



WSDOT Aviation Monthly Report April 2007

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Long-Term Air Transportation Study Regional Workshops Help Define Statewide Aviation Needs

The Washington State Department of Transportation (WSDOT) Aviation invites the public to attend two regional workshops that will present preliminary findings of the Long-Term Air Transportation Study (LATS) Phase II, and solicit feedback on our statewide airport system needs. The workshops will be held:

Tuesday, May 1, 2007

2:00 p.m. – 3:30 p.m.

South View Lounge

The Museum of Flight ([Directions to The Museum of Flight](#))

Wednesday, May 2, 2007

10:30 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

Golden Delicious Room

Wenatchee Convention Center ([Directions to the Wenatchee Convention Center](#))

Required by the state Legislature, LATS is a three phase study that will result in a long-term plan to help guide decision-makers in future investment choices related to Washington's diverse airport system. Phase I wrapped up in September 2006, and Phase II is currently underway. After Phase II is completed in July 2007, an aviation planning council will be appointed by the Governor to develop recommendations and investment priorities that will meet Washington's long term aviation needs.

“This is the first comprehensive study in over 20 years to help Washington's airport system determine what we have, what we need, and how we will meet the need. In conducting this airport assessment, we must consider the aviation needs of diverse

communities, who rely on aviation in very different ways,” said Aviation Director John Sibold.

He added, “LATS will create a long term strategic plan for meeting Washington’s critical aviation investment needs by integrating objective, technical analysis with the input of various users who rely on Washington’s airport system.”

The LATS regional workshops will offer the public an opportunity to learn more about the study through a review of Phase I data, an overview of the Phase II forecast findings and a discussion about state system needs.

To ensure a place at one of WSDOT's upcoming LATS regional workshops, please contact Nisha Marvel at marveln@wsdot.wa.gov . Reservations are not required, but are appreciated as refreshments will be served.

More information about LATS is available at: www.wsdot.wa.gov/aviation/LATS.htm.

WSDOT Aviation Survey Solicits Feedback on State Aviation Needs

[Complete the LATS Phase II Survey](#)

Washington State Department of Transportation (WSDOT) Aviation wants your feedback on long-term state aviation needs, as addressed in Phase II of the Long-Term Air Transportation Study (LATS). Tell us what you think about aviation capacity, future demand and investment priorities by completing our brief online survey at: <http://67.50.150.182/Infopoll/surveys/s96.htm> .

The survey will be available online until May 1, 2007.

Currently underway, Phase II of LATS includes long-range general aviation and commercial airport activity forecasts, an air cargo assessment, a market analysis, and a high-speed passenger rail evaluation. Phase II findings will be released July 1, 2007. At that time the findings of both Phases I and II will be presented to an aviation planning council appointed by the Governor, to help identify which airports will meet, exceed or fall short of adequately serving the anticipated future demand.

Opportunities to learn more about the Phase II findings will occur during the LATS Regional Workshops on May 1 in Seattle and May 2 in Wenatchee. Learn more about the workshops at: www.wsdot.wa.gov/aviation/LATSRegionalMeetingsPhaseII.htm .

More information about LATS is available at: www.wsdot.wa.gov/aviation/LATS.htm , or by contacting Nisha Marvel at marveln@wsdot.wa.gov or 360-651-6310.

Now Available: Long-Term Air Transportation Study Phase II Newsletter

The Washington State Department of Transportation (WSDOT) Aviation is pleased to release the second edition of the Long-Term Air Transportation Study (LATS) Newsletter.

[Read the LATS Phase II Newsletter](#) (pdf 2 mb)

In this edition, you will find a study overview, letter from the Aviation Director and summaries of Phase II results regarding commercial and general aviation, air cargo and high speed passenger rail.

WSDOT Aviation also reminds you to provide your input on the study at the upcoming LATS Phase II regional meetings on May 1 in Seattle and May 2 in Wenatchee. More information about the meetings is available at:

www.wsdot.wa.gov/aviation/LATSRegionalMeetingsPhaseII.htm

You can also give feedback on statewide aviation needs by completing the LATS online survey at: <http://67.50.150.182/Infopoll/surveys/s96.htm> . The survey will be available online until May 1, 2007.

Phase II of LATS will wrap up in July 2007. For more information about LATS, contact Nisha Marvel, WSDOT Aviation Communications, at 360-651-6310 or visit the LATS Web site at: www.wsdot.wa.gov/aviation/LATS.htm .

FAA Forecasts Steady Growth in Air Travel Demand

The number of passengers carried by United States commercial air carriers is on track to hit the one billion mark by 2015, according to the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) report. Certain key hubs, such as Washington Dulles (68 percent), New York Kennedy (59 percent), Los Angeles International (54 percent), and Atlanta Hartsfield (38 percent), will see significant growth in the number of take-offs and landings, risking major passenger delays if we fail to upgrade the nation's air traffic control system. Delays last year reached an all time high and now cost the nation's economy over \$10 billion annually. The *FAA Aerospace Forecast Fiscal Years 2007-2020* predicts 768 million passengers to be flying this fiscal year, more than one billion passengers by 2015, and 1.2 billion by 2020. The forecast also expects 62.5 million take-offs and landings at the nation's towered airports this fiscal year. By 2020, that number is expected to reach 81.1 million operations, growing by an average of 1.4 million per year during the forecast period. In addition, general aviation, or private flying hours are expected to increase by 59 percent by 2020.