



CITY OF PORTLAND, OREGON
BUREAU OF
Planning

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Possibility. In every direction.



AIRPORT FUTURES

CHARTING A COURSE FOR PDX

**AIRPORT FUTURES
PLANNING PROCESS BACKGROUND - ADDENDUM**

Topic/Question	Background	Staff Recommendation and/or Phase for Future Discussion	Resource/ Source/ Regulation
<p>#20. Can be Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) compel PDX to add capacity to the runways, terminal building, or roadways?</p>	<p>The FAA cannot compel PDX to add capacity. That is the prerogative of the local airport operator. At PDX, we tend to add capacity when we run out of it in some area - or when we foresee that we will run out of capacity - generally in the near term. A good example is our current project to add parking capacity. Our existing short term parking system - the garage, started filling up on Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays and was closed during the mid-day. After a careful review of a number of approaches to manage capacity, it was decided to add more. This was a local decision - not prompted by the FAA.</p> <p>There are some that believe that if you build capacity, growth will follow (“build it and they will come”). This has not been the experience at PDX. In the 1990's, we built a lot of airline gates that are sitting empty for a good portion of the day. Why did the airlines not add flights? There was no demand for more flights at the prices they needed to charge to fly to destinations where people wanted to go. This still holds true today.</p>		