

September 27, 2020
NW20-027

TO: Northwest Council
FROM: Northwest Council's Legislative & Public Affairs Committee

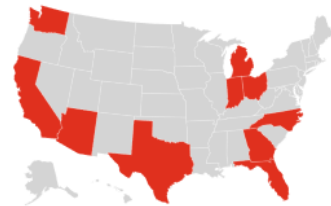
SUBJECT: **PRE-SUBMITTED NEW BUSINESS:** Position on Robust Transportation

Background

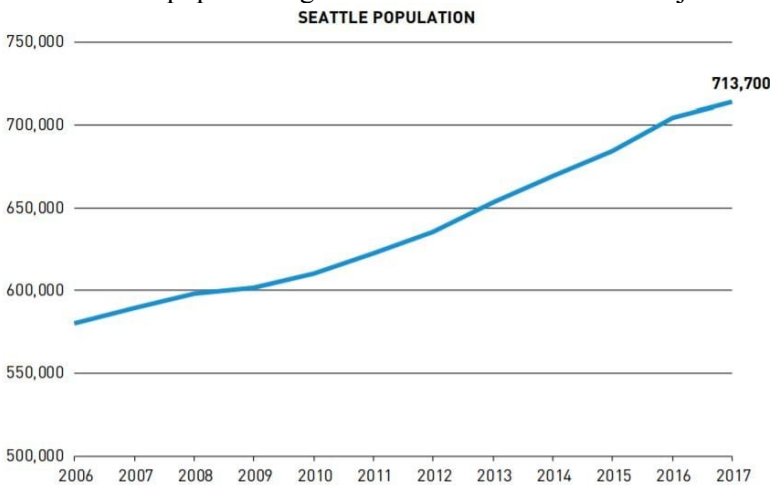
In the annual Aerospace Attractiveness, Washington State (Puget Sound) has slid from first place to third place. A few years ago, Boeing attributed the Puget Sound traffic and high taxes as a deterrent to conducting business in Washington State. To remain in the Puget Sound area, Boeing transports parts from Fredrickson to Everett moving wings and engines.

Top 10 state rankings for aerospace attractiveness

State	Final rank	Cost	Labor	Infrastructure	Industry	Economy	Tax policy
Georgia	1	10	12	1	5	10	4
Ohio	2	30	15	6	4	4	1
Washington	3	33	3	17	1	3	13
Texas	4	37	8	20	2	1	25
North Carolina	5	19	21	12	7	7	2
Indiana	6	22	33	3	10	14	3
Arizona	7	15	17	15	6	19	8
Michigan	8	27	9	28	14	12	7
Florida	9	39	23	2	8	6	18
California	10	47	6	22	3	2	43



In 2019, TomTom ranked Seattle traffic as the fifth worst in the United States. TomTom reported that Seattle drivers spend an extra 16-20 minutes per 30 minute trip. The traffic is compounded by the 1.8 percent annual population growth with more residents and jobs moving to the area.



Prior to council action (voting) to determine a legislative or public affairs position, the Northwest Council's Legislative & Public Affairs Committee shall investigate and produce both pro and con statements and a majority committee recommendation.

Passage or adoption of any legislative or public issues proposal shall be by published ballot and require: Total affirmative vote must be a majority of all Council Representatives including those not present excluding Council Representatives working in excess of 50 statute air miles from the meeting and are unable to attend.

The state of Washington secured the third position in our rankings, primarily due to its strong industry presence, educated labor force and strong economy. Washington, home to aviation giant Boeing, persists as a year-in, year-out top performer. The state has developed, over decades, a deep and wide A&D ecosystem that goes well beyond Boeing, with some 1,400 aerospace and related companies. Washington is the country's longstanding A&D hub, with some 100,000 workers manufacturing about 1,400 aircraft and unmanned aerial systems a year some nine out of 10 commercial aircraft in the country.

A host of other aviation industries in the area serve to design and or manufacture components and tooling that are used in final production provide local support unsurpassed in the rest of the country.

Washington's aerospace industry needs continuing and new investments in Washington's transportation systems to keep our region globally competitive. The 2019 ACES ranked Washington's road condition as 40th out of 50 states. Without continued investments, the state's poor road conditions could bring down our regions' aerospace competitiveness ranking.

Pro: Retaining Aerospace Jobs in Puget Sound
Con: Requires an investment in Transportation

Motion

It is moved that: **THE NORTHWEST COUNCIL SUPPORTS STATE INVESTMENT IN A ROBUST MULTIMODAL TRANSPORTATION NETWORK ESPECIALLY IN THE PUGET SOUND REGION TO SUPPORT AVIATION MANUFACTURING**

Prior to council action (voting) to determine a legislative or public affairs position, the Northwest Council's Legislative & Public Affairs Committee shall investigate and produce both pro and con statements and a majority committee recommendation.

Passage or adoption of any legislative or public issues proposal shall be by published ballot and require: Total affirmative vote must be a majority of all Council Representatives including those not present excluding Council Representatives working in excess of 50 statute air miles from the meeting and are unable to attend.