

For Immediate Release October 1, 2024 **For Information:**Buck Taft, Airport Director (509) 547-6352

Nonstop Service to Los Angeles on Alaska Airlines Takes off at Tri-Cities Airport

Pasco, WA – The Tri-Cities Airport (PSC) is celebrating a milestone today: Alaska Airlines has launched service to a new destination out of PSC. This morning, Alaska Airlines' first nonstop flight to Los Angeles International Airport (LAX) departed, marking a significant moment for our region by providing a daily gateway to Southern California and strengthening-access to the airline's robust domestic and international flight network.

Alaska Airlines' decision to launch this newest route out of PSC is a clear demonstration of the airline's strategic investment in the Tri-Cities region. By adding this route to LAX, Alaska Airlines is not only expanding its presence but also responding to the growing demand from local travelers for more direct access to major markets.

"We are thrilled to bring this new service to PSC, one we know the community has been wanting for years," said Kirsten Amrine, vice president of revenue management and network planning at Alaska Airlines. "We see the potential of the Tri-Cities as we recognize the area's increasing economic growth. The demand for daily access to Southern California has been clear, and we're confident this nonstop flight will become a vital link for both leisure and business travelers."

The LA Basin, previously the largest market without daily flights from PSC, is now just a few hours away. Passengers flying out of Tri-Cities can take advantage of LAX's status as the busiest commercial airport on the West Coast, connecting seamlessly to key destinations across Latin America, Europe, Asia, and more.

"This route has been years in the making, and it was incredible to witness it become a reality today," said Buck Taft, Director of Tri-Cities Airport. "With this new flight to Los Angeles, we've strengthened our ties and increased our connectivity to Mexico, including Guadalajara, which is one of the most popular destinations from PSC."

"The launch of this daily flight to LAX is a huge win for both residents and businesses in our community," said President and CEO of Tri-City Development Council (TRIDEC) Karl Dye. "Daily access to the LA Basin opens up opportunities for employers who may want to relocate to the Columbia Basin as they now have an easy way to travel between our two markets."

This new route is a direct reflection of PSC's substantial growth. Last year was the <u>airport's busiest on record</u>, with approximately 873,000 passengers passing through its gates. The Alaska Airlines flight to LAX is part of a string of new and expanded routes that have launched in 2024, following <u>American Airlines' twice-daily service to Phoenix Sky Harbor International Airport (PHX)</u> and Avelo Airlines' four-weekly flights to Hollywood Burbank Airport (BUR).

Per Alaska Airlines' website, the flight's current schedule is:

Flight Number	Departure Airport	Departure Time	Arrival Airport	Arrival Time
AS 3436	PSC	7:00 a.m.	LAX	9:51 a.m.
AS 3426	LAX	7:55 p.m.	PSC	10:30 p.m.

Alaska Airlines will serve the PSC-LAX route on a three-class Embraer 175, with 76 seats. Tickets are on sale now at alaskaair.com.

About the Airport

Tri-Cities Airport (PSC) is the largest airport in the Southeastern Washington and Northeastern Oregon region and the third largest air carrier airport in the state of Washington. With connections to several major hubs, the airport is served by Alaska, Allegiant, American, Avelo, Delta, and United airlines. For more information about the airport, visit flytricities.com or follow us on Facebook and LinkedIn.