



July 21, 2023

INWAC Members, Partners and Friends:

Since 2013, Inland Northwest Aerospace Consortium (INWAC) has made major strides in connecting and raising awareness of the amazing supply chain network that we have along the I-90 Corridor, from Yakima to Bozeman. We have represented the region at trade shows and events, offered training and networking events, collaborated with local economic development organizations, coordinated tours for students and industry professionals, and hosted the I-90 Aerospace Corridor Conference & Expo for eight years.

And now, we are excited to start a new chapter for our organization. After an extensive strategic planning process where the INWAC Board of Directors examined emerging industry trends and canvassed our members and community leaders for input, we are pleased to announce an expanded mission and new name.

Rebranding as **Northwest I-90 Manufacturing Alliance (NIMA)**, our organization will now serve aerospace AND other advanced manufacturing sectors with a particular focus on aerospace & space, medical, energy, and precision industrial sectors. The common threads among these industries are a high level of technical expertise, demanding quality systems, design capabilities, and robust program management services.

While aerospace has unique aspects that will continue to garner our attention, this change will allow us to address concerns shared more broadly among advanced manufacturers along the I-90 Corridor—workforce, automation, cybersecurity, etc.

In the coming months, we will be unveiling new membership options, opportunities for engagement, programs, and additional benefits for the manufacturing community. We believe that this change will bring more value to our constituents and give us a bigger voice in promoting the region and shaping policies that impact I-90 companies.

We welcome your input as we make these changes and look forward to growing with you in the coming months. Be on the lookout for ongoing updates and be sure to take advantage of opportunities to join, sponsor, or get involved with NIMA. Manufacturing provides good, living-wage jobs and contributes to the quality of life in our communities, and that is something we should all take pride in.

Regards,

Mark Norton
Chair, NIMA Board of Directors
Principal, Norton Strategic Consulting