

SYDNEY AIRPORT COMMUNITY FORUM



Senator Marise Payne
Senator for New South Wales
Chair, Sydney Airport Community Forum

Cr Vince Badalati
Mayor of Hurstville

The Hon Bruce Baird MP
Federal Member for Cook

Cr Phil Blight
Mayor of Sutherland Shire

Cr Mark Bonanno
Mayor of Ashfield

The Hon Kerry Chikarovski MLA
State Member for Lane Cove

Mr John Clarke
Upper North Shore Community

Mr Kevin Hill
Kurnell Community

Cr Steve Holroyd
Rockdale Council

The Hon Joe Hockey MP
Federal Member for North Sydney

Cr Sue Hoopmann
Benelong Community

Mr Trevor Jensen
Australian Air Transport Association

Mr Robert McClelland MP
Federal Member for Barton

Mr Michael Megna
Inner West Community

Mr John Murphy MP
Federal Member for Lowe

The Hon Sandra Nori MLA
State Member for Port Jackson

Ms Maria Patrinos
CRAAN

Cr Anthony Roberts
Mayor of Lane Cove

Cr Fiona Sinclair King
Wentworth Community

Ms Lisa Smith
Sydney Airport

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21 November 2002

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

Dear Minister,

I am writing to convey the outcomes of the thirty-third meeting of the Sydney Airport Community Forum (SACF) held on Friday 20 September 2002. I apologise for the delay in providing this advice.

The meeting was well attended with discussions extending over a wide range of issues including the Master Planning for the Airport, the Long Term Operating Plan (LTOP) and IMC, Noise Insulation, Noise Complaints, Airspace Redesign and Emerging Aviation Technologies. Details of the main issues raised at the meeting are as follows.

Members were especially encouraged to learn of your in-principle support for a review of LTOP. Members are aware that any review of LTOP will involve consultation with your colleagues, Cabinet and the Prime Minister. The Members also support your insistence on effective community consultation through Forum members. It was agreed that I pursue the review with you formally before the next meeting and I appreciate the opportunity to have met with you.

In connection with this, I should point out that members gave some consideration to the prospect of increasing the representation of the community on the LTOP Implementation and Monitoring Committee as some members felt that certain areas were not adequately represented. Members will give further consideration to this issue at future meetings.

If communication of the goals of an LTOP review and calls for community input are to be made by Forum members I feel it is important that the Forum agrees to certain standards for such communication so that the process is open and balanced. Given neither your office nor your department will be tasked with "driving" this process, perhaps some consideration could be given

to assisting Forum members to communicate with those whom they represent, or you may advise that the Forum as a group manage communications with the entire Sydney region.

In addition, as you will be aware the Department presented a paper on the Slots Management Scheme recommending no changes to the Scheme but indicating that it would monitor exceedances. The Forum expressed its concern that no improvements were suggested to the management of the Scheme and that this issue would be considered at a later time.

A key issue discussed at the meeting was noise insulation for Kurnell which has been raised at previous meetings. Mr Hill, the Community Member for Kurnell is currently formulating a community response to the Department. Members are aware that the noise amelioration programme may wind up in the near future but have requested that noise insulation be placed on the agenda as a standing item for future meetings.

Another issue of concern for the Community Members of the Forum was the cessation of Aircservices' freecall line for noise complaints. The Members consider an 1800 number as a particularly worthwhile community benefit for legitimate complainants. However, members do acknowledge that there existed a very real problem with the old system being abused, namely that persistent callers used an auto redial facility to create blockages on the line and their calls unduly inflated the complaint statistics.

I look forward to your response to the issues raised by the Forum. The Forum next meets on Friday 29 November.

Yours sincerely,

Signed by Senator Marise Payne 21 November 2002
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Senator Marise Payne
Chair