



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Pacific Northwest Aerospace Alliance Endorses Governor’s Proposal to Designate the Boeing 777X a Project of Statewide Significance

LYNNWOOD, WA – July 17, 2013 – Pacific Northwest Aerospace Alliance, the region’s largest consortium of aerospace suppliers, manufacturers and service providers which represents thousands of aerospace workers in the Pacific Northwest strongly endorsed Governor Inslee’s proposal to name the Boeing 777X a Project of Statewide Significance.

“Using the 1997 law for the first time is a bold and essential step in Washington’s fight for the 777X,” said PNA Executive Director Melanie Jordan. “This designation will expedite the permitting process to allow Boeing to build a composite wing manufacturing facility in Everett. PNA is extremely supportive of this effort.”

According to Jordan, “This designation recognizes that the Washington State Aerospace Cluster is the gravitational center of aerospace manufacturing. The Governor’s proposal allows us to marshal our resources to expedite the process of building a facility capable of meeting Boeing’s production needs. The benefits of building the 777X in Everett will be felt in communities throughout the Puget Sound region,” Jordan said.

Snohomish County Executive John Lovick praised PNA’s position and the Governor’s announcement, “PNA’s endorsement is important to this process. They are a valuable partner in the aerospace community and we are pleased to have their support. The 777X project is really the gold ring for our region. Snohomish County is the best place for The Boeing Company to build the newest 777 and we’re working very hard to make sure it happens right here.”

Paine Field is home to the Boeing manufacturing plant for 747, 767, 777, and 787 aircraft. Dave Waggoner, Director of Snohomish County Airport at Paine Field said that Snohomish County and the City of Everett have teams in place and are ready to execute so that new Boeing facilities could be permitted and constructed quickly.

“We are creating options for Boeing. The City and the County are working together and we both see it as a huge win to have the facility built in Washington. This is “**Working Together**,” he said referring to a Boeing slogan that originated when the 777 first was designed in the early 1990s. “County Executive Lovick and Mayor Stephanson have made the 777X a top priority for all of us.”

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According to long time Everett planner Reid Shockey, the designation should allow Boeing to secure permits within months rather than years. “Statewide significance is a unique concept. It allows for streamlined permitting. After permitting the 747, 767 and 777, the impacts have been mitigated. We’re ready for the next generation.”

Shockey also chairs the Snohomish County Committee for Improved Transportation (SCCIT). “The transportation package pending in the legislature is the final infrastructure piece needed to assure Boeing that its production goals will be served”.

In May, Washington set up the 777X Permitting Task Force chaired by Everett Mayor Ray Stephanson. The group was tasked with creating recommendations to help secure the project. The statewide significance designation was one of their key recommendations.

The City of Everett and Snohomish County councils have both voted to approve the designation, and are moving forward with providing Boeing approvals for multiple options to add a 600,000-square-foot airplane wing fabrication facility within and outside its Everett plant.

About PNAA:

The Pacific Northwest Aerospace Alliance (PNAA) is a non-profit organization that has been promoting the growth and success of the aerospace industry in the Northwest for over 11 years. Its primary purpose is to help grow and maintain a viable aerospace industry in the region. This is accomplished through frequent educational and networking events and informing members and participants of important industry changes and business opportunities.

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