

Pete von Reichbauer Metropolitan King County Council

March 11, 2015

Hon. Dow Constantine King County Executive King County Chinook Building 401 5th Ave. Suite 800 Seattle, WA 98104

Dear Executive Constantine:

At yesterday's Government Accountability and Oversight Committee meeting, we heard significant negative public comment concerning proposed changes to leases and rental agreements at the King County International Airport. We also received a briefing from executive staff on the rationale for the changes, along with the acknowledgement that King County Code currently restricts how these changes can be implemented. It is our understanding that the Airport Roundtable raised many of these concerns as well.

As a consequence, we are requesting that the Department of Transportation postpone the implementation of any changes to the King County International Airport's leases or monthly rental agreements for a minimum of 120 days in order that you convene a work group to review the proposed changes. We request that you include in the work group, representatives of the Department of Transportation, the Facilities Management Division, the Prosecuting Attorney's Office, the Chair and Vice Chair of the King County International Airport Roundtable or other Roundtable Designees, two tenant representatives selected by the tenants (to include a small hangar tenant) and Council staff. We ask that the workgroup review the proposed lease changes with the goal of making recommendations to the Council for legislative modifications to County Code that address both the needs of the airport and the airport's tenants. In addition, the work group should review the appraisal reconciliation and rate determination process.

We are greatly appreciative of the work that Harold Taniguchi and the rest of the airport staff have done on this issue. We have had the pleasure of working with Mr. Taniguchi on a variety of airport issues in the past and know that we will be able to work together to resolve the issues that were raised at the meeting today. Additionally, we know that you, like us, wish to ensure that the King County Airport remains a valued and vibrant asset for the county, while also creating a predictable and stable place for those who are located at the airport. We believe this postponement will allow for a positive result for the county and for those who use the airport.

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Sincerely,

Hon. Pete von Reichbauer, Chair

Hali Le Hon. Rod Dembowski, Vice Chair

Hon. Reagan Dunn

Hon. Jane Hague

Cc:

Harold Taniguchi, Director, Department of Transportation Robert Burke, Airport Division Director, King County International Airport Anthony Wright, Interim Director, Facilities Management Division, Department of **Executive Services**