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Aviation Economic Impact Analysis Supported by FAA

The Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) has notified WSDOT Aviation that \$320,000 in federal funding is available to the state to conduct a statewide aviation economic impact analysis. If funded, the project would look at all public use airports within the state and analyze and measure direct and indirect aviation activities and services of the air transportation industry. The last economic impact analysis was completed in 2002. The study conducted by Bucher Willis and Ratliff Corporation found that all airports in the system generated 171,311 jobs, over \$4 billion in wages and exceeded \$18.5 billion in annual sales output. The study also found that airports were one of the greatest assets a community could have, supporting commerce, emergency management services, medical services and access. According to the FAA the AIP grant application should be completed by January 15, 2009. The minimum state contribution required for the project is about 5 percent of the total grant amount.

FAA Breaks Ground for New Air Traffic Control System Command Center

Management of the nation's air traffic control system will move to a permanent home in a state-of-the-art facility near Warrington, VA in 2011, when a new FAA Air Traffic Control System Command Center is completed. The existing command center near Washington Dulles International Airport will close when its lease expires in 2011. Acting FAA Administrator **Robert A. Sturgell** said the 63,000-square-foot building that will house the FAA's new command center will share its site with the FAA's Potomac TRACON, a consolidated approach and departure control facility serving Washington, Baltimore and Richmond-area airports. The command center will continue to oversee the nation's entire air traffic control system, including air traffic control towers, approach and departure facilities and high-altitude control centers. The facility also will monitor all

electronic navigation aids. The center's staff does not directly control traffic, but monitors and coordinates with other air traffic facilities and system users, including the airlines, military and business aviation groups. The center's main mission is management of the entire airspace system to balance demand with capacity, and to deal with weather and other potential disruptions to air traffic.

Skykomish Airport Camera

The Skykomish State Airport received a new Pan Tilt Zoom Camera this week. Power is currently connected and internet services will be in place on the afternoon of Monday, December 22nd. Programming by WSDOT IT and Web page setup will be completed the following week, with the goal of being operational by the end of 2008. The camera will provide real time weather images of the Skykomish State Airport every 15 minutes. North, South, West and East views will be displayed.



Commercial Air Service will not Adversely Affect Boeing Operations at Paine Field

In a recent letter to the Snohomish County Executive, Boeing went on record that Boeing flight operations only reflect one percent of the total at Paine Field. The purpose of the letter was to refute any assumptions being made in the local press. Boeing has not taken a position on commercial air service and believes it is an issue to be solved by the community. However, Boeing cautioned that continued federal funding of airport improvements is critical to its future operations and should not be placed at risk.