



**Sydney Airport
Community Forum**

SYDNEY AIRPORT COMMUNITY FORUM

Meeting 3/2009

Conference Room A, 8th Floor,
70 Phillip Street, Sydney NSW 2000

9.00am to 12.00pm

Friday, 25 September 2009

SUMMARY RECORD



AGENDA ITEM 1: Opening Remarks and Adoption of Agenda

The Chair opened the meeting and welcomed members, noting the extensive agenda and the need to be finished by 12pm due to other commitments.

AGENDA ITEM 2: Confirmation of Draft Meeting Summary Record

2.1 Meeting 2/2009 – 10 July 2009

The Summary Record from meeting 2/2009 was accepted without amendment.

2.2 Action Items arising from last meeting

The meeting accepted that all Action Items were completed, with exception of Action Item 06/02, which was addressed at Agenda Item 5. Discussion then moved to matters arising which saw Agenda Item 5.1 brought forward.

AGENDA ITEM 5: Airservices Issues

5.1 Noise concentration over Cook and Lowe

To focus discussion members agreed Airservices would provide an update. A Community representative would advise on IMC discussions then Mr Morrison would address the issue.

Mr Richard Dudley noted that the specific flight path attracting attention has existed long before the implementation of LTOP, however, there have been changes to the flight path consistent with airspace around Sydney Airport. He also noted the increase in the number of aircraft movements on the flight path consistent with the RESA works; the increased use of SODPROPS and Mode 15 and the safety and efficiency measures for arrivals and departures.

Mr Dudley noted that Airservices is continuing to analyse mitigation measures and respond to parliamentary questions. He advised that full utilisation of the east-west runway when the RESA project ends will mean flights can be more evenly distributed around the Sydney basin, according to the LTOP, but that new navigation technology did impact on flight path accuracy.

Mr Kevin Hill advised that the main focus of the last IMC meeting was on the concentration of noise over the Cook and Lowe areas. It was found that the improvements in technology allow planes to fly on exactly the same flight track. This causes the problem of concentration. Due to the advent of accurate flight tracking technology, this is likely to continue to present itself as an issue going forward. The community members in the IMC requested Airservices to examine in detail the evolution of the concentration on the flight path over Cook and Lowe and identify potential options or solutions. IMC will progress and report on this issue intersessionally.

SACF members agreed that concentration of these flights needs to be monitored, including the altitude of these flights (as this may be a compounding issue), with the suggestion of higher altitudes being adopted.

Airservices advised that it is looking into the questions that IMC raised at its last meeting. Also, that once the east-west runway is reopened, normal noise sharing under the LTOP will resume.

Mr Morrison detailed the origins of the concerns from his constituents on this issue; his frustration that he had to make such an issue of it before his constituents concerns were recognised; and acknowledged SACF as the appropriate forum to address such issues, and looked forward to the outcomes from IMC on possible solutions.

Continued discussion surrounded the new technology and the potential for it to be used to increase noise sharing. Mr Peter Fitzgerald proposed the motion that SACF strongly support the continued operation of the LTOP for Sydney Airport and ask the Minister:

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

Action Item 01/03: *In relation to the issue of noise concentration over electorates including Cook and Lowe, SACF members agree to the following:*

- *IMC to progress its investigation (inter-sessionally) to understand the chronology of events, what was predicted compared to what has eventuated, and what can be done;*
- *Airservices (Richard Dudley) to provide a presentation to the next SACF meeting on new technology and the implications for noise sharing; and*

Action Item 02/03: *The following motion to be included in the Chair's letter to the Minister: 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*

Mr Kevin Hill advised in relation to Action Item 7, an examination of the relevant tapes by Airservices revealed deviations from flight paths by pilots were the result of adverse weather further out from the airport and it was not considered that any more detailed reporting on exceptional operations was possible at this time.

AGENDA ITEM 3: Aviation Community Advocate (ACA) Position

3.1 Minister's response – Chair

The Chair noted his correspondence to the Minister regarding continuation of the ACA position and advised there is no longer Government funding for the position, therefore, it will not be continued past the current contract expiry.

