

WSDOT Aviation Division: Aviation Legislative and Program Initiatives

“WPPA Roundtable Discussion”

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Presentation Agenda

- 2014 aviation-related legislative budget requests
 - Airport Aid Grant Funding
 - Aviation Emergency Services
- Other aviation-related legislative items
 - Senate Bill 5430, Aircraft Excise Tax
 - General Aviation (GA) Caucus & GA Coalition
- 2014 WSDOT Aviation priorities & initiatives
 - Airport Investment Study
 - FAA-funded “Aviation System Plan”



2014 Legislative Budget Requests

Airport Aid Grant Funding

- 2012 Grant Program:
 - \$4M in project funding requested
 - \$1M available for grants
- 2013 Legislative Session
 - Additional \$1.5M requested to augment \$2M biennial authorization
 - Legislature approved the request

RESULT = \$3.5M available for Airport Aid Grants ('13-15)

- 2014 Legislative Session
 - Additional \$565,000 requested to augment \$3.5M biennial authorization

IF APPROVED = \$4M available for Airport Aid Grants ('13-15)

- Short-term fix to a long term challenge



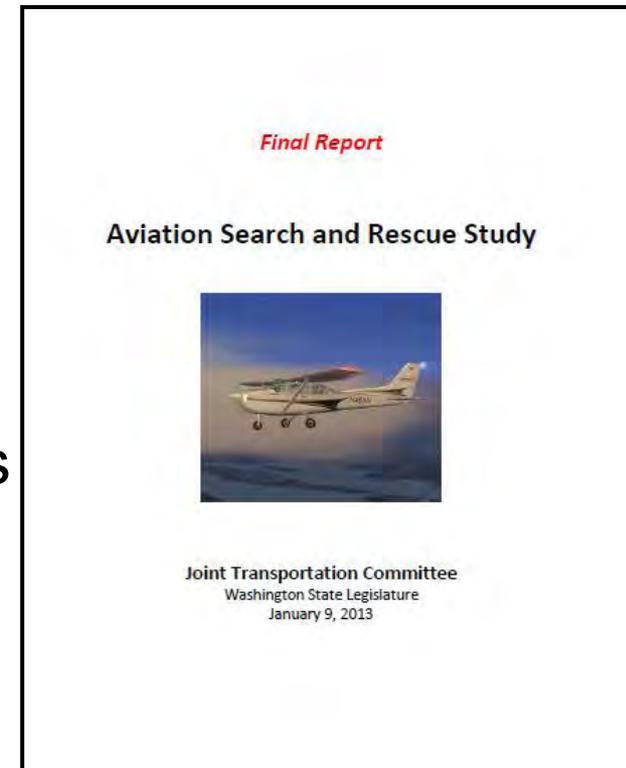
2014 Legislative Budget Requests

Aviation Emergency Services

- **The Stimulus**: The 2013 Joint Transportation Committee (JTC) study that evaluated WSDOT's Aviation Search and Rescue (SAR) Program.



- **WSDOT Response**: Submit a funding request for \$254K (FY15) that:
 - 1) Addresses the recommendations of the JTC study *and*
 - 2) Improves the program.





JTC Aviation SAR Study

Summary of Recommendations

- ASAR should remain in WSDOT, where it functions well.
- WSDOT could improve the program by additional cross-training of staff to lead air searches, and by making the program more transparent to its volunteer community.
- WSDOT and CAP should coordinate their training and make an effort to conduct training in Eastern Washington.
- All general aviation agencies and organizations can contribute to general aviation safety by encouraging pilots to file flight plans and use emergency locator beacons.



