

FACT SHEET

SEA-TAC INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT NOISE REMEDY PROGRAM UPDATE

Almost a decade ago, the Port of Seattle began work on a plan to improve the compatibility between Sea-Tac International Airport and the surrounding communities. The resulting Sea-Tac/Communities Plan, completed in 1976, was accepted by both the Port of Seattle and King County as a guide for development and planning at the Airport and in the greater Highline area. The noise remedy element of the Communities Plan recommended a program which included aircraft noise reduction measures as well as remedial measures applied within the community. The re-evaluation and update of this noise remedy element was begun in April, 1983, with the initiation of the Sea-Tac International Airport Noise Remedy Program Update.

The Port will continue its commitment to public involvement in the planning process and in the development of updated recommendations. The implementation of the community involvement program for the Update will be officially launched at public workshops scheduled for May 9, 10 and 11, 1983.

What is the Sea-Tac Noise Remedy Program Update?

The Sea-Tac Noise Remedy Program Update is a planning study. It will evaluate and update the scope and schedule of noise remedy measures recommended in the original Noise Remedy Program of the Sea-Tac/Communities Plan. The study will be conducted by the Port of Seattle with the assistance of the aviation consulting firm of Peat Marwick in cooperation with local governments, agencies and Sea-Tac communities. Partial funding is provided through the Federal Aviation Administration's Airport Improvement Program.

## What Noise Remedy-Related Actions Have Been Implemented as a Result of the Original Noise Remedy Program?

An aircraft noise monitoring system has been installed and operating since 1979; \$38 million have been spent to purchase property most severely impacted by aircraft noise; acoustical insulation testing was conducted; the North Sea-Tac Park is off the drawing board and under development; and a rezone of the area has been completed by King County based on the Sea-Tac/Communities Plan land use plan.

## Why Is An Update Needed?

Changes in noise, finances, environment and community goals and objectives since the original Noise Remedy Program need to be reflected in an updated program. For example, existing noise levels were not all predicted in the earlier study. Changes in the level, composition and structure of aircraft operations at Sea-Tac have altered the pattern of noise around the Airport. Noise levels in areas northeast and southeast of the Airport have decreased more than projected. At the same time, noise levels in areas east and west of the airport have increased during a period in which a decrease had been anticipated. Changes such as these could influence the type and extent of noise remedies to be applied in and around the Sea-Tac communities.

## How Will the Update be Carried Out?

The Update will be carried out through a planning process which will consider changes since the original Noise Remedy Program in noise, finances, environment, and community goals and objectives as well as existing and future conditions; evaluate the progress that has been made toward implementing the original Noise Remedy Program; identify and evaluate potential noise remedy measures; and provide a recommendation for an updated noise remedy program at Sea-Tac. Throughout this process, participation and input from local governments, agencies and Sea-Tac communities will be activitely pursued.

### What Changes Are Expected as a Result of the Update?

Changes are expected, but until the Update gets underway, it will not be clear what programs or neighborhoods will be affected. We do, however, expect to complete the study in mid-1984. The preparation of necessary environmental documentation will follow, thereby making it possible to present a recommended updated noise remedy program to the Port Commission for implementation by mid-1985.

### How Will Local Governments, Agencies and Sea-Tac Communities Be Involved?

As in the Sea-Tac/Communities Plan, an important aspect of the Update is community involvement. A community involvement program has been developed as a guideline for agency and community involvement throughout the study. It will inform the public of study progress, maximize public understanding of the Port's involvement in aircraft noise remedy planning, respond to public concerns, provide the opportunity for continuing interaction between airport management, local agencies and surrounding communities and provide for community input into the noise remedy program development. Some examples of how this program will be implemented include the organization and function of advisory committees, the conduct of public workshops, distribution of newsletters, briefing of officials and staff of governmental jurisdictions, and individual consultation with Port project staff.

### What Will Be The First Opportunity for Community Involvement?

Public workshops have been scheduled for May 9, 10 and 11, 1983. These identical workshops will be held on consecutive nights at different locations within the Sea-Tac communities in order to provide a choice of nights and locations to attendees.

How Can Community Members Obtain More Information?

For more information concerning the study or any aspect of the community involvement program (e.g., workshops, newsletters, etc.), please call or write:

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