

Minutes – Essendon Fields Airport Community Aviation Consultation Group (CACG)

Meeting held Friday 8th December 2023, at 11:00am by Videoconference / Board Room

Members:

Rod Gurry (Representing Bill Shorten and Danny Pearson MP, Frank Manti (Community Representative), Brendan Pihan (EAPL), Matt Marais (EAPL), Brad Evans (EAPL) Cr.Narelle Sharpe(Moonee Valley Council), Frank Manti (Community Representative) Christine Campbell – Airservices Tim Gill (Airservices Australia), May Li Foong (Airservices)

Invited Guests:

Christine Campbell (Airservices Australia), Kathy Craig (EAPL) Braden Hartcher (Dept of Infrastructure), Malgy Coman (Dept of Infrastructure), Neermala Cash (Department of Infrastructure).

Apology:

Braden Hartcher (Dept of Infrastructure),

1. Welcome

Brad Evans welcomed the committee and attendees to the fourth and final CACG meeting for 2023. We welcome Mae Lee from Airservices as representative.

Apologies for the meeting included:

- i. Mr.Danny Pearson MP
- ii. Mr.Bill Shorten MP

2. Items arising from previous CACG minutes (22 September 2023)

The minutes from the previous meeting held 22 September 2023 were accepted by all.

3. Noise

Tim Gill from Airservices provided an update in relation to noise-based complaints. Refer **attached** report.

- Aircraft movements steadily rising over the 6 months
- Noise monitors nothing to report for outages
- Complaints 53 people in touch with Airservices 92 times, 37 new complaints, the most concerns from Coburg and Essendon. 40 suburbs recorded a single complaint.
- In Coburg curfew movement from emergency services.
- Consistent with Bankstown and Parafield Airports.
- Aircraft in your Neighbourhood – Provides a tool to review movements etc/ assess complainants by suburb etc.
- If an airport is leaving one airport and arriving at another how is the complaint allocated? TG to respond to EAPL.

- Aircraft Noise over East Melbourne – Worked with Adam Bandt and EMG. TG to share pack to EAPL. (Helicopter Noise. City Orbit, GA doing city orbit).
- A task force for East Melbourne Group established run by the Dept. BP asked if the taskforce has a term of reference? Neermala advised not yet available and will circulate to the group when available.

4. Community Feedback/Concerns

BE noted that EAPL had received some dust based complaints in relation to the civil works underway in the Hart Precinct. EAPL have worked with the contract to implement a dust management plan with a focus on the summer period when the site is not operational. This will include regular site watering.

5. Jet Curfew (Infrastructure)

Current movements (July to September 2023)

The DITRDCA provided curfew movement data – permitted helicopter movements down from 323 to just 1 from the prior reported period.

6. Aviation operations (EAPL)

EF aviation update

Matt Marais outlined a detailed airfield operations update.

- **Movements:**
 - Growth was forecast at 2%. Now looking at 0%.
 - Approx 53,000 movements for FY24. Emergency Services are the key movement.
 - Air Ambulance are the most variable in terms of movement.
 - Air Ambulance are planning to replace some of their fixed wing February with two King Airplanes in March 2024.
 - The Super Puma Helicopter is based here along with the Air Crane Helicopter (Elvis) for Fire Services.
- **Regional Passengers:**
 - 10% down from last year for the same period
 - As of 5th January 2024, Link Airways are leaving Essendon Airport to move to Melbourne Airport which will result in approximately 1200 less movements from our airport as they now look to co share flights with Virgin Airlines.

7. Development Update (EAPL)

BE provided a detailed update of planned new development across the airport which included the civil works underway in the Hart Precinct to facilitate the development of a future 20,000m² warehouse which will develop modular buildings. Completion expected April 2024.

Development of 274 Lionel Street has also commenced with a new vehicle dealership to be completed by March/April 2024.

BP noted that MVCC had recently prepared a Council Report which discussed EAPL's Master Plan and reference that it had not yet been updated. EAPL has been delayed due to the Melb Airport MDP being undetermined and needs to provide certainty in the Master Plan in relation to noise contours prescribed by the ANEF. Separate Department discussion to be held in relation to timing of the Master Plan.

8. EF Master Plan (Planning Matters)

Extension of time to lodge the Masterplan with the Department of Infrastructure has been approved. The Master Plan lodgement is dependent on the MDP determination.

9. Departmental Update

- Neermala noted that the Melb Airport MDP remains under consideration with approval likely expected in January 2024.

Refer attached presentation for further details.

10. Departmental Update

4-6 Trade Park Drive, Tullamarine

BE noted that EAPL had objected to an off site development within the Hume Council Area which proposed to project into the OLS by approximately 33 metres.

Council determined the matter and EAPL have lodged an appeal with VCAT against the decision. EAPL are hopeful of mediating an outcome which safeguards airport operations and provides for safe aviation movements in this corridor. Further updates to be provided to team.

Meeting Closed 12:10am

Next meeting will be held 15 March 2024 @ 11:00am by videoconference / in EF Office (Chair – Brad Evans) – (Please confirm if you will attend in the office or via Teams)