

Holiday Decorations Advisory Committee Recommendation

Background

A twelve-member Holiday Decorations Advisory Committee was commissioned in April 2007, and consists of representatives of religious congregations, academia, law and retail businesses. *The Committee's charge is to recommend to the Port a policy regarding holiday decorations at the airport that gives clear guidance and a mechanism for consistent implementation of that policy.*

Purpose of decorations at Sea-Tac Airport

The airport's purpose in decorating during the winter holidays is: To make the airport a festive and welcoming facility during the holidays, which is a very busy and often stressful travel time. We want our passengers to have a sense of celebration and comfort as they travel through our airport.

Recommendation

The Committee recommends that decorations should reflect the Pacific Northwest environment and our diverse community, and convey universal values, such as peace and harmony. These values have roots in many religious faiths and cultures. Our goal is to create an inclusive and warm environment at the airport.

Committee members noted that the use of light and color is especially appropriate in Seattle due to our dark winter travel season. The use of fabric, garlands, color and light in decorations or celebrations is common to cultures worldwide. The Committee recommends that no specific religious symbols should be used.

The committee further recommends that the airport director appoint a Port staff review committee, which should make appropriate use of the expertise and perspective of those in the community who are versed in decorating large public spaces. It is also recommended that decorations be used at multiple places throughout the airport.

Dated: June 6, 2007.

Freddie C. Tausend, chair
Sally Bagshaw
Lynne Brown
Rabbi Amy Jost
Jude Strout
W. Ch. Boege, Secretary

Tig W. O'Brien
(Ch. Amara)
Martyr A. G. Ph.D.