

# 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

Mr Warren Bennett  
Board of Airline Representatives in Australia

Cr Phil Blight  
Mayor of Sutherland Shire

Cr Mark Bonanno  
Mayor of Ashfield

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  
Qantas Airways Ltd

Mr Robert McClelland MP  
Federal Member for Barton

Cr John May  
Mayor of Lane Cove

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

Mr Anthony Roberts MLA  
State Member for Lane Cove

Cr Fiona Sinclair King  
Wentworth Community

Ms Lisa Smith  
Sydney Airport

Secretariat:  
PO Box A301  
Sydney South NSW 1235

[Freecall NSW]  
Tel: 1800 812 069  
Fax: 02 6274-6717  
Email: sacf@dotars.gov.au  
www.sacf.dotars.gov.au

24 July 2003

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

Dear Minister

I am writing to convey the outcomes from the 36<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Sydney Airport Community Forum held on 20 June 2003.

The next meeting of SACF is on 19 September 2003 and your response to the issues raised in this correspondence in time for circulation to Members would be appreciated.

As I have previously advised, the Sydney Airport Community Forum (SACF) developed a submission which was presented to Sydney Airport Corporation Ltd's (SACL) Community Panel for consideration as part of the Master Planning process. Mr John Clarke the Community Member for the Upper North Shore presented SACF's submission to the Panel.

Mr Clarke advised that the Forum's submission was well received and that the Panel was very interested in the aviation issues. The predominant issue highlighted was that any expansion of the airport should be assessed against the impact of the Long Term Operating Plan.

Overall, the public consultation process undertaken by the SACL provided opportunities for the community including local Members of Parliament to raise their concerns direct with the Corporation. The process was considered to be particularly dynamic canvassing a range of aviation topics. I understand that a draft report will soon be available.

At our 20 June Meeting, Mr Balzola, on behalf of Mr John Murphy MP, Federal Member for Lowe presented a number of resolutions in relation to the master planning process for consideration by members. In essence, the primary issue of concern for Mr Murphy is that LTOP should be embedded in the Sydney Airport Master Plan and that the Plan should carry some legal weight to avoid a repeat of the problems associated with the Brisbane Airport Master Plan.

The meeting agreed to the following resolution and would appreciate your consideration in due course:

*Sydney Airport Community Forum request that the Minister for Transport and Regional Services amend the master plan statutory process as recommended by the Senate Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport References Committee in their Report on the Inquiry into the Development of the Brisbane Airport Corporation Master Plan in June 2000.*

Also, Members have raised concerns about the runway end targets to the north that are still quite high.

SACF Members also raised some concerns about the relocation of the Terminal Control Unit to Melbourne. Their concerns centre on technical and safety issues and the management of LTOP because they feel that Airservices staff who work and live in Sydney would have a better understanding of the issues affecting Sydney.

In relation to noise insulation, SACF members have sought clarification on Government policy concerning the withdrawal of offers for noise insulation. Members were perplexed to learn that once an offer has been rejected then any future owners are not entitled to reapply for noise insulation. They considered this to be particularly unfair. I would appreciate more information on the reasons for the adoption of this policy.

I understand that Mr Hill was to meet with officers from your Department on Monday 23 June concerning the issue of Kurnell being given consideration as a special case for noise insulation. Mr Hill indicated that he appreciated your Departmental staff making time available to discuss this issue. Members also indicated some concerns in regard to future noise insulation issues about the number of high density residential areas now emerging to the north and north east of the Airport.

You should note that SACF is receptive to the proposal of placing a Community Advocate who is independent and impartial in Airservices in order to promote the community as a major stakeholder in the aviation industry. Airservices indicated its in-principle support of the proposal but issues concerning remuneration need to be resolved. Members suggested that to maximise effectiveness of the role the Advocate's responsibilities should stretch nationwide rather than be limited to only Sydney. Your consideration of this proposal would be appreciated.

Members were disappointed that Airservices reconsidered its earlier decision to reinstate the 1800 Freecall number for noise complaints. The meeting was informed that Airservices is undertaking some publicity in local papers advertising the use of the Internet for Sydneysiders to lodge complaints.

Finally, to address occasions of any unavoidable absence of the Chair, Members have given consideration to the temporary appointment of a Parliamentary Member of SACF as an Acting Chair. Members passed the following resolution. I would appreciate your consideration of it:

*That in the unavoidable absence of the Chair an existing Parliamentary member of SACF be appointed as temporary Chair to fulfil that function.*

I would be grateful for your early response to these matters.

Yours sincerely

Signed by Senator Payne 24 July 2003

**MARISE PAYNE**  
**CHAIR**