

Major Achievements under the Memorandum of Cooperation between the Government of Japan and the State of Washington in the United States of America on Economic and Trade Relations

Aerospace

- In August 2016, Mitsubishi Aircraft Company (MITAC) opens the Moses Lake Flight Test Center and starts flight testing in Washington State of the Mitsubishi Regional Jet (MRJ) under development by the company.
- In August 2017, Japan's official export credit agency Nippon Export and Investment Insurance (NEXI) establishes a new framework facilitating the export of Boeing aircraft through UK Export Finance (UKEF). NEXI is currently supporting the export of 13 Boeing 787s.
- In June 2017 and October 2017, agreements on future cooperation between Boeing and Kawasaki Heavy Industries and between Boeing and Mitsubishi Heavy Industries are announced respectively.
- The expansion of local government-to-government collaboration: On October 18, 2016, Aichi Prefecture and Washington State sign a memorandum of understanding on friendship and mutual cooperation that, among its goals, seeks to promote private-sector exchange in a wide range of areas including the aerospace industry. Since 2017, the City of Kakamihara in Gifu Prefecture has engaged in workforce development by dispatching technical employees from the city's aerospace industry to Washington State.
- The expansion of airport-to-airport collaboration: On October 18, 2016, Aichi Prefectural Nagoya Airport and Grant County International Airport sign a sister-airport partnership agreement. On April 14, 2017, Chubu Centrair International Airport and Paine Field Snohomish County Airport sign a memorandum of cooperation.

Information Technology

- Japan + Seattle AI Meetup sessions (held quarterly since 2016) and Washington State AI trade missions to Japan are contributing to the expansion of business connections between Japan and Washington State in the field of Artificial Intelligence (AI).
- On July 27, 2017, the City of Kobe hosts a seminar on the biomedical industry and IT startups during the Seattle-Kobe Sister City 60th anniversary celebration in Seattle.

Agriculture & Value-Added Forestry Products

- On March 16, 2017, Washington State Lt. Governor Cyrus Habib, along with Ehime and Hyogo Prefectures, joins a Japanese food and product promotional event held at the Consul General of Japan's official residence. This and other activities have helped spread the appeal of food, sake, and agricultural products from Japan.

Disaster Prevention

- On February 23, 2018, experts from Japan and the U.S. attend a symposium on disaster management in Seattle, organized to share Japan's experience with natural disasters, such as the Great East Japan Earthquake, with relevant government agencies in Washington State.

Academic Cooperation

- The expansion of cooperation between academic institutions including the Tohoku University - University of Washington Academic Open Space (UW-TU: AOS), established on April 14, 2017, as a hub for industry-academia collaboration and cooperation.

Trade & Investment

- Economic and trade-related visits are taking place in both directions such as a mission to Washington State by the Nagoya Chamber of Commerce & Industry in May 2017, and an economic mission to Japan to be led by Washington State Director of Commerce Brian Bonlender in May 2018.
- The Japan External Trade Organization (JETRO), Seattle grocers, distributors and food industry representatives host "Aomori Fair" and "Japanese Sake Promotion" PR events to promote products from Aomori Prefecture.
- JETRO establishes the position of a Seattle-based Japan investment advisor and co-hosts a legal seminar (November 2016) with the University of Washington on direct investment to Japan intended for attorneys, business professionals, and corporate executives.

Others

- On November 4, 2016, the signing of a related memorandum of cooperation establishes the reciprocal partial exemption of the examination for the driver's license between Japan and Washington State.
- On August 3, 2017, the Japan Bank for International Cooperation and the Washington State Government sign a memorandum of cooperation related to infrastructure.