

## **PORTLAND INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT UPDATE**

TO: PDX Community Advisory Committee  
FROM: Vince Granato, Chief Operating Officer  
DATE: September 18, 2013

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### **BUSINESS UPDATE**

#### Airport Activity:

PDX just completed the busiest summer ever with our most active days exceeding 50,000 travelers. In July, passenger volumes grew 2.4% compared to July 2012. This July we experienced the highest record for passengers in a single month with 1.5 million travelers. This was also the highest load factor of 87% for July.

Total aircraft operations (take offs and landings) were down 5.1% to 19,232 compared to July 2012 and down 4.9% to 119,205 calendar year to date.

For the fiscal year (ending June 30) PDX served 14,687,143 passengers, a 5.6% increase over last fiscal year. This was our second largest year for passengers just behind the 2008 record of 14.9 million.

Looking forward into the fall, PDX will see some new service. Alaska Airlines launched service to Atlanta, GA on August 26. They will also launch service to Dallas/Fort Worth on September 16 and service to Tucson on Nov. 1. In November, their seasonal service to Kona and Kauai HA will return.

Delta Air Lines launched four flights to LAX on Sept. 3 adding to our current service on United and Alaska Airlines.

#### Airport Concessions/Properties:

House Spirits Distillery has opened a new retail outlet on Course D. House Spirits is one of the founding members of Distillery Row, an assembly of small distilleries at the heart of Portland's Industrial District.

Beginning August 15th Oregon Lottery games returned to Portland International Airport at the pre-security Oregonian News location.

McDonalds is scheduled to be open on C West in late September or Early October.

The new Burgerville is under construction in the Oregon Market Food court and is scheduled to open in February.

## **CONSTRUCTION UPDATE**

### 2013 PDX Airfield Projects

Since the beginning of April, construction crews have been working hard on summer airfield projects at PDX. The two main projects included reconstructing the eastern portion of Taxiway C and replacing portions of the south runway.

The Taxiway C-East Pavement Rehabilitation Project remains on-track for the scheduled mid-October completion date. Significant construction efficiencies and favorable weather enabled the South Runway Repair Project team to open the 11,000' long runway on June 9th. Domestic and international carriers have been taking full advantage of the airport's longest runway. All aspects of the South Runway Repair Project have now been completed.

The Air Trans Center Pavement Rehabilitation Project remains on-track for a mid-October completion. The North Ramp Pavement Rehabilitation Project was completed on-schedule on August 16th. The Southwest Ramp Pavement Rehabilitation Project is in full-swing and is scheduled for a September 12th completion.

### Parking Guidance System for Long-term Parking Garage

The installation of a parking guidance system in the long term parking lot is over half way done. Customers can follow signage to open sections and identify open stalls by the green lights on floors 5, 6 and 7. Completion of the installation is still on schedule for early next year.

### Airport Way Interchange

ODOT's work on the Airport Way Interchange continues on schedule to be completed in the fall of 2014.

### Capstone

The Capstone project to build warehousing and distribution space in Portland International Center broke ground in early September. The Capstone project was presented to the CAC at our last meeting in June.

## **PLANNING UPDATE**

### Columbia-Alderwood-Cully Phased Project

Consistent with Airport Futures and the Intergovernmental Agreement (IGA) between the Port and the City of Portland, the Port submitted an Oregon Department of Transportation (ODOT) Enhance Application for a phase of the Columbia-Alderwood-Cully Boulevard intersection improvement. Improvements to NE Columbia Boulevard at its intersection with NE Alderwood Road and NE Cully Boulevard were identified in the traffic impact analysis completed for Airport Futures. The IGA requires the City and Port to work cooperatively to deliver the mitigation project after PDX has reached a trigger of 15 million annual passengers. The Port is obligated to pay its proportionate share of the project costs determined to be attributed to the airport. Copies of the ODOT Enhance Application were provided at the June CAC meeting and copies of the project fact sheet are included in the CAC handouts.

Between March and August 2013, ODOT technical staff reviewed the proposal to determine feasibility and risks. The Region 1 Project Selection Committee has placed the project on the refined “100 percent” project list. This list will now be provided to the Oregon Transportation Commission for consideration. In the Winter/Spring of 2014 the Oregon Transportation Commission will release the 100 percent list for public review and input prior to adoption of the final project list.

#### Follow-on Studies

The Port continues to make progress on a number of the follow-on studies identified in Airport Futures including:

- The Passenger Terminal Master Plan/Ticket Lobby Study
- Northside Properties Redevelopment Study
- Rental Car and Parking Facilities Alternatives Analysis, and
- The 82<sup>nd</sup> Avenue/Airport Way Grade-separated Interchange Project Definition.

These projects are all on the list for potential future CAC updates and will be included as time allows.

