



**King County**

**Dave Upthegrove**

Councilmember, District 5

**Metropolitan King County Council**

March 19, 2020

Steve Dickson  
Administrator  
Federal Aviation Administration  
800 Independence Avenue, SW  
Washington, DC 20591

Dear Administrator Dickson,

I am writing to express my support for conducting a comprehensive cumulative impact assessment as part of the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for the Port of Seattle's Sustainable Airport Master Plan (SAMP) for Seattle-Tacoma International Airport (SEA). SeaTac Airport is our region's largest hub for passenger travel and air freight, moving nearly 52 million passengers and more than 450,000 metric tons of air cargo in 2019. This immense reach presents significant impacts and costs to the local cities and surrounding areas that fall within the Federal Aviation Administration's (FAA) flight path. Some of the most notable obvious impacts include noise and air pollution.

Our region is experiencing enormous growth and I believe that in order to fully assess the short-term and long-term impacts of future growth at SeaTac Airport, the FAA's NEPA process must include an EIS that contains a comprehensive cumulative impact assessment. The current EIS scope only examines the thirty projects in the airport's "near term" plans and relegates the long-term projects to be constructed after 2027 to a future EIS. Although it is true that many of the long-term projects in the SAMP cannot begin comprehensive planning without the near-term projects being completed, a separate environmental analysis is disjointed and could harm the integrity of the published study. This full EIS should also include necessary mitigation strategies associated with those short and long-term projects identified in the Port of Seattle's SAMP.

I encourage the FAA to conduct the full EIS now, thus examining short and long-term community impacts in parallel to the future growth of SeaTac-Tacoma International Airport. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Dave Upthegrove  
King County Council  
District 5