3.2 General Discussion

The meeting expressed dissatisfaction with the funding decision, given the importance SACF puts on the ACA role. Questions were also raised in regard to the justification behind the decision. Some members noted the Minister was sympathetic to the position and the issue was one of funding.

Mr Morrison asked the Summary Record to reflect his disappointment at the lack of funding from the Government for continuation of the Aviation Community Advocate position and invited other members to join him in his willingness to contribute to future funding.

Considerable discussion took place surrounding future funding options for the role including ad-hoc expert advice, independent fund raising and the possibility of the position being funded through the *Aircraft Noise Levy Collection Act 1995* or by the Airport. One member commented that all were advocates around the table.

On the levy funding proposal, Ms Maureen Ellis advised that legal advice sought by the Department in 2005 found that the definition of the ACA role did not fit within the *Aircraft Noise Levy Collection Act 1995* as part of a required noise amelioration program. Further, the levy for this Act, for Sydney Airport, was discontinued in 2006. Ms Ellis continued that if legislation could be amended to accommodate some form of advocate role, budget appropriations would be needed under the currently legislated framework.

The Chair noted it was still open to members to seek advice from Mr Williams but SACF did not have the power to enter into any contract with an advocate.

Action Item 03/03: *Mr Morrison requested that his disappointment concerning the lack of funding from the Government for the Aviation Community Advocate position be recorded in the meeting Summary Record.*

Action Item 04/03: *SACF members resolved the following be included in the Chair's letter to the Minister:*

- *SACF asks the Minister to reconsider his position on the funding of the Advocate position for SACF; and*
- *in accordance 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.*

3.3 Contract Finalisation – Department

Mr Dave Southgate advised that the ACA contract expired on 13 September 2009. The Department thanked Mr Williams for his contribution and noted that all contractual obligations had been fulfilled.

Members passed a motion thanking Mr Williams for his contribution to SACF under the ACA contractual role.

Actions from previous meeting

Action Item 02/02 generated discussion in regard to the Sydney Airport Obstacle Limitation Surface (OLS) penetrations. Mr Peter Fitzgerald from Botany Bay Council raised concerns regarding the OLS around the Botany Bay Council area.



Action Item 05/03: From matters arising and the request from Botany Council concerning issues relating to the OLS information circulated by the Secretariat, the Department (Maureen Ellis) and SACL (Rod Gilmour) representatives agreed to work with Peter Fitzgerald out of session to address the concerns of Botany Council.

AGENDA ITEM 4: Update on the Runway End Safety Area (RESA) Project

4.1 Status report on the RESA project – SACL

SACL advised that phase one of the project was completed on schedule by 15 June 2009 and that phase two is well on its way. The east-west runway is currently available between 6am to 7am and 7pm to 11 pm for landings and departures on runway 25 and departures from runway 07. From 31 October 2009, landings on runway 07 will also be available during these time periods. Extended use is also available when strong cross winds prevail between the hours of 7am to 7pm. Work preventing use to the runway is outside of these hours.

Due to seasonal cross winds at this time of year, it is anticipated the east-west runway will be used more than at other times of the year – resulting in a loss of time for construction work. Members supported a proposal by SACL that when strong north or south winds preclude use of the east-west runway construction continue from 6am-11pm to make up the lost time.

Completion of the RESA works is due by 30 April 2010. As outlined in SACL's RESA progress reports, the latter timeline is under pressure and SACL will continue to keep the Department and SACF informed of its progress.

SACL noted that the new airport perimeter road is in the process of being built, to pass under the heritage listed sewer (the SWOOS).

Rod Gilmour (SACL) provided information on the change to passenger pick-ups at the airport which would retain the disabled facility; provide free short term parking; and avoid continued laps around the terminal. He also provided members with details of the Terminal 1 departure project.

