



WSDOT Aviation Monthly Report March 2007

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WSDOT Introduces New Web Camera at The Dalles

Washington State Department of Transportation (WSDOT) Aviation is pleased to unveil its newest airport Web camera at The Dalles Municipal airport:
www.wsdot.wa.gov/aviation/WebCam/Dalles.htm .

The Dalles camera joins eight others on WSDOT Aviation's site, providing pilots with real-time information on weather and conditions at Washington airports. WSDOT worked with Aeronautical Management Incorporated on The Dalles camera to install technology that provides users with clearer images and ensures less risk for outages due to weather or technical malfunctions.

The new camera is also strategically located, as the Columbia River Gorge is a frequently traveled route for pilots flying under visual flight rules. WSDOT co-located the camera with an existing onsite Automated Surface Observing System (ASOS), which will allow pilots to access updated weather images, as well as current and past weather data. The airport camera pages continue to be the most visited on WSDOT Aviation's Web site. WSDOT intends to expand its Airport Web Camera program to other strategic aviation facilities throughout the state.

For more information contact Airport Construction Project Manager, Jeff Kvamme, at (360) 651-6304 or email kvammej@wsdot.wa.gov .

View all of WSDOT's airport Web cameras at:
www.wsdot.wa.gov/aviation/WebCam/default.htm .

WSDOT Accepting Applications for New Round of Local Airport Aid Grants

Washington State Department of Transportation (WSDOT) Aviation is now accepting applications from airport sponsors for a new round of Local Airport Aid grants. This will be WSDOT's first round of airport grants offered during the 2007-2009 biennium.

Airport sponsors must submit applications no later than June 15, 2007.

Each year, WSDOT provides crucial financial assistance to many of the state's 139 public airports through its Local Airport Aid Grant Program. WSDOT accepts applications from any municipality or federally recognized tribe that owns an open, public use airport in Washington State. The maximum amount WSDOT can award to an airport sponsor for a single grant is \$250,000.

While the exact budget for this round has yet to be appropriated, WSDOT anticipates that approximately \$1 million will be available for eligible airport projects. Since WSDOT places a high priority on pavement maintenance, it targets 65 to 75 percent of grant funds toward pavement projects.

Pending the Governor's approval for the 2007-2009 budget, WSDOT anticipates announcing the grant awards no later than July 6, 2007.

To apply, airport sponsors can use the new and improved [online grant application form](#), which allows applicants to fill in their information electronically. Since a signature is required, sponsors will still have to print, sign and mail the form with supporting documentation. WSDOT will also continue to accept handwritten applications.

In order to expedite the process, WSDOT requests that sponsors include the following with their application:

- Statement of support from appropriate elected official
- Adopted resolution stating matching funds are available and authorized
- Preliminary plans and specifications
- Project schedule
- Property appraisals (land acquisition)
- Detailed estimated costs and spending schedule
- Consultant selection process documentation (for engineering and planning projects)

WSDOT also reminds airport sponsors with existing open grants that the close-out deadline is June 29, 2007. Sponsors should be making significant progress on their projects to meet this deadline.

Airports are encouraged to contact their designated WSDOT Airport Construction Project Manager, [Eric Johnson](#) at (360) 651-6303 or [Jeff Kvamme](#) at (360) 651-6304 to discuss proposed projects and receive assistance with applications. Find your designated airport contact at: www.wsdot.wa.gov/aviation/NeedGrantAssistance.htm.

More information on the Local Airport Aid Grant Program is available at:
www.wsdot.wa.gov/aviation/grants/default.htm .

WSDOT and Pierce County Conduct Workshop on Shady Acres Airport

WSDOT planners met with Pierce County planners and council staff in March to discuss airport land use compatibility for Shady Acres Airport. Shady Acres is a privately-owned, public use airport located near Frederickson. The county is working to adopt policies and regulations to protect the airport from incompatible development at the request of airport owners and the county council. WSDOT Aviation is providing technical assistance. Participants in the Wednesday workshop evaluated existing land uses and zoning surrounding Shady Acres, and identified areas that may already be compatible and those that may need additional protection. WSDOT emphasized the importance of doing thorough research to help the county “show their work” and be able to defend their final decisions. Council action on compatibility policies and regulations for Shady Acres is expected later this year.

Anacortes Port Commission Has Questions about Land Use Program

At the invitation of Port of Anacortes, WSDOT staff Kerri Woehler and Eric Johnson attended a commission meeting on Thursday to provide information about the airport land use compatibility program. The City of Anacortes is beginning work on an update to its comprehensive plan, and issues related to the airport are of particular interest. Woehler and Johnson answered questions about WSDOT Aviation’s role in planning for airport land use compatibility, and helped clarify some of the issues related to the program’s technical materials. WSDOT has been providing technical assistance to the city and port for several years; most recently, Aviation staff hosted a workshop for the port’s land use planning committee.