

Renton Airport Advisory Committee (RAAC)

Tuesday, September 10, 2013

5:35pm Meeting called to order by Ulf Goranson

5:37pm Minutes of the May 14, 2013 RAAC meeting unanimously approved.

5:38pm **Neighborhood Communications**

- Marcie Palmer commented on North Boeing Bridge project noise impact on affected communities. The complaints that were received were less than anticipated.
- Project is mostly done for 2013.

5:45pm **Airport Business Management,**
presented by Ryan Zulauf (see Attachment 1, Pages 1 - 2)

- Control Tower closure update
- Comcast Lease (on hold)
 - Both southeast tenants and Westside tenants are struggling with internet connections
- Boeing Apron B Lease Amendment
- New Airport Tenant "Landing Gear Works"
- Airport Sustainability Management Plan
 - Tool for tracking progress updated for 2012
 - Will be putting 2012 graphs of results on web
- North Boeing Bridge construction
 - 3 week construction period in February 2014
- Central Sound Aerospace Training Center
 - State increased funding by \$5 million for a total to-date of \$7.5 million

6:10pm **Airport Operations/Maintenance**
presented by Jonathan Wilson (see Attachment 1, Pages 2 - 4)

- Taxiway Bravo Rehabilitation - South Portion update
 - Closure Friday, September 13 morning, 3:00am – 8:00am
 - Approval to add overlay of West Perimeter Road to repair the pavement that was used as the haul route for the taxiway bravo

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project. The pavement overlay is being funded using a FAA grant which pays for 90% of the project costs.

- Non-Directional Beacon (NDB)
 - Is there the possibility of obtaining surplus equipment?
 - Decommissioning will reduce instrument approaches from 2 down to 1.
 - Airport Staff will pursue decommissioned NDB with FAA assistance for possible surplus NDB equipment acquisition.
- Wildlife Hazard Assessment
 - Federal funding received of \$100,000 for assessment by FAA
 - Will take 1 year to complete and will begin this year
- New Airport Badge Standards will be implemented to achieve improve identification of badge users inside airport perimeter fenced.

6:45pm

Airport Capital Project Status report

presented by Ben Dahle (see Attachment 1, Pages 4 - 6)

- Aerospace Training Center funding increased by \$5 million for a total to-date of \$7.5 million by Washington State Legislature.
- Seaplane Base Maintenance Dredging
 - In final permit stage
 - Construction anticipated to begin at the start of the fish window on November 16, 2013
- 760 Parcel Storm drain Repair
- Eastside GA Paving (River hangar) Paving
- Lower Blast Fence project

6:47pm

Old Business

- Performance Based Navigation (See Attachment 2)
 - Subcommittee members: Chuck Kegley, Marleen Mandt, Diane Paholke, Mike Cero, Steve Beardslee and Ryan Zulauf
 - Correct recommendation to include referral by Council on March 11, 2013 in pending Subcommittee Report
 - Correct recommendation to include bullet #6 - Shall include a regional approach
 - Subcommittee recommendation to allow City staff to initiate informal consultation with the FAA on Performance Based Navigation

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- Vote on recommendation – 11 members voted unanimously to approve the recommendations developed by the RAAC subcommittee chaired by Chuck Kegley.
- Transportation/Aviation Committee meeting on September 26, 2013

7:05pm

RAAC Meeting Dates

- December 10, 2013
- March 11, 2014
- June 10, 2014
- September 9, 2014

7:07pm

Meeting adjourned

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Renton Airport Advisory Committee (RAAC)

RAAC Members **Present** (9.10.2013)

RAAC Members **Absent** (9.10.2013)