4.2 Update on noise sharing options during RESA – Airservices

4.3 Reporting in noise sharing during RESA – Airservices

It was noted that the use of SODPROPS during the RESA works had increased from around 2% to 11%.

4.4 General discussion

Questions were raised about the use of the east-west runway and the use of SODPROPS after the RESA works. Airservices advised that the continued use of SODPROPS, as the preferred Mode for noise sharing operations under the LTOP, will be maximised after the completion of the RESA works.

AGENDA ITEM 5: Airservices Issues

5.2 Continued application of Mode 15

Airservices advised that the implementation of Mode 15 as a permanent noise sharing mode would require an Environmental Impact Study to be submitted for approval to the Federal Minister for the Environment. Further analysis of Mode 15 would also need to be undertaken through IMC before any action in this regard taken.

Airservices noted that although Mode 15 has accomplished what it was intended to do during the RESA works, alternative Modes to Mode 15 could provide better noise sharing after completion of the RESA works.

5.3 IMC report

Mr Kevin Hill advised there had been two IMC meetings since the last meeting of SACF on 11 August and 22 September 2009. Captain Alex Passerini presented at the first meeting on deviations to SIDS. The permanent use of Mode 15 was discussed at the last IMC meeting on 22 September 2009, and it was noted that there were other options that could be used, such as a modified Mode 9, instead of Mode 15 as a permanent noise sharing measure. This issue will continue to be discussed at IMC meetings.

The focus of the last meeting was concentrated on the flight path over Cook and Lowe (discussed under matters arising at Agenda Item 2.2).

The last meeting of IMC also discussed the replacement of ILS and the subsequent changes to landing operations at the airport, the concentration of flights over the Richmond area and future airspace management opportunities. The Bundeena issue has been examined in detail and it appears weather is the key dictator of over flights. While it is still not resolved to the community's satisfaction IMC is not able to resolve this issue further.

Over flights of residential areas during curfew have also been occurring and IMC is looking in to how this can best be minimised and will report back to SACF

Action Item 06/03: *Kevin Hill to ensure SACF is kept informed of IMC's consideration of, and decisions relating to:*

- *other noise sharing options available in light of the difficulties associated with the continued use of mode 15 post RESA; and*
- *IMC discussions on ways to minimise over flight of residential areas during curfew.*

AGENDA ITEM 6: Current Issues

6.1 Update from ANARCS subcommittee – Mr Kevin Hill (Deferred from last meeting, 10 July 2009)

Mr Kevin Hill circulated a paper for SACF (through the SACF Secretariat) giving an outline description of the ANARCS proposal. There was some discussion and questions from members and recognition that more work was required. Members were requested to provide Mr Hill with comments.

Action Item 07/03: *On the draft ANARCS proposal:*

- *members are to provide feedback to Kevin Hill for discussion at the next SACF meeting;*
- *the ANARCS sub-committee is to progress and refine the proposal; and*
- *the Minister is to be advised (in Chair's letter to the Minister) of the work underway.*

6.2 Update on Safeguarding Paper – Department

Ms Maureen Ellis provided a summary update including her discussions with the ACA on issues in the paper relevant to SACF. She further advised that the Department received 90 submissions, most of which concentrated on the ANEF system with no clear consensus on its adequacy. Further consultation will be required.

***Action Item 08/03:** The Department (Maureen Ellis) to keep SACF informed of progress on the Safeguarding airports and the communities around them issue.*

AGENDA ITEM 7: Other Business

AGENDA ITEM 8: Administrative Matters

- 8.1 *Curfew Dispensation Report*
- 8.2 *SACF Correspondence*
- 8.3 *SACF Phone Line*
- 8.4 *SACF Web Site*

The Chair advised details were included in the meeting papers.

All items under Agenda Item 8 were accepted without comment.

AGENDA ITEM 9: Date of next meeting

The next meeting of SACF will be held in Friday 27 November 2009.



Action Items Arising from Meeting 3 – 25 September 2009.

