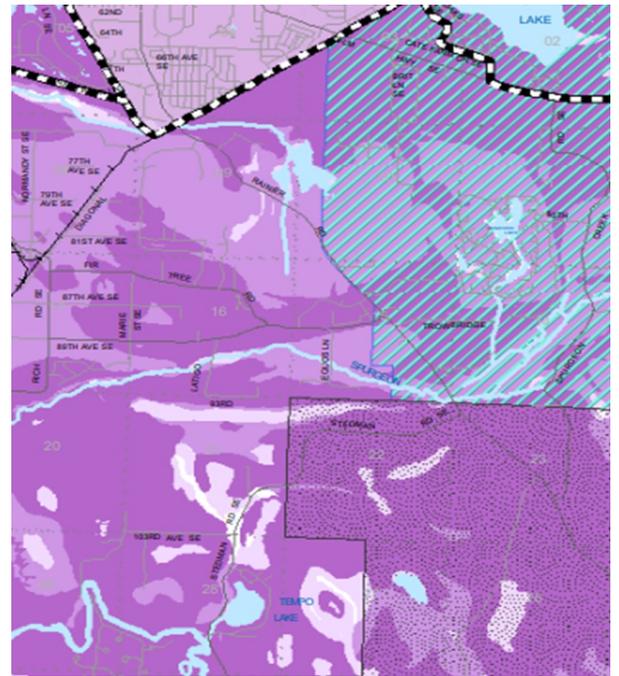


Fact Sheet

A NEW MEGA INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT WOULD BE DISASTROUS TO OUR AQUIFER



- ◆ Approximately 1/3 of the proposed Thurston Central Greenfield area is located directly over the McAllister Springs Aquifer, and in the McAllister Springs Geological Sensitive Area. The remaining proposed area as well as the areas outside of the targeted area are 100% McAllister Springs Critical Aquifer Recharge Areas.
- ◆ The airport and the surrounding infrastructure will pave over the majority of this area, preventing the recharge of the very aquifer that supplies water to the cities of Olympia, Lacey and Tumwater, as well as surrounding Thurston County via private wells.
- ◆ Areas not paved over will most likely be used as bioswales to contain the stormwater runoff. The chemicals and fuel used at the airport and in the surrounding infrastructure could poison these bioswales and seep into the aquifer.
- ◆ Water used for drinking from the aquifer would most likely need additional treatment to make potable. This would require the water management PUD to upgrade their filtration systems which could cost the residents of the Cities of Olympia, Lacey, and Tumwater millions of dollars.
- ◆ Private wells in the area would also be contaminated and homeowners could be left without potable water or would need to invest in expensive filtration systems to clean the water for domestic use.
- ◆ Thurston County almost entirely relies on groundwater for its domestic, public supply, agricultural and industrial uses. Demand for water in Thurston County has increased steadily over the years, additional development, especially one of this magnitude would impose additional stress on the ground water system and the already diminishing aquifers. An airport the size of SeaTac uses approximately 80 million gallons of water per day.
- ◆ A new airport would also require a new wastewater management treatment facility and hazardous conveyance waste facility constructed to handle the additional sewer, biohazards and heavy metals that are involved with an airport. The cost for these facilities would be in the billions. Only 1 inch of stormwater at SeaTac airport produces 6 million gallons of toxic wastewater requiring treatment.

[https://www.geodata.org/pdf/AquiferRecharge\(54x35\).pdf](https://www.geodata.org/pdf/AquiferRecharge(54x35).pdf)

<https://pubs.usgs.gov/wri/wri994165/pdf/wri994165.pdf>

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