Bob’s Blog

Thoughts from KBFI Airport Director
Robert I. Burke, AAE

On October 28th through 31st, November 1st and November 8th, we will be conducting emergency exercises that will include firefighting and mass casualty drills. In order to maximize the training opportunities, these drills will be conducted twice daily during the mentioned dates at 9 a.m. and 1:30 p.m.

Local fire departments, along with first responders and emergency communications personnel, will meet at the south end of the airport (on the southeast tie-down ramp) to complete these exercises designed to test and improve the communication and response structure between our internal and external agencies. Agencies participating include: King County Airport Fire/Police and Airport Operations, the Boeing Company’s Fire Department, Tukwila Fire, Kent Fire, SeaTac Fire, Maple Valley Fire, Valley Communications Center and Medic One.

You can expect to see a lot of activity during these two-hour training sessions, including actors portraying injured passengers, aircraft fuselages, response vehicles and other props. Please note the dates and times of these exercises.

UPS illustrates the Economic Impact of BFI

A 2009 Economic Study determined that the King County International Airport/Boeing Field contributes $3.2 billion dollars annually to the region’s economy. United Parcel Service (UPS), a Seattle-born business with a base at KBFI, recently shared an example of one element that makes up these economic impact numbers.

UPS plays a vital role in the transportation of Washington State’s annual cherry crop, which amazingly accounts for HALF of the nation’s cherries. When UPS receives...
Washington State cherry shipments, it is responsible for delivering this highly perishable product throughout the United States and to markets worldwide. Timing is critical in getting a quality product to market.

During a 45-day working period over the summer, UPS shipped 2,743,222 lbs. of Washington State cherries throughout the U.S. and Worldwide. In addition, UPS’s Boeing Field location shipped an additional 153,652 lbs. of California cherries, for a combined total of 2,896,874 lbs. of the West coast cherry harvest. That equates to 64,375 lbs. of cherries per working day! The cherries were picked daily, then transported to the Seattle area, built up as cargo, and then loaded into the cargo aircraft for shipment across the United States and Asia. A dedicated team of 200 UPS staff completed the entire operation by 10 p.m. each night.

During this time, UPS also handled 1,973,137 lbs. of salmon shipped from Anchorage, Alaska in a dedicated Boeing 737, which was then loaded with Washington cherries destined for Anchorage.

The positive economic impact UPS provides to the Pacific Northwest Region is immeasurable for untold local businesses.

**KBFI recovers $1.25M in Environmental Expenses**

As Galvin Flying Service began its plans to redevelop the 7777 Perimeter Road site, a challenge surfaced. Jet fuel was discovered in the soil. This required immediate remediation before continuing any redevelopment. The Airport invested just under $1.7 million to complete the environmental clean-up of this site. This process was a three-phased remediation which included excavation of the contaminated soil, installation of a product recovery system and construction of an underground barrier wall.

The site was previously occupied by a legacy tenant, who removed underground fuel storage tanks in 1985. Airport staff approached the former tenant to recover these clean-up expenses. In July of 2013, they agreed to reimburse the Airport $1.25 million to recoup the majority of the cost.

With this environmental clean-up expense minimized, the Airport is now able to focus on funding other key projects to create sustainable land use for future redevelopment.

**Property Improvements Safety Reminder for Tenants**

We want to remind all tenants that if you intend to make improvements to your building or property, you may need to acquire the proper permits per the county, state, and federal law. Here’s a rule of thumb: if you are intending to change or rebuild the pavement, electrical system, plumbing, or existing building structure (either internally or externally), you’ll likely need a permit to begin your work.

How to get them? One source where you can start is the King County Department of Permitting and Environmental Review (DPER) website http://www.kingcounty.gov/property/permit5.aspx. This website is an easy to follow information source in acquiring the permits that you’ll need before starting your work. DPER can also be contacted at 206-296-6600.

In addition, any type of construction or alteration of a structure that may affect the National Airspace System, such as installing an antenna, requires notification to the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) by completing the Notice of Proposed Construction or Alteration form (FAA Form 7460-1). This form can be found on their website at http://www.faa.gov/documentLibrary/media/form/FAA7460_1.pdf. After completing the form, submit it to KBFI airport operations for review.

Keep in mind that we at the airport want to keep you and your buildings safe and compliant with all pertinent regulations and avoid costly fines and delays. Permits are simply part of the “checks and balances” process to ensure that buildings are correctly constructed and the work involved is done right.

**FREE Tenant CPR Training**

The Airport’s Fire & Rescue Unit (ARFF) is committed to training CPR to as many people working at the Airport as possible.

For this reason, quarterly Adult CPR classes are free to all tenants and their employees. Upcoming classes will be held in Room 110 of the Airport Terminal Building. A CPR card will be sent to each participant after successful completion of the training. There is still one remaining class this year:

November 14, 2013 from 1 p.m.-5 p.m.

**SIGN UP TODAY FOR THIS IMPORTANT SAFETY TRAINING!**

Registration is required. To register or for more information, contact Deputy Paula Proffitt, paula.proffitt@kingcounty.gov or (206) 296-7392.

**How Can We Help You?**

**Address**
7777 Perimeter Rd S
Seattle, WA 98108-3844

**General Information**
(206) 296-7380

**24 Hour Airport Operations**
(206) 296-7334