

MINUTES – ENVIRONMENT COUNCIL COMMITTEE MEETING 10.10.2024

The meeting was called to order at 5:00 PM, Thursday, October 10, 2024 in the Council Chamber with the following in attendance:

Council Members

J.C. Harris (Chair)
Yoshiko Grace Matsui (Vice Chair)
Gene Achziger

City Staff

Tyler Beekley – Surface Water/Environmental Engineering
Manager
Matthew Hutchins – Assistant City Attorney
Sara Lee – Deputy City Clerk

Guests – Joe Dusenbury, Brian Davis, Bill Lindscott , Burien Councilmember Sarah Moore

AGENDA

1. A discussion of the StART Committee’s upcoming shared state policy agenda with the Port of Seattle
2. A discussion of the SAMP Comment Period which opens October 21st, including a review of the 2017-2019 process
3. Discuss what, if any, next steps our two cities (Des Moines and Burien) can map out for better outcomes in 2025 on the SAMP and in the legislative sessions.

MEETING:

Environment Committee Chair JC Harris stated tonight’s meeting would not include staff presentation, instead, he introduced StART Committee member Joe Dusenbury of Des Moines and Brian Davis, Vice Chair of the Burien Airport Committee. Chair Harris reviewed historical background information that provided a foundation for the current agenda’s discussions. He suggested that the SAMP Comment Period should be extended into January of 2025 to allow for adequately informed comments. Mr. Dusenbury provided an update of the most recent StART meeting. At this meeting he learned that a national airport committee to focus on noise pollution will be organized. He recommended that a local representative apply to participate on this committee. Mr. Dusenbury shared that funds will be earmarked for a study on a second regional airport site. Since at least three previous studies have not been successful, the money would be better spent on funding other studies such as Airport Ultra-fine Particle Pollution. Mr. Davis confirmed that the SeaTac Airport high noise corridor has been shrinking over the years. Fewer properties meet qualifications for Port Packages. The cumulative effects of noise pollution has yet to be acknowledged by the Port of Seattle. Chair Harris indicated that he would be asking the Council to prepare a letter asking for an extension to the SAMP Comment Period. It is hoped that other affected cities would support this effort. Airport communities will need to be engaged in order to have a more positive outcome on future growth at SeaTac International Airport.

Meeting adjourned at 5:51 p.m. Minutes respectfully submitted by: Jodi Grager, Admin Coordinator