2007 Chehalis Flood Waters Over I-5

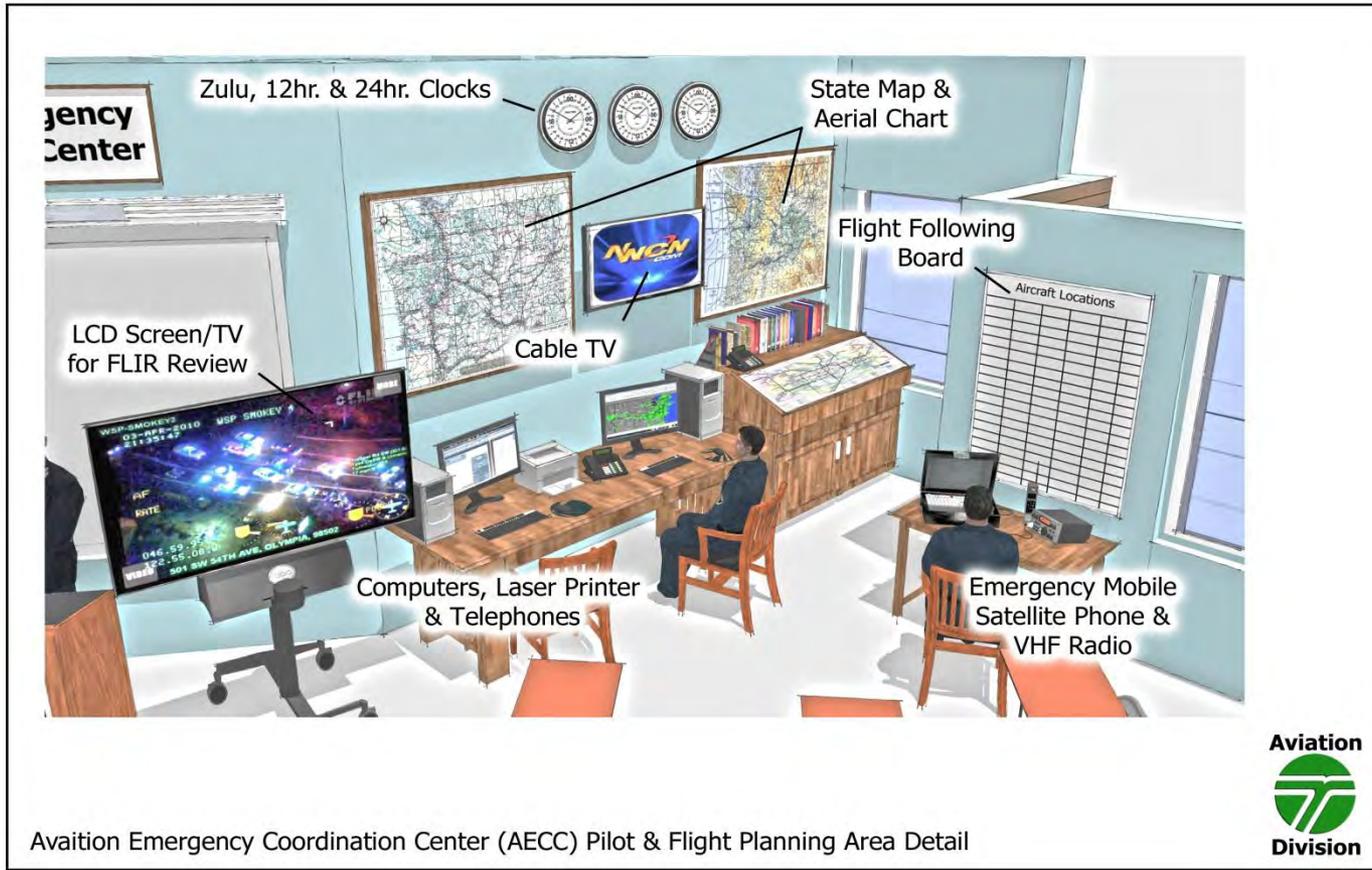
Overview of Aviation Emergency Services DP

Funding is requested to address the JTC recommendations and enhance WSDOT's Aviation Emergency Services Program:

- **One additional FTE-** \$124,600 (*FY15*)
- **Fiber optics upgrade for the WSDOT Aviation Emergency Coordination Center (AECC)-** \$60,000
- **Additional Aviation SAR and natural-disaster response training and exercises-** \$18,000
- **Additional flight hours for WSDOT aircraft to support increased training and exercise requirements-** \$30,280
- **Reimburse SAR-related flight hours for state agencies with FLIR-equipped aircraft-** \$21,120