1. Kennydale (1 Voting Member)

Mark Hancock

Marleen Mandt

2. Highlands (1 Voting Member)

Vacant

KC (Harold) Jones

3. Talbot Hill (1 Voting Member)

Matthew Devine

Jennifer Ann Rutkowski

4. South Renton (1 Voting Member)

Robert Moran

Vacant

5. West Hill (1 Voting Member)

Ken Williams

Vacant

6. Renton Hill/Monterey (1 Voting Member)

David Basco

Vacant

7. North Renton (1 Voting Member)

Lee Chicoine

Ben Johnson

8. Airport Leaseholders (2 Voting Members)

Chuck Kegley

Mike O'Leary

Steve Beardslee

Vacant

9. Airport – At – Large (2 Voting Members)

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Diane Paholke
Ulf Goranson

Todd Banks
VACANT

10. Boeing (1 Voting Member)

Scott Pelletier
Valdis Martinsons
Jesse Uman

11. Aircraft Owners and Pilots Association (1 Voting Member)

Robert Dempster
Karen Stemwell

12. WPA-Green River Chapter (1 Voting Member)

Al Banholzer

13. Mercer Island

Mike Cero

NON-Voting Members and City Staff

State Representative (1 Nonvoting Member)

Vacant

FAA Representative (1 Nonvoting Member)

City Staff and Councilmembers

Marcie Palmer
Doug Jacobson
Jonathan Wilson
Ryan Zulauf
Ben Dahle

Susan Campbell-Hehr

Guests and Consultants

Attachment #1

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Airport Update for RAAC

Airport Business Management

1. **Control Tower Closure - Update** - No definitive information to share, but here is what we do know:

- A. Congress left for summer recess without adopting a 2014 budget;
- B. A Continuing Resolution (CR) for the budget is needed before Oct 1, 2014 or the government shuts down;
- C. Airport type blogs from August says that FAA Administrator Huerta still claims to want to close Contract Towers to save money;
- D. Met with Congressman Adam Smith last week at an Airport project BBQ – he asked about our Tower status
- E. Lastly, and most interesting, our Tower staff have not been issued “warn notices” and we are within the 30 day time limit. So, my bet is that it’s either a full government shutdown (less likely), or more likely, a CR budget for 2 months until the House and Senate can agree on a budget.

2. **Comcast Lease – Still On Hold**

Comcast needs a lease on the Airport in order for the cable company to install cable on the Airport (which was not included when the rest of the City was wired for cable). This project is on hold due to workload issues.

3. **Boeing Apron B Lease Amendment – Approved by City Council last night**

A lease amendment to add 37’ on to the north end of Apron B and includes a utility easement for power, compressed air and communications. Apron B accommodates 5 aircraft stalls on Apron B (below the old Chamber of Commerce Building) and the space will be used for all Boeing PreFlight Activities including jet engine runs.

4. **New Airport Tenant “The Landing Gear Works” –Completed**

The airport has secured a new tenant named “The Landing Gear Works”. The business is owned by Tom Anderson who has moved back to the Renton area from Wenatchee. Tom builds titanium landing gear for small Cessna aircraft and is capable of providing most machine work needed by airport tenants. The landing Gear Works has set up shop in the 295 East Perimeter Road building which is also the old Control Tower/Airport Operations building.

5. **Airport Sustainability Management Plan – Completed / Ongoing**

The Airport developed an Airport Sustainability Management Plan through an FAA funded pilot program to provide a framework under which the airport will be managed in the future. The goal is to institutionalize good stewardship and management practices of the City’s airport. Since completion of the plan, Airport staff have begun tracking the progress of it’s strategies, and

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continue to collect data to show whether those strategies are meeting the airports sustainability goals.

6. North Boeing Bridge Construction Impacts to Runway Length – Wrapping Up 2013 Work

The North Boeing Bridge work for 2013 is almost complete. The contractor is on schedule to complete construction of the temporary bridge in the first week of October. Demolition of the old bridge is scheduled to start next spring for a three week duration in February and then continue in water work starting in June.

7. Central Sound Aerospace Training Center - Ongoing

The Washington State Legislature awarded an additional \$5 million dollar grant for this project this year! This funding is in addition to the \$2.5 million dollar grant received last year to construct an aerospace training facility to train workers for jobs in the aerospace sector. A third party (not the City) will occupy the building and provide the training activities. The Airport will construct, own and maintain the building and grounds.

