



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
October 2, 2008

Contact: Greg Tisdel  
425-231-7401  
Todd Brunner  
425-771-5148 Ext 23

### **Paine Field boosters welcome Horizon Air announcement**

Proponents of passenger air service at Paine Field welcomed the news today that Horizon Airlines is interested in initiating service at the airport.

“Horizon’s announcement is welcome news to the thousands of people who are tired of fighting hours of traffic to get to and from Sea-Tac,” said Greg Tisdel, co-chair of Fly Paine Field which has been advocating for service at Paine Field. “We’re especially pleased that Horizon says it is planning to use the quietest aircraft in its fleet and offer service to Portland and other popular destinations. This is really great news for Snohomish County.”

Commercial air service at Paine Field will complement and benefit existing aviation and industrial uses on and near the airport grounds, and create new jobs and business opportunities, Tisdel said.

“Paine Field is a world-class airport with plenty of ground space to accommodate a limited amount of passenger air service,” Tisdel said. “Paine Field has space for parking and good highway access. Passenger service will benefit the existing businesses at the airport, encourage economic development and benefit the tourism industry.”

Co-chair Todd Brunner said concerns that Paine Field will become a “Sea-Tac North” are unfounded. “The existing uses at Paine Field – Boeing and the others – are a priority and there is only so much air space available. There are already more than 400 take-offs and landings at the airport. It would be great if we could have 15 or 20 daily passenger flights which would be a huge benefit with minimal impact.”

Fly Paine Field recently conducted an on-line survey and found overwhelming support for passenger service at Paine Field among those who participated in the survey.

The survey was posted on the group’s website from August 29 through September 19 and links to it were e-mailed to interested parties. By September 19, 887 people had logged on and answered some or all of the questions. Approximately 70 percent of participants said they favor passenger flights at Paine Field.

The biggest frustration for travelers is not knowing how long it will take to drive to Sea-Tac, Brunner said. “People tell us they arrive too early or they miss their flights. It can take anywhere from an hour to more than two hours to get to Sea-Tac from Everett. You just never know.”

Brunner said flying from Paine Field is about more than convenience. “Flying from Paine Field would be so much easier for senior citizens, handicapped people and young families.”

###

Citizens Right to Fly From Paine Field Committee  
1429 Broadway · Everett WA 98201  
425-304-1903 · [info@flypaine.org](mailto:info@flypaine.org)