City of Yakima

News Release

Subject: Yakima Air Terminal-McAllister Field COVID-19 Precautions
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Yakima Air Terminal-McAllister Field Continues COVID-19 Precautions

New protocols to limit the spread of COVID-19 have been announced for air travel within the state of Washington.

The Yakima Air Terminal-McAllister Field (YKM) and Alaska Airlines have already implemented many of the requirements.

"We at YKM applaud these protocols and pledge to continue every precaution to protect employees, passengers, vendors and the visiting public," said Airport Director Robert Peterson. "I know Alaska Airlines shares this intent as well."

The protocols were announced yesterday, Thursday, by Gov. Jay Inslee during a news conference. They include the following:

- Requiring face coverings
- Signage for spacing related to social distancing.
- Protective barriers between workers and the public
- Hand sanitizer available in public areas of the airport
- Airports and vendors must follow county health requirements

Gov. Inslee praised airports throughout the state for a "…superb job under very trying circumstances."

YKM and Alaska Airlines are following state protocols and have added additional precautions. They include:

- Requiring passengers to complete health safety agreements as they check-in for their flight
- A "No Mask, No Travel" policy
- Blocking center seats on flights through the end of November when feasible
- Electrostatic disinfectant sprayers to sanitize surfaces

More details on Alaska Airlines' "Next-Level Care" are available at https://www.alaskaair.com/

YKM began extensive cleaning efforts earlier this year to include social distancing markers, facemask/face covering requirements and plexiglass dividers. Efforts also include daily sanitization of YKM's security checkpoint as well as soft touch areas, pre-paid vehicle parking through wireless phones, electronic scanning of driver's license and airline tickets at YKM's security checkpoint and additional hand sanitizing stations.

In June, YKM received more than 12,000 cloth masks for airport tenants, passengers and visitors to help slow the spread of COVID-19, and in compliance with face covering requirements.

Alaska Airlines resumed a second flight between YKM and Seattle-Tacoma International Airport in August due to an increase in passengers at YKM.

Click https://flyykm.com/ for more about YKM.