

The Museum of Flight expects there will be strong competition for the space shuttles. About 20 museums and other institutions expressed an interest in the space shuttles. Subsequent media reports say the Museum of Flight is one of six finalists.

Chairman of the Museum's board of trustees, Kevin Callagan has stated that "Obtaining one of the retired shuttles for the state of Washington and building a world-class space gallery is a top priority for the Museum and time is running short. We are in a good position to be successful, but we need a strong push to the finish, and Bonnie is the person to lead this effort."

The state's capital budget included \$3 million for a space gallery to house the space shuttle and other space-exploration artifacts. State funding and other private funds already total approximately \$8 million.

While fundraising is proceeding, the design for the gallery is also progressing. Architectural work on the building has already begun, and construction might begin this fall. It has to be completed by July 2011 to qualify for a shuttle. The building and gallery will have to be large. The spacecraft is about the size of a 727 but with a large tail -- nearly 56 feet tall.

The Museum of Flight has received letters of endorsement from Gov. Chris Gregoire, all the members of the Washington congressional delegation and several educational institutions to help it get a shuttle.

The Museum of Flight is an important attraction for guests and visitors to the State of Washington. More than fifty million tourist trips help sustain Washington's economy, and the travel industry is the fourth largest business sector in the state. It is estimated that travel spending in Washington directly supports about 145,000 jobs with wages totaling nearly \$3.9 billion.

While the Dr. Dunbar is fundraising for the museum, it is anticipated that she will do other work for the museum, including taking part in regional educational task forces, supporting the Aviation High School and promoting the Museum's numerous science, technology, engineering and mathematics oriented K-12 education programs.

Board Chairman Callaghan has credited Dunbar in her five years as CEO as "leading the museum through difficult financial times and putting it in "a sound financial condition." Before coming to the museum, Dunbar worked for Boeing and Rockwell International. She also was with NASA for 27 years. Dunbar flew on five shuttle - - missions.

BACKGROUND:

Mission

The Museum of Flight's fundamental goals are: to acquire and preserve a wide array of materials and artifacts relating to aviation and space history and to provide a center for the scholarly research of these materials and artifacts. The Museum holds one of the largest and most comprehensive air and space collections in the United States, containing millions of rare photographs and negatives, a world-class library, tens of thousands of artifacts, and over 150 rare aircraft and space vehicles.

The Museum exists to serve the public and much of the Museum's information, resources, and materials are available to anyone who is interested—including visitors, researchers, scholars, historians, Museum program participants and teachers.

Statement of Purpose

The objectives of The Museum of Flight's mission are:

- To acquire and conserve a valuable collection of artifacts relating to air and space history and technology. Artifacts are acquired by way of an adopted policy that establishes priorities, restricts collecting to specific museum needs, and stresses non-conditional gifts. Artifacts are authentically restored to high museum standards and carefully conserved, whether stored or exhibited, to assure perpetuation. The Museum of Flight Foundation's original objective to preserve Pacific Northwest aviation artifacts and documents has naturally expanded to include aerospace artifacts of great national and international importance.
- To exhibit artifacts in an educational and entertaining manner, which motivates the young, educates the novice, and stimulates the professional. Exhibits are artifact-based for credibility, professionally researched and designed according to a carefully thought-out comprehensive storyline, based on the central theme of "mankind's dream of flying." This theme centers on the evolution of air and space technology and its impact on our world, augmented by highlights of the Pacific Northwest region's contribution. Exhibits communicate the rich story of flight in several levels of detail to satisfy the varying interests of the general public, as well as the scholar.
- To educate the public in the history of air and space development, science, and the humanities. A comprehensive educational program includes tours, classroom curricula, a variety of aviation special events, lectures, and publications, including in-house newsletters, books, and journals. The central focus of the Museum's educational programs is to broaden science literacy within an historical context, relating the evolution of technology to the human needs that drive it, and the resulting changes that technology brings to humanity. As a resource to the public schools, youth programs are designed to complement established schoolroom curricula, presenting factual, yet exciting, interactive examples of the benefits of a science and math education. The educational effort is not limited to the school years, but extended to a wide range of audiences by age, background, and interest, from continuing education events to technical-presentations and symposia.
- To provide a center for scholarly research in aeronautical and astronautical history and technology. The extensive collection of historic photographs, books, and precious papers is used by scholars for research. In addition, both pure and applied research in aeronautics and astronautics are accomplished by the Museum's association with related air and space organizations.

History

In 1964 a small group of aviation enthusiasts realized that important artifacts representing the evolution of flight were being lost or destroyed at an incredible rate. To aid in the preservation of these artifacts, the Pacific Northwest Aviation Historical Foundation was established with the twin goals of saving significant aircraft and related artifacts and educating the public in terms of their importance.

