SYDNEY AIRPORT COMMUNITY FORUM



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

The Hon Bruce Baird MP

Mr Warren Bennett Board of Airline Representatives in Australia

Mr John Clarke
Upper North Shore Community

Cr John Flowers
Mayor of Rockdale

Mr Rod Gilmour Sydney Airport Corporation Ltd.

Mr Kevin Hill

The Hon Joe Hockey MP

Cr Sue Hoopmann

Cr Rae Jones

Cr Ian Longbottom

Mr Robert McClelland MP

Mr Michael Megna Inner West Community

Cr Joanne Morris
Mayor of Hurstville

Mr John Murphy MP Federal Member for Lowe

Ms Maria Patrinos

Mr Anthony Roberts MLA State Member for Lane Cove

Cr Kevin Schreiber
Mayor of Sutherland Shire

Cr Fiona Sinclair King Wentworth Community

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26 May 2005

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

Dear Minister

I write to convey to you the outcomes of the 41st meeting of the Sydney Airport Community Forum (SACF) held on 4 March 2005. This was the first meeting since the Forum was reconstituted last year.

The main agenda item for the meeting was the release of Airplan's report on the LTOP performance. Members agreed to hold an additional meeting on 29 April 2005 to give detailed consideration to the findings in this report. In the interim, the report was referred to the Implementation and Monitoring Committee for its consideration of certain technical items for report back to SACF at the 29 April meeting. SACF requested that Airplan attend this meeting in order that members could discuss the report.

At the April meeting, Members representing the north and inner western Sydney communities voiced serious concerns that the LTOP targets were not being achieved. They also considered that the report did not meet community representatives' expectations and failed in detailing clear and specific recommendations. The members resolved that an LTOP subcommittee should reconvene via a teleconference to address the Forum's concerns and specifically detail what Airplan should do to meet these expectations. The sub-committee met on 9 May and will detail over the next few weeks further work for Airplan to undertake in order that it can address the community representatives' criticisms.

The Aviation Community Advocate position still remains an ongoing issue requiring further discussion. Members support the continuation of the position but the position's funding and its location either exclusively within the Department or in the community still require further consideration.

Members agreed that the trial period with Mr Dave Southgate from the Department will continue for another six months.

Members received updates from SACL on the introduction of the new A380 aircraft at KSA and on the advances of new technology for navigational aids from Qantas and Airservices.

Members expressed their concerns that they were unable to submit comments on the KSA Draft Environmental Strategy for 2005-2010 due to SACF being in abeyance since the election.

Airspace protection is still an ongoing item for members' consideration. They expressed concerns that the airspace around KSA is not being fully protected, and in their view the Department's approach to airspace management is not adequately addressing this issue. I believe that at the next meeting airspace protection will receive greater consideration.

The composition of the current membership was also raised as the areas of Botany and Maroubra, at the present time are unrepresented on SACF. Members are also seeking your views on reinviting those members who resigned from the Forum some years ago.

I will await your consideration of the issues raised at the meeting.

Yours sincerely

Marise Payne

Chair