



February 14, 2018

Puget Sound Regional Council  
1011 Western Avenue, Suite 500  
Seattle, WA 98104

RE: Comments on the 2040 Draft Regional Transportation Plan

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The City of SeaTac appreciates the opportunity to comment on the Puget Sound Regional Council 2040 Draft Regional Transportation Plan. SeaTac recognizes that planning for and providing a reliable and sustainable transportation system for our rapidly growing region is vital for our continued economic prosperity and quality of life.

SeaTac's primary concern with respect to regional transportation planning is focused on the regional aviation system and planning for future airport system needs. Continued record growth year after year at Sea-Tac International Airport is a clear indicator that planning for a second regional airport should not only be a priority, but should already be aggressively underway. By the mid 2020's, both the State Route 509 completion project and Sound Transit Light Rail project will further accelerate the already rapid growth seen at the Airport. Additionally, the Airport will be releasing its Sustainable Airport Master Plan (SAMP) later this year, and preliminary indications are that the plan will seek to maximize aviation capacity at Sea-Tac International Airport.

While SeaTac and other communities surrounding the Airport benefit economically from its growth, the corresponding environmental and health impacts, many of which we are still working to clearly understand, are also growing. SeaTac is concerned that these airport related impacts will begin to outweigh the benefits sooner rather than later and that given the regional policies and triggers outlined in the Draft Plan, will not provide relief (in the form of a new regional airport) soon enough.

If it is the intent of the 2040 Draft Regional Transportation Plan to be proactive towards our region's future transportation needs, then we should not wait any longer to begin the process for selecting and developing a second regional airport. We must act now to identify and plan for the "relief valve" well before it is needed. PSRC together with the State should begin the planning process in earnest.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on this draft plan and for taking the time to consider our concerns and how they might be addressed in the final document. The City of SeaTac looks forward to continuing discussions regarding the transportation and mobility needs of our community and the entire Puget Sound Region.

Sincerely,

Joseph Scorcio  
City Manager

C: City Council  
JS:Ike

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