Aviation Emergency Services DP Request

- Fiber optics upgrade for the WSDOT Aviation Emergency Coordination Center (AECC)





Senate Bill 5430- Aircraft Excise Tax

- Senate Bill 5430: Aircraft excise tax revenue to the Aeronautics Account
- An initiative led by Washington Airport Management Association (WAMA) and sponsored by Senator Steve Hobbs in the 2013 legislative session.
- Status: Carryover (can be taken up again in 2014)



**Bottom-line
Increases funding
for airports...
without increasing
ANY taxes or fees.**





SB 5430- Distribution of Aircraft Excise Taxes

“Good for our airports and preserves the state’s General Fund”

Aircraft Excise Tax: How it works



Registration + Excise Tax

\$15 + **\$20**



\$15 + **\$50**



\$15 + **\$65**

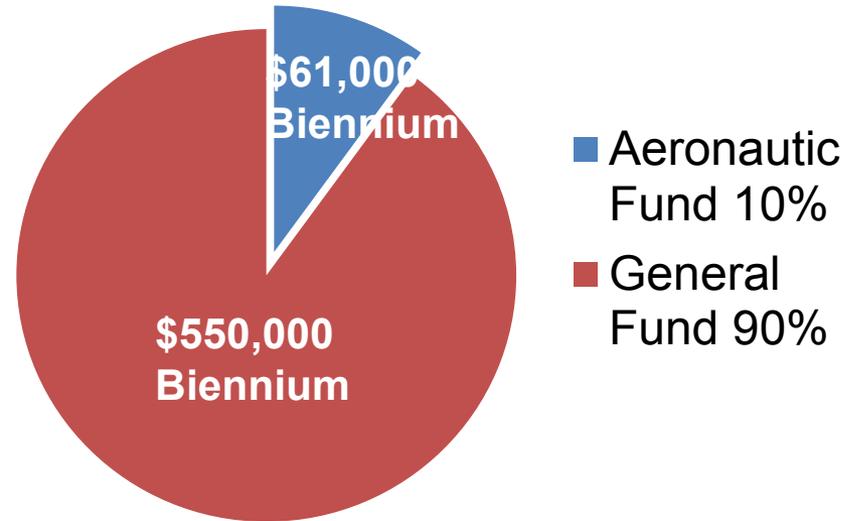


\$15 + **\$100**



\$15 + **\$125**

Aircraft Excise Tax



SB 5430 would change the current distribution of aircraft excise tax revenue to the state Aeronautics Account from 10% to 100%; **adds \$550,000 biennially... without increasing this tax.**



SB 5430- Distribution of Aircraft Excise Taxes

“Good for our airports and preserves the state’s General Fund”

What it does: Changes the distribution of aircraft excise tax revenue allocated to the Aeronautics Account from **10%** to **100%**.

Impacts of the Bill— All Positive



Washington Airport Management Association

- Creates **48 jobs**.
- Leverages **\$6.5 million** in Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) grant funding.
- Results in **\$7.4 million** for much-needed airport preservation and safety projects (when combined with local matching and federal grant dollars).
- Returns **\$517,000** in revenue to the state’s General Fund (sales and B&O taxes).
- Results in additional indirect revenue to the state’s General Fund.
- **No significant impact to the General Fund**; potentially has a positive revenue impact.

General Aviation (GA) Caucus & GA Coalition

General Aviation (GA) Legislative Caucus

- Effort led by Senator Honeyford
- Supported by AOPA, NBAA, WPA and other aviation organizations.
- Successfully formed in other states— Texas, New York, Arkansas, and Massachusetts

General Aviation Caucus meets at Texas Statehouse

February 3, 2013 by Janice Wood • [Leave a Comment](#)

AUSTIN, Texas – The Texas General Aviation Caucus met for the first time last week.

