

KING COUNTY AEROSPACE ALLIANCE MISSION

MISSION

The King County Aerospace Alliance (KCAA) will advocate for and foster the long-term economic vitality, growth and global competitiveness of the aerospace industry - a major and indispensable source of family-wage jobs in King County.

BACKGROUND

King County is the largest center for aerospace activity in the country with over 45,000 industry employees and more than 400 aerospace companies. With its deep history in aerospace, King County has a strong foundation on which to build. The factories, capital investment, skilled workforce, and the ability to efficiently move people and freight are all here. Nowhere in the region or country are the assets as significant or better aligned to expand an already intense concentration of aerospace innovation and excellence.

MAJOR ACTION INITIATIVES

- 1. Complete a competitive analysis study of the aerospace industry in King County – preliminary findings by January 5 and a full report by January 31, 2012.** The study will recommend specific actions to strengthen assets and mitigate liabilities, potential aerospace expansion and recruiting opportunities, items for local legislative action, and other elements for further analysis. KCAA will develop an action plan to implement the study's recommendations.
- 2. Train the next generation of aerospace workers.** The average age of the local aerospace worker is 48 with many workers soon eligible for retirement. While Boeing needs 5,000 workers annually for the next several years, our community and technical colleges currently graduate only half that number. We need coordinated workforce development programs, aligned with industry skill needs, to train and educate our young people and dislocated workers to meet future aerospace workforce needs.
- 3. Support and grow our extensive supplier network.** Almost half of the aerospace suppliers in Washington State are located in King County. We will identify and market their capabilities to create new opportunities as well as broaden and deepen the network by recruiting new suppliers to fill identified supply chain gaps. We need to support these companies by making continued infrastructure investments to ensure efficient freight and workforce mobility.
- 4. Make it easier for industries to do business across all jurisdictions.** We must collaborate to create easier, streamlined permitting and predictable tax and regulatory structures, all while protecting the quality of life that gives our region a competitive edge.

KING COUNTY AEROSPACE ALLIANCE MEMBERS

King County

City of Auburn

City of Bellevue

City of Kent

City of Renton

City of Seattle

City of Tukwila

Port of Seattle

enterpriseSeattle

Workforce Development Council of Seattle-King County

Auburn Chamber of Commerce

Kent Chamber of Commerce

Renton Chamber of Commerce

Seattle Metropolitan Chamber of Commerce

Southwest King County Chamber of Commerce

M. L. King County Labor Council, AFL-CIO

Aerospace Machinists District Lodge 751

Renton Technical College

Shoreline Community College

South Seattle Community College

University of Washington

Washington State University