



Sydney Airport Community Forum

6 October 2009

Mr Barry Cotter

**Chair: Sydney Airport
Community Forum**

Ms Maria Patrinos
Community Representative

Mr Kevin Hill
Community Representative

The Hon John Murphy MP
Federal Member for Lowe

The Hon Tanya Plibersek MP
Federal Member for Sydney

The Hon Peter Garrett MP
Federal Member for Kingsford-Smith

The Hon Tony Burke MP
Federal Member for Watson

The Hon Robert McClelland MP
Federal Member for Barton

The Hon Joe Hockey MP
Federal Member for North Sydney

The Hon Maxine McKew MP
Federal Member for Bennelong

The Hon Malcolm Turnbull MP
Federal Member for Wentworth

Mr Scott Morrison MP
Federal Member for Cook

The Hon Kristina Keneally MP
State Member for Heffron

The Hon Frank Sartor MP
State Member for Rockdale

The Hon Carmel Tebbutt MP
State Member for Murrumbidgee

Ms Clover Moore MP
State Member for Sydney
Lord Mayor of Sydney

Cr Sam Iskandar
Mayor of Murrumbidgee

Cr Ron Hoenig
Mayor of Botany Bay

Cr Jamie Parker
Mayor of Leichhardt

Cr Ted Cassidy
Mayor of Ashfield

Cr Robert Furolo
Mayor of Canterbury

Cr Lorraine Kelly
Mayor of Sutherland Shire

Mr Russell Balding
CEO, Sydney Airport Corporation Ltd

Captain Rob Edney
Australian Airline Industry

Mr Warren Bennett
Board of Airline Representatives of Australia

The Hon Anthony Albanese MP
Minister for Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development and Local Government
Parliament House
CANBERRA ACT 2600

Dear Minister

I am writing to convey the outcomes of the meeting of the Sydney Airport Community Forum (SACF) held on the 25 September 2009.

The Forum held lengthy discussions about the arrival flight path to the west of the airport over Sutherland Shire that was the subject of media articles in the week leading up to the SACF meeting. These discussions focussed on the extent to which the aircraft have been concentrated into a narrow band and also on the height of aircraft. Advances in technology and the role they are playing in changing the nature of flight paths emerged as the key issue.

SACF members were advised that the LTOP Implementation Monitoring Committee (IMC) was investigating the concentration of movements which had been compounded by the increased use of SODPROPS and the use of Mode 15 in response to the Runway End Safety Area (RESA) works. IMC will examine what was predicted in relation to traffic compared with what has eventuated and examine what, if anything can be done. Members will be kept informed of progress.

Airservices Australia undertook to give a presentation at the next meeting of SACF on new technology and the possibilities this provides for enhancing noise management around airports. The Forum also resolved:

SACF strongly supports the continued operation of the LTOP for Sydney Airport and asks the Minister:

- *to require his Department and Airservices Australia to conduct a study into aircraft and air navigation technology which may enhance noise sharing;*
- *that the Terms of Reference for this study be prepared in consultation with IMC and SACF; and*
- *progress on the study be reported regularly through IMC.*

Extended debate also took place on issues surrounding the Aviation Community Advocate (ACA) position, the lack of available government funding and the provision of expert advice to the Forum on an ad hoc basis. A number of members expressed the view that the ACA position had been very valuable and that it is important to continue to make advocacy/technical assistance available to members. Options for establishing alternative sources of funding for the ACA position were discussed in detail and included an

offer from the Member for Cook to contribute to funding the position and an invitation to other members to do the same. Ultimately the Forum resolved:

- *SACF asks the Minister to reconsider his position on the funding of the Advocate position for SACF; and*
- *with the Minister's advice in his letter of 1 September 2009 for SACF to consider alternative sources of funding which would enable the services of the Aviation Community Advocate to be continued, SACF resolves that it request the Minister to explore the position being funded under the Aircraft Noise Levy Collection Act 1995.*

Members also thanked Mr Williams for his contribution to the work of SACF during the period he occupied the ACA position.

On the issue of continued use of Mode 15 post the RESA, Airservices advised the proposal will need to be referred to the Department of Environment, Water, Heritage and the Arts for consideration under the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999*. The Implementation and Monitoring Committee (IMC) is now examining whether the benefits of Mode 15 can be achieved in other ways.

Members agreed you be advised that Mr Hill, the community representative for the South, tabled a paper describing the latest thinking on the proposed *Aircraft Noise Affected Residents Compensation Scheme (ANARCS)*. The proposal is to set up a scheme funded under the *Noise Levy Act 1995* which enables individuals to obtain a long term interest free loan to install insulation in their home. In addition funds would be available to local government for local enhancement projects. Members have been asked to provide comments on the proposal which requires considerable development before finalisation.

Attended by a journalist from the Sydney Morning Herald, the meeting saw positive discussion of some sensitive issues with SACF members achieving consensus on a way forward.

The Forum will be meeting next on Friday 27th November 2009.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Barry Cotter', written in a cursive style.

Mr Barry Cotter
SACF Chair