It soon became clear that a place to store and exhibit these artifacts was needed, and in 1965 the first official Museum of Flight exhibits were put on display in a 10,000 square foot space at the Seattle Center, location of the 1962 World's Fair.

The concept for the Museum complex began to jell in 1975 when the Port of Seattle leased the land on which the Red Barn® now sits to the Museum for 99 years. The Red Barn®, the birthplace of The Boeing Company, was saved from demolition on its original location on the Duwamish River, and floated by river barge to its current location. It was restored in 1983 and became the first permanent location for the Museum. The Red Barn was eventually joined by the Great Gallery in 1987, the Library and Archives Building in 2002 and the J. Elroy McCaw Personal Courage Wing and Airpark in 2004.

ATTACHMENTS:

1. Proposed Motion 2010-0299



KING COUNTY

Signature Report

1200 King County Courthouse
516 Third Avenue
Seattle, WA 98104

May 6, 2010

Motion

Proposed No. 2010-0299.1

Sponsors von Reichbauer

1 A MOTION requesting the United States Congress to
2 allocate one of three space shuttles the National
3 Aeronautics and Space Administration is taking out of
4 service next year to the Museum of Flight.

5 WHEREAS, the Museum of Flight has been a significant national resource for
6 historic preservation of aviation since 1964, when the Pacific Northwest Aviation
7 Historical Foundation was established with the twin goals of saving significant aircraft
8 and related artifacts and educating the public in terms of their importance, and

9 WHEREAS, the museum today holds one of the largest and most comprehensive
10 air and space collections in the United States, containing millions of rare photographs and
11 negatives, a world-class library, tens of thousands of artifacts and over one hundred fifty
12 rare aircraft and space vehicles, and

13 WHEREAS, the Red Barn®, the birthplace of the Boeing Company, was saved
14 from demolition on its original location on the Duwamish biver, and floated by river
15 barge to its current location at the Museum of Flight. The Red Barn® was restored in
16 1983 and became the first permanent location for the Museum of Flight, joined by the
17 Great Gallery in 1987, the Library and Archives Building in 2002 and the J. Elroy
18 McCaw Personal Courage Wing and Airpark in 2004, and

19 WHEREAS, the Museum of Flight's fundamental goals are to acquire and
20 preserve a wide array of materials and artifacts relating to aviation and space history and
21 to provide a center for the scholarly research of these materials and artifacts, and

22 WHEREAS, exhibits are artifact-based for credibility, professionally researched
23 and designed according to a carefully thought-out comprehensive storyline, based on the
24 central theme of "mankind's dream of flying" and the Pacific Northwest region's critical
25 contributions to commercial aviation, jet flight and manned space flight, and

26 WHEREAS, the Museum of Flight serves as a resource to the public schools, with
27 ongoing youth programs designed to complement established schoolroom curricula,
28 foster interest in math and science, through factual and interactive exhibits, education
29 events and symposia; and

30 WHEREAS, the museum's extensive collection of historic photographs, books
31 and precious papers are used by scholars for historic and scientific research in
32 aeronautical technology, and

33 WHEREAS, both the governor and Legislature of Washington state have included
34 three million dollars in the state's capital budget for development of a space gallery to
35 house the space shuttle and other space-exploration artifacts, and

36 WHEREAS, the space gallery would be built across the street from the current
37 museum, and almost eight million of the twelve million dollars needed to complete the
38 project has already been raised, and architectural work on the building has begun to meet
39 the required completion date to qualify for a shuttle of July 2011, and

40 WHEREAS, the Museum of Flight is an important attraction for guests to
41 Washington state. More than fifty million tourist trips help sustain Washington's

42 economy, and the travel industry is the fourth largest business sector in the state. Travel
43 spending in Washington state directly supports about one hundred forty-four thousand
44 one hundred jobs with wages of three billion nine hundred million dollars annually, and

45 WHEREAS, the Museum of Flight has received letters of endorsement from
46 Governor Chris Gregoire, all the members of the Washington congressional delegation
47 and many educational institutions in support of the allocation of a space shuttle;

48 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT MOVED by the Council of King County:

49 The King County council respectfully represents and petitions to the Honorable
50 Barack Obama, President of the United States, and to the President of the Senate and the
51 Speaker of the House of Representatives, and the Senate and House of Representatives of

Motion

52 the United States in Congress assembled, that Congress allocate one of the three space
53 shuttles soon to be decommissioned for permanent display at the Museum of Flight.
54

KING COUNTY COUNCIL
KING COUNTY, WASHINGTON

Robert W. Ferguson, Chair

ATTEST:

Anne Noris, Clerk of the Council

APPROVED this ____ day of _____, _____.

Dow Constantine, County Executive

Attachments: None