Boeing Field (BFI) & Paine Field (PAE): Specialized Aerospace Charter and Dreamlifter Nodes

Pillar: The Corridors | **Basis:** Agency / Airport Record | **Primary Source:** King County / Paine Field (Snohomish County) | **As Of:** 2026-11-16

Unlike commercial Sea-Tac, Boeing Field (BFI) adjacent to Tukwila and Paine Field (PAE) in Everett anchor specialized aerospace charter, flight-test support, and Boeing Dreamlifter oversized structural airlift.

Operational Continuity & Corridor Facts

• Boeing Field (King County International Airport, BFI) sits just south of downtown Seattle and immediately north of Tukwila, supporting corporate aviation, charter cargo, and Boeing manufacturing logistics.

• Paine Field (PAE) in Everett sits adjacent to Boeing's wide-body plant and is one of the select global nodes served by the 747-400 Dreamlifter for oversized composite/fuselage structures.

• Together, BFI and PAE provide specialized aerospace airlift distinct from Sea-Tac's scheduled commercial belly and freighter network.

Puget Sound Three-Airport Aerospace Cargo Split

Airport	Location	Primary Cargo / Aerospace Role	Valley Connection
Sea-Tac (SEA)	SeaTac (West of Valley)	69% of WA air cargo; belly + freighter	SR 518 / I-5 / SR 167
Boeing Field (BFI)	South Seattle / Tukwila border	Charter cargo, Boeing logistics, flight test	East Marginal Way / I-5
Paine Field (PAE)	Everett (~30 mi north)	Dreamlifter oversized structures, assembly	I-5 / I-405 north

Corridor Exposure, Triggers & Facility Actions

• For urgent oversized aerospace charters that cannot fit standard commercial freighters, BFI offers immediate proximity to Kent and Tukwila.

• Moving cargo from PAE down to Kent or Renton still crosses the entire Seattle I-5/I-405 metro corridor.

• Individual space-company charter manifests at BFI or PAE are not in our data.

Cross-Cluster Links & Primary Sources

• **WA Space Cluster Hub (#1382):** https://bcesg.org/washington-space-cluster-census/

• **Tukwila WA Space Cluster Profile:** https://bcesg.org/tukwila-wa-space-cluster-profile/

• **Seattle WA Space Cluster Profile:** https://bcesg.org/seattle-wa-space-cluster-profile/

• **Marysville WA Space Cluster Profile:** https://bcesg.org/marysville-wa-space-cluster-profile/

• **Boeing Defense Space & Security Profile:** https://bcesg.org/boeing-defense-space-security-puget-sound-profile/

• **Program Manager Desk Brief:** https://bcesg.org/wa-space-role-program-manager-desk-brief/

• **Paine Field (PAE) Airport:** https://www.painefield.com/

• **Port of Seattle SEA Air Cargo:** https://www.portseattle.org/sea/air-cargo

• **City of Tukwila Official Portal:** https://www.tukwilawa.gov/

Provenance Note: Airport roles per King County International Airport and Paine Field public records; specific private charter contracts are not in our data.