### **SUSTAINABILITY UPDATE**

#### Short-term Parking Garage Lighting Upgrade

Port Commission approved the replacement of the existing high-pressure sodium fixtures on floors 1-6 that glow yellowish-orange with an energy efficient, fluorescent lighting system. The lights on the roof deck will be replaced with LED fixtures. These new fixtures will save the Port over \$20,000 annually in energy costs. Installation will start in October and continue through May of 2014. The installation will require the closure of half of a floor while the lights are being replaced.

#### Airport Futures Natural Resource Program

A requirement of the Government Island Grassland Mitigation Project is submittal of an annual progress report summarizing maintenance/management activities, describing how the site is meeting success measures and identifying any adaptations in approach and actions for the year ahead. Starting with the initial draft in January, the City and Port have had a number of meetings to address and clarify issues related to the plan. Changes to the grassland mitigation effort going forward include:

- Additional vegetation height monitoring
- Consultant support for bird monitoring
- Additional vegetation height target
- Clarification of non-native plant target

A copy of the annual report is available and will be summarized as part of the CAC Natural Resource Program update.

On Monday, August 19<sup>th</sup>, a fire started near a popular camping area on the north side of the island, a 90 acre mostly dry-moss and grass area visible from I-205, and burned south and east from there. To the south it was contained by denser vegetation and a slough and to the east it eventually stopped about 1,000ft shy of the docks. It did move into trees and to the south somewhat, but it did not burn any of the inland mitigation sites. Response was provided by the City of Portland, Port Fire Department, Vancouver, Gresham, Clark County and the Coast Guard. At peak it was estimated there were 100 fire fighters on the island.

The Port will be studying the impacted site to collect data on the effect of the fire that might be useful for future mitigation work on the island.

### Economy Parking Lot Obstruction Removal Project

Starting this fall, the Port will begin work to address penetration of Federal Aviation Administration regulated instrument approach airspace. A stand of black cottonwoods located in a City of Portland designated environmental zone within the economy parking lot is growing into this protected airspace. The heights of many of the trees in the stand exceed FAA criteria for obstructions to navigable airspace. This project was contemplated and discussed as part of the Airport Futures process.

In past years, the trees had been topped to address the conflict, but repeatedly topping trees has been found to degrade the trees, create nesting opportunities for wildlife species of concern, and make them hazardous to work around. To achieve a long-term solution, the Port will replace the cottonwoods with a native shrub-scrub and small tree association. These native plants will not grow to heights that encroach on the regulated airspace. Other tree and plant species that do not conflict with navigable airspace will remain on the site.

The Port worked with the City of Portland to acquire permits which were issued on September 5th. This project will be discussed in more detail at today's CAC meeting and we have included a fact sheet about the project in your packet. The following is the proposed project schedule:

Fall 2013 – Remove cottonwood trees  
Summer 2014 – Prep Site for Planting  
Fall 2014 - Seed Area  
Winter 2014/2015 – Plant Trees & Shrubs

### Rental Car Customer Facility Charge Ordinance

The Customer Facility Charge (CFC) is a fee established by the airport to be collected by a rental car company from all rental car customers, to be used to finance, design and construct rental car related projects. Consistent with current car rental leases, the Port plans to implement a CFC at PDX.

- Next Steps/Proposed Schedule
  1. Commission Meeting - Port Ordinance 1<sup>st</sup> Reading - October 2013
  2. Commission Meeting - Port Ordinance 2<sup>nd</sup> Reading – November 2013
  3. Implementation/Collection of Fee starts – January 1, 2014

## **OTHER**

### Noise Management Program

Presentations by hearing and sound experts were featured at the Sept. 12 Portland International Airport Citizen Noise Advisory Committee meeting. Committee member Tina Penman, an audiologist, spoke about human hearing and the health effects of noise. Committee member Kenya Williams, an acoustic ecologist and soundscape planner and designer, provided a presentation called, "The Community and Sound: An Introduction to Soundscape Awareness and Our Sonic Environment."

### PDX Art & Entertainment Program

As part of the PDX art program, regional artists create temporary site-specific work for two locations in the terminal, including the ticket lobby and Concourse A exhibits showcase for 12 to 18 months. These installations are designed to illustrate the dynamic culture of the Northwest and showcase a variety of work through ongoing relationships with regional artists and organizations.

Portland International Airport debuts Rebecca Shapiro's Untangled, a colorful light exhibit on Concourse E that shows through January 15, 2014.

A contemporary exhibit that captures the art of travel opens at Portland International Airport in the north ticket lobby through August 2014. Chuck Gumpert, a regional artist from Seattle creates this abstract acrylic and mixed media site-specific piece, Beyond Ordinary Experience, to welcome travelers and visitors to PDX. The canvas spans the length of 15 feet in the terminal and explores urban life and figures interacting within public spaces, much like an airport or places where large groups of urban pedestrians or travelers exist.