The design of the project is starting back up after being on hold pending additional funds. The state and architectural contracts are currently being updated. We continue to work with industry and educational partners to ensure that the facility is sustainable over the long term. The state is considering additional funds in 2014 but the project is not being delayed for the possible additional funds. Design is taking into account the possibility of additional funds in 2014.

Airport Operations and Maintenance

1. Taxiway Bravo System Rehabilitation – South Portion - In Progress

What: An \$10.5 million pavement and utility replacement and repair project on Taxiway Bravo.

Why: The pavement on this parallel taxiway has reached the end of its useful life and needs to be strengthened and replaced. Additionally, utility lines in the area will be replaced as necessary and all connecting taxiways will be renamed A1, A2, B1, B2 and so on from their current alpha only designations. The airport will also be installing an emergency generator and LED lighting along Taxiway Bravo.

How: The FAA is providing grant funding to help complete the project. Grant will be 90 percent of design and construction cost with the remaining 10 percent covered by airport generated revenue.

New: South Portion Phase out to ad at the beginning of February
South Portion Phase bid opening at the first of March
North portion construction begins in May of 2013, south portion begins in June 2013

2. Non-Directional Beacon - In Progress

- What:** The Non-Directional Beacon (NDB) is the only land-based navigation system on the Airport that allows pilots to make approaches to Runway 16 in Instrument Meteorological Conditions (IMC). The beacon has been inoperative for six (6) months .
- Why:** The NDB equipment has reached the end of its useful life. During inclement weather the antenna sometimes stops working. Also, there is a signal tuning unit that has stopped working. The City of Renton's signal shop has stated that they are unwilling to continue making repairs to equipment and that all of the components need to be replaced.
- How:** The Airport is considering permanently removing the NDB. The FAA has completed a survey of stakeholders about this idea. Since the equipment is airport owned, FAA concurrence is not required. The estimated cost to completely replace the NDB facility is estimated at \$150,000.00.
- Status:** A new replacement NDB is not in the Airports long term capital program due to it high cost of replacement and limited use by pilots as a navigational aid.

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3. **Wildlife Hazard Assessment - In Progress**

- What:** An FAA grant funded project to complete a Wildlife Hazard Assessment (WHA) at the Airport. WHAs are completed to help airports formulate Wildlife Hazard Management Plans. These plans help airports mitigate and reduce the effects of wildlife on airport operations.
- Why:** Ever since the bird strikes that brought down the US Airways flight into the Hudson River, the FAA has placed new emphasis on Airports completing Wildlife Hazard Assessments. Historically, these were only done for Part 139 certificated airports, but recently federal funding has been made available for certain non-certificated airports to participate.
- How:** Federal grant funding of \$100,000.00 (90%) and airport revenue up to \$11,111.00 (10%)
- Status:** Request For Proposal advertisement has been published. Interested companies must respond by September 12, 2013

4. **New Airport Badge Standards - In Progress**

- What:** A new ID badge program for tenants and contractors who need to access the Airside of the Airport.
- Why:** The Airport has a current badge system for tenants and contractors. Badges do not have any identifying information on them. When someone is stopped by Airport Operations, they might have a badge on them, but it is unknown whether it's their badge and where on the Airport the driver should be.
- How:** The Airport has budgeted money to purchase a new ID badge system from HID. New badges will have a photo, name, airport business (if applicable), airplane information (if applicable), and expiration date. All badges will be valid for one year instead of the current standard of up to five years (expires when the drivers license expires).
- Status:** Need a refreshed bid from HID for the equipment. Program should be implemented by the end of the calendar year.

5. **Small Projects and Maintenance Updates – Ongoing**

- a. City hall approved two more seasonal, part time employees
- b. Installation of fence line at SE corner
- c. Installation of new, smart irrigation controller for the front entrance planting beds
- d. Roof membrane system being added to PSE hangar at 622 W Perimeter Road

Airport Capital Program

1. Renton Aerospace Training Center – In Progress

- What:** The Airport will be managing the construction of a new facility called the Central Sound Aerospace Training Center located at the Old Chamber of commerce building.
- Why:** The project is to build a facility and provide equipment to help train critically needed aerospace workers in Washington. At this time, there are significant workforce training gaps for Boeing and aerospace suppliers throughout the state. This facility will be a resource to help meet the immediate need for trained workers in the aerospace industry and be a long-term aviation-related asset for the community.
- How:** The State legislature provided a \$2.5M grant in 2012 and an additional \$5M grant to build this facility in concert with industry and potential tenant partners. SRG Partnership Inc. will design the project. The project is back on track now that the Washington State Legislature provided the additional funding.

