

# Press Release

Tuesday September 20, 2022



The Helena Regional Airport Authority is excited to announce that Alaska Airlines will upgrade the aircraft type being used on the Helena / Seattle route from a turbo prop Q400 to an Embraer 175 Jet beginning on October 6, 2022. The Q400 turbo prop aircraft has been an outstanding platform serving Helena for many years, but we are excited to welcome the new Embraer 175 jet as Alaska transitions their regional carrier fleet to the new jet aircraft. The new jet flies faster lessening the flight time in between Helena and Seattle and also provides three classes of seating options including First Class, Economy Comfort, and Economy. Alaska Airlines has been serving the capital city for several decades and we appreciate their continued service to our community. The most recent terminal expansion completed in 2020 allowed for the new jet to serve Helena, as a new boarding bridge was installed at the Alaska gate to ensure this upcoming transition was possible. The Airport continues to work with Alaska Airlines in an effort to ultimately gain a second daily flight between Helena and Seattle in the near future once those resources are available.

To learn more about the current state of the airline industry, what the airport has been doing and has planned going forward to promote more air service, please visit the airport website under the air service recruitment tab at <https://helenaairport.com/announcements/>.

*For More Information Contact:*

Jeff Wadekamper, Airport Director  
Helena Regional Airport Authority  
2850 Mercer Loop  
Helena, MT. 59602  
406-442-2821  
[jwadekamper@helenaairport.com](mailto:jwadekamper@helenaairport.com)