COMMISSIO



December 16, 2020

Patrick Renfrey
Washington State Utilities and Transportation Commission
PO Box 47250
Olympia, WA 98504-7250

RE: Docket No. TC-200927

Mr. Renfrey:

We are writing as the operators of Seattle-Tacoma International Airport (SEA) and maritime facilities on the Seattle waterfront to provide our perspective on the Application for Temporary Extension of Authority submitted by Pacific Northwest Transportation Services, in filing TC-200297.

Ensuring ground transportation access to passengers arriving and departing from SEA is a priority for the Port of Seattle and an operational necessity for tenants and travelers. Cruise passenger arriving at Terminal 91 and Pier 66 also need efficient access to transportation services. While we are happy to see the temporary authority extended for this particular service, we respectfully request that the Utilities and Transportation Commission work with the Port to implement a competitive process to identify the next permanent holder of the certificate for this particular type of ground transportation services at SEA and for Port maritime terminals.

While it is the WUTC role to grant the certificate to operate, the entity that wins that award still has to reach agreement with the Port of Seattle. We employ a widely advertised competitive bidding process for most other concessionaire-type services and would like to explore applying it to this type of ground transportation as well. The Port of Seattle Commission has set aggressive goals for partnering with Small, Minority-owned, Women-owned, and Disadvantaged Business Enterprises (SMWBE) across our operations. As legacy ground transportation operators transition out of the business, it could provide an opportunity for new, potentially SMWBEs, to compete to provide this service. A competitive process helps to ensure a broad range of applicant businesses can compete for the opportunity and can ensure that our traveling public is getting the best service available and at a competitive rate.

For that reason, while we do not oppose the temporary granting of authority, we encourage your staff to work in partnership with the Port to develop a competitive process for the permanent certificate.

Thank you,

Dave Soike

Chief Operating Officer

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