleet of ground support equipment.

Sea-Tac will use the money, beginning in 2010, to add electric charging stations on the ramp for airplane ground support equipment, and replace 200 gas and

diesel vehicles with electric vehicles. The project is expected to save more than 400,000 gallons of fuel per year and reduce emissions by more than 4,500 metric tons per year.

The focus of the conversion will be gasoline baggage tractors and loading equipment, large consumers of petroleum fuel at the airport.

The grant money to purchase new electric vehicles will be matched in a cooperative effort by the Port of Seattle and airlines. Currently the airport has about 650 ground support vehicles.



## Kudos go to concessions

**S**ea-Tac Airport recently took first place in the Best "Green" Concessions Practice awards among airports in North America. The honor was announced during the 2009 Airports Council International-North America (ACI-NA) Concessions Conference in Indianapolis.

During 2008 alone, Sea-Tac concessionaires recycled more than 1,300 tons of material, avoiding disposal costs and generating revenue through rebates on recyclables. Concessionaires made waste reduction a priority through recycling and composting, and by donating enough unsold food to serve 8,000 meals a year to needy families in surrounding communities.

Sea-Tac also received second place in the ACI-NA competition for Best Convenience Retail Program.

## Prepared for potential of flooding

**T**he Port of Seattle leased back-up electric generators and stockpiled fuel and other necessities to ensure that Sea-Tac Airport is able to operate in the event of Green River flooding this winter due to water releases from the Howard Hanson Dam.

Port staff identified vulnerabilities and potential impacts of flooding to Port properties, including power continuity, aircraft fuel and staffing.

Working groups formed at both the seaport and the airport are carrying out needed tasks. These groups include utilities, fueling, cargo/freight transport, commuter/continuity of operation planning, land use, debris management and public safety.

The dam, owned by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, is the primary flood protection facility for all of the lower Green River Valley. Following

the high water level behind the dam in January 2009, the Corps discovered two depressions in the right abutment adjacent to the dam. While the Corps is assessing the damage to the abutment, the amount of water to be stored behind the dam is being reduced in order to protect its integrity. While the dam itself is not in immediate danger of failing, there is increased flood risk through April 2010 to downstream communities until seepage issues with the abutment are addressed.

Airport tenant employees are advised to check with their employers about their plans in the event of flooding that affects the workplace.

Any situation that affects airport operations and employees will be posted on the Port Web site at [www.portseattle.org/seatac](http://www.portseattle.org/seatac).

## Did you know?

**T**he Port of Seattle is known as the Green Gateway for waterborne cargo from Asia to the Midwest and beyond—and as the Green Gateway for passengers using Sea-Tac Airport.

Award-winning environmental programs make the airport one of the nation's greenest. Read more at [www.portseattle.org/seaport/cargo/GreenGateway.shtml](http://www.portseattle.org/seaport/cargo/GreenGateway.shtml).

**THE GREEN GATEWAY**

## Port completes green projects

**T**he Port of Seattle is wrapping up the last major section of environmental mitigation related to building the third runway and other major improvements at Sea-Tac Airport over the past decade.

The five-plus-acre site is the former Des Moines Creek Nursery location on the east side of Des Moines Memorial Drive, just north of State Route 518, in the City of SeaTac.

Included are wetland restoration; wetland and riparian enhancement and buffer restoration with more than 13,000 new native trees and shrubs; enhancement of Miller Creek including installation of habitat features such as large woody debris; plus conversion of a storm drain pipe to a shallow, sloped area called an open "swale," for better treatment of rainwater runoff.

This brings the total number of mitigated wetland acres near the airport

to more than 102. The Port also created or enhanced 68 acres along the Green River in Auburn.

In a separate but related effort, the Port is converting four construction storm water ponds for permanent use. These ponds were originally built to manage runoff from the third runway project. They are being lined with weed control fabric and covered with netting to discourage birds, which can be hazardous to aircraft. With the new conversions, the airport has a total of 12 storm water vaults and detention ponds.

*Thousands of recently planted native trees and shrubs help mitigate major projects at Sea-Tac, including the third runway, which has been open for more than a year.*

