

# SYDNEY AIRPORT COMMUNITY FORUM



**Dr Brendan Nelson MP**  
Federal Member for Bradfield  
Chair

**Mr Anthony Albanese MP**  
Federal Member for Grayndler

**The Hon Bruce Baird MP**  
Federal Member for Cook

**Cr Mark Bonanno**  
Mayor of Ashfield

**Mr Bill Bourke**  
Australian Air Transport Association

**Mrs Kerry Chikarovski MLA**  
State Member for Lane Cove

**Mr John Clarke**  
Upper North Shore Community

**Cr Barry Cotter**  
Mayor of Marrickville

**Mr Chris Falvey**  
Australian Air Transport Association

**Mr Randolph Griffiths**  
Sydney Airport Forum Pty Ltd

**The Hon Deirdre Grusovin MLA**  
State Member for Heffron

**Mr Kevin Hill**  
Kurnell Community

**Cr Steve Holroyd**  
Rockdale Council

**The Hon Joe Hockey MP**  
Federal Member for North Sydney

**Mr Robert McClelland MP**  
Federal Member for Barton

**Cr Ken McDonell**  
Mayor of Sutherland Shire

**Mr Michael Megna**  
Inner West Community

**Mr John Murphy MP**  
Federal Member for Lowe

**Ms Sandra Nori MLA**  
State Member for Port Jackson

**Ms Maria Patrinos**  
CRAAN

**Cr Andrew Petrie**  
Wentworth Community

**Cr Anthony Roberts**  
Mayor of Lane Cove

**Cr Philip Sansom**  
Mayor of Hurstville

**Cr Ross Sheerin**  
Benelong Community

**Cr Dominic Sullivan**  
Mayor of Randwick

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18 October 2000

**The Hon John Anderson MP**  
Minister for Transport and Regional Services  
Parliament House  
CANBERRA ACT 2600

Dear Minister

I am writing to advise you of the resolutions and key issues that were raised at the 27<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Sydney Airport Community Forum (SACF) on 16 October 2000.

At the start of the meeting, a number of members indicated their intention to resign from the Forum and develop 'alternative' strategies for putting their views on airport issues unless matters relating to Sydney's future airport needs are concluded to their satisfaction by the end of October 2000. In particular, these members are seeking a decision to build an airport at Badgerys Creek.

The Forum considered a paper by the Mayor of Randwick, Cr Dominic Sullivan, regarding the proposed development of Mode 6A. Mode 6A is being proposed as an alternative to Mode 9 in north-easterly wind conditions where there is low traffic. A range of competing views emerged at the meeting. On balance, the Forum supports further investigations being undertaken so long as Airservices Australia commits to a robust, vigorous and transparent environment assessment in accordance with the Commonwealth's legislative framework.

A number of SACF members reiterated their concerns regarding the implementation of the Long Term Operating Plan (LTOP). In particular, concerns remain on the continued failure to meet the LTOP targets and the imbalance between the number of movements to the east of the Airport compared to the west, with the east regularly exceeding its LTOP target.

As you are aware, Ansett and Qantas have made a proposal to evaluate the use of 'power-off' approaches during PRM operations at Sydney Airport. The proposal involves the trial of a new Standard Arrival Route (STAR) as a part of the current PRM Trial.

The airline representatives gave the Forum a detailed presentation on the proposed STAR at the meeting. Whilst some members were sympathetic to the case put by the airlines, SACF nonetheless does not support a STAR evaluation being included in the existing PRM Trial. As you know, SACF opposes the PRM Trial in its existing form and the Forum believes a STAR evaluation would only add additional complexity, and confuse the purpose of the existing Trial. SACF also believes the airlines' proposal may increase the length of time of the PRM Trial, which is not acceptable. The view of the Forum is that it would be more appropriate to evaluate the STAR at another time, and ultimately only if, despite SACF's opposition, the Government does decide to permanently implement Runway 16 PRM operations. Should this eventuate at some time in the future, I would expect the airlines (and Airservices Australia) to consult further with SACF on this or any other STAR-related proposal.

SACF members are very concerned about the regularity of actual runway movements exceeding 80 movements per hour at Sydney Airport. Your Department and Airservices Australia have explained to the Forum that while the Sydney Airport Slot Management Scheme, established under the *Sydney Airport Demand Management Act 1997*, limits the number of allocated slots, owing to practical operational and safety requirements, the number of actual runway movements may exceed 80 in some hours.

Whilst I do understand these pressures, and the offsetting reduction in movements for other periods of the day, the Scheme is nonetheless a key initiative put in place by this Government and is integral to the management and control of operations at Sydney Airport. The Forum therefore asks you to ensure that stringent mechanisms are in place to limit actual movements to 80 aircraft per hour. To address breaches, SACF would urge the Government to develop and implement severe penalties.

I look forward to your response in the near future.

Yours sincerely

Signed by Chairman 18 October 2000
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Dr Brendan Nelson MP  
Chair