2. Seaplane Maintenance Dredging – In Progress

- What:** The Airport will be maintenance dredging the Seaplane Base.
- Why:** The purpose of the project is to restore the lake bottom around the seaplane base to pre-flooding events in 2007 and 2009 so seaplane traffic can operate unhindered by buildup of sediment.
- How:** The airport and FEMA will fund the project. Preliminary engineering has been completed and final design is pending permit approval. Permits are starting to be issued for the project. We anticipate dredging this winter but there are still permits that must be issued before the project can go to construction. We are in final design and plan to advertise the project next month.

3. Acuwings Paving – In Progress

- What:** The Airport is paving Acuwings parking lot and repairing a broken storm water line.
- Why:** The parking lot pavement was failing and differential settling caused drainage problems. The storm drain pipe was crushed and needed to be fixed.
- How:** The airport is funding the project. Construction is underway and substantial completion should be issued in three weeks.

4. Cedar River Hangar Ramp and Electrical – In Progress

- What:** The Airport will be paving the Cedar River Hangars ramp and updating the electrical system over the next four years.
- Why:** The ramp pavement is failing and differential settling has caused drainage problems. The electrical system in the Cedar River Hangars is insufficient.

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How: The airport will fund the projects. URS prepared construction plans. Construction for the pavement will begin in the next four to six weeks. The design for electrical project is complete and the permit is ready to be picked up. We anticipate completing at least the first phase of this project this year.

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Attachment #2

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RAAC Subcommittee Recommendations on Performance Based Navigation

Background

The City Council Transportation/Aviation Committee requested the Renton Airport Advisory Committee (RAAC) review the subject of implementation of GPS-based approach and departure procedures (Performance Based Navigation) at the Renton Airport. This subject has been raised recently by the "Busy Airports Study" performed by the Puget Sound Regional Council (PSRC). The PSRC Study identified the opportunities and constraints to implementing Performance Based Navigation in the four county PSRC area.

At the December 11, 2012 RAAC meeting, representatives from the Puget Sound Regional Council staff and the consultants who were preparing the PSRC Study made a presentation. The consensus of the RAAC members present was that Performance Based Navigation may offer some benefits at the Renton Airport. These potential benefits include:

1. Increasing safety
2. Increasing the availability of the runway in all weather conditions to support aircraft manufacturing in Renton;
3. Reducing flights over Mercer Island by overlaying the existing *visual* arrival/departure procedures to Runway 16 (down the east channel of Lake Washington) with precision approach and departure procedures so that aircraft can approach the airport over the water instead of the land;
4. Reducing noise impacts in the Talbot Hill neighborhood area by directing aircraft approaching from the south to an approach pattern that is over non-residential areas of the Renton/Kent valley; and
5. Allowing aircraft to land using less power potentially reducing engine noise when landing.

Since December 11, 2012 meeting, a RAAC subcommittee was formed to give further consideration to the topic. The RAAC Subcommittee on Performance Based Navigation recommends the following to the RAAC at the September 10, 2013, RAAC meeting.

Recommendation

City staff should initiate informal consultations with the Regional Office FAA staff on Performance Based Navigation. The purpose would be to explore what the appropriate next steps would be necessary to improve approach and departure procedures for Renton Airport. The topics of consultation should include: expected FAA funding support for study and implementation, major steps and milestones, timeframe for implementation, and whether any modifications to airport facilities would be required prior to implementation, or whether any of the current GPS approaches would be phased out.

Following these consultations with the FAA, Airport staff would report back to the RAAC who would prepare a recommendation for consideration by the City Council Transportation (Aviation) Committee.

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