Action Item 01/03: *In relation to the issue of noise concentration over electorates including Cook and Lowe, SACF members agree the following:*

- *IMC to progress its investigation (inter-sessionally) to understand the chronology of events, what was predicted compared to what has eventuated, and what can be done;*
- *Airservices (Richard Dudley) to provide a presentation to the next SACF meeting on new technology and the implications for noise sharing; and*

Action Item 02/03: *The following motion to be included in the Chair's letter to the Minister: 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*

Action Item 03/03: *At the request of Scott Morrison, the Minutes are to reflect his disappointment concerning the lack of funding from the Government for the Aviation Community Advocate position.*

Action Item 04/03: *SACF members resolved the following be included in the Chair's letter to the Minister:*

- *SACF asks the Minister to reconsider his position on the funding of the Advocate position for SACF; and*
- *in accordance 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.*

Action Item 05/03: *From matters arising and the request from Botany Council concerning issues relating to the OLS information circulated by the Secretariat, the Department (Maureen Ellis) and SACF (Rod Gilmour) representatives agreed to work with Peter Fitzgerald out of session to address the concerns of Botany Council.*

Action Item 06/03: *Kevin Hill to ensure SACF is kept informed of IMC's consideration of, and decisions relating to:*

- *other noise sharing options available in light of the difficulties associated with the continued use of mode 15 post RESA; and*
- *IMC discussions on ways to minimise over flight of residential areas during curfew.*

Action Item 07/03: *On the draft ANARCS proposal:*

- *members are to provide feedback to Kevin Hill for discussion at the next SACF meeting;*
- *the ANARCS sub-committee is to progress and refine the proposal; and*
- *the Minister is to be advised (in Chair's letter to the Minister) of the work underway.*

Action Item 08/03: *The Department (Maureen Ellis) to keep SACF informed of progress on the Safeguarding airports and the communities around them issue.*



ATTENDANCE

Members

B. Cotter	Chair, Community Representative for the North
M. Patrinos	Community representative for the West
K. Hill	Community Representative for the South
T. Fasanella	Representing the Member for Lowe
K. Scott-Murphy	Representing the Member for Watson
J. Clarke	Representing the Member for Bradfield
P. McGrath	Representing the Member for Wentworth
K. Pasterfield	Representing the Member for Kingsford Smith
S. Morgan	Representing the Member for Barton
B. Hayes	Representing the Member for North Sydney
E. Wulff	Representing the Member for Bennelong
P. Norman	Representing the Member for Heffron
S. Morrison	Member for Cook
M. O'Sullivan	Representing the State Member for Marrickville
T. Nardone	Representing the State Member for Sydney
T. Clapper	Representing the Member for Rockdale
P. Fitzgerald	Representing the Mayor of Botany Bay Council
K. Schreiber	Representing the Mayor of Sutherland Shire
T. Cassidy	Mayor of Ashfield
K. Banfield	Representing the Mayor of Marrickville Council
R. Edney	Member for the Australian Airline Industry
R. Gilmour	Representing Sydney Airport Corporation Ltd
W. Bennett	Representing the Board of Airline Representatives of Australia

Department of Infrastructure

M. Ellis	General Manager, Aviation Environment Branch
D. Southgate	Head, Aviation Environment Policy Section
N. Fisher	Aviation Environment Policy Section
A. Sutherland	Head, New South Wales Section
D. Barbar	Minister's Office

Advisers

R. Dudley	Airservices Australia
R. Lee	Airservices Australia
P. Carroll	Airservices Australia
K. Alcott	Sydney Airport Corporation Ltd.
T. Plummer	Sydney Airport Corporation Ltd
H. Knox	Overnight Airfreight Operators Association

Observers



- K. Bartlett Office of the State electorate of Sydney
- T. Williams Former Aviation Community Advocate
- P. Bibby Sydney Morning Herald

Apologies

- D. Copley-Finch Representing the Federal Member for Sydney
- S. McArdle Representing the Mayor of Leichhardt
- G. Ritchie Representing the Mayor of Canterbury