General Aviation (GA) Coalition

- Effort led by WAMA, WPA, WSCAA
- Supported by AOPA and other aviation organizations
- WSDOT Aviation's role: provide technical assistance and support

2014 WSDOT Aviation Priorities & Initiatives

WSDOT Aviation Division: Airport Investments

"Update on the Airport Investment Study"



Tristan Atkins
Director of Aviation

Rob Hodgman
Senior Aviation Planner
WSDOT Project Manager

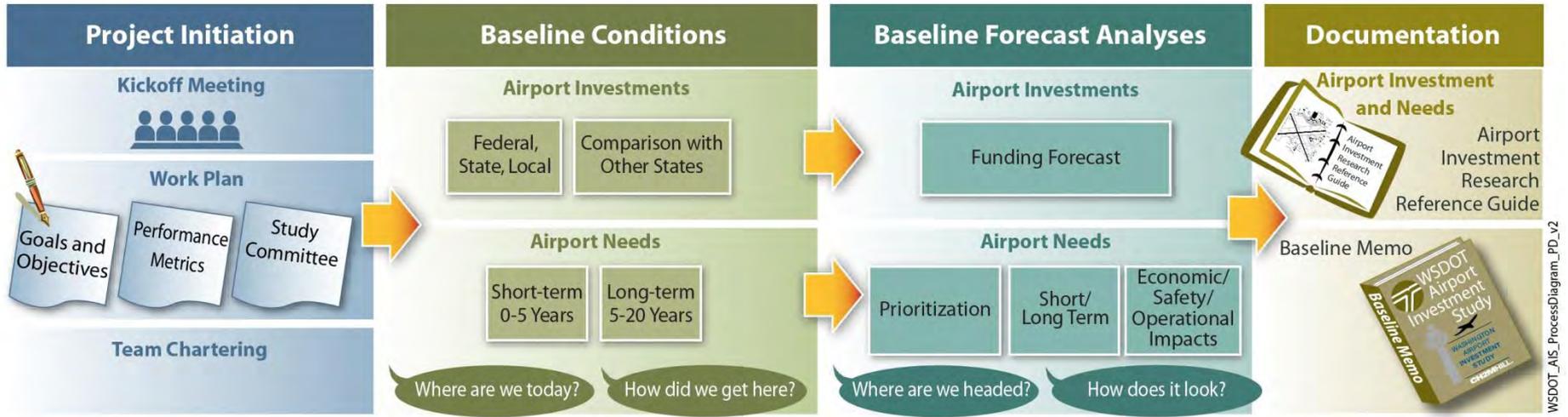
Mark Brower
CH2M HILL Project Manager



Washington Aviation System Plan



Airport Investment Study - Process



LEGEND:
 Study Committee Coordination



- **The study will:**
 - ▶ Evaluate current funding levels for airport preservation and safety projects.
 - ▶ Assess short-term and long-term airport improvement needs.
 - ▶ Determine consequences of doing nothing in terms of economic and aviation system impacts



Airport Investment Study - Outreach

Advisory Committee Membership

- Airport Associations and Operators
- Aerospace Manufacturing
- Air Carriers
- Business Aviation
- Emergency Medical Air Transport
- Aerial Agricultural Industries
- General Aviation
- Business
- Local & State Government



How to sign-up for the Interested Party List:

Email Nisha Marvel at MarvelN@wsdot.wa.gov



Aviation System Plan Update - Overview

- The purpose of aviation system planning is to study the performance and interaction of an entire aviation system to understand the interrelationship of the member airports.
- The airport system planning process should be consistent with state or regional goals for transportation, land use, and the environment.
- The planning process includes:
 - Exploration of issues that impact aviation in the study area
 - Inventory of the current system
 - Identification of air transportation needs
 - Forecast of system demand
 - Consideration of alternative airport systems
 - Definition of airport roles and policy strategies
 - Identification of system changes, funding strategies, and airport development
 - Preparation of an implementation plan



WSDOT Aviation System Plan – Focus Areas

- Regional and Local Airport Issues
- Effects on Airport Services identified in the Airport Investment Study
- System Goals and Performance Measures
- Activity Forecasts
- Emerging Technologies
- Inter-modal Integration and Airport Access
- Public Consultation
- Development Priorities and Justification
- Policy and Investigation Recommendations





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