

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

Meeting held Friday September 4, 2020 at 10:30am by Microsoft Teams videoconference

Members: Cr Narelle Sharpe (MVCC), Rod Gurry (Representing Bill Shorten MP and Danny Pearson MP), Frank Manti (Community Representative), Brendan Pihan (EAPL), Colin Fort (EAPL).

Invited Guests: Michael Joost (Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development and Communications) (Infrastructure), Darren Walker (Infrastructure), Fiona Lawton (Airservices Australia), Chris Kumar (Airservices Australia), Rory Kennedy (EAPL).

1. Welcome – Rory Kennedy (Chair – standing in for Danny Pearson MP) welcomed the committee and attendees.

2. Items arising from previous CACG minutes (September 4, 2020)

The minutes from the previous meeting were accepted.

5.a) EAPL to graph data to identify trends over time.

- See Item 5.

3. Noise

a) Airservices Update

Airservices provided updates regarding:

- Tower Operations
- COVID-19 Aviation Impacts
- Flight Path Design Principles
- New Website
- Community Engagement Framework
- Online Reporting
- NCIS Update

Due to COVID-19 restrictions, EF is currently the busiest airport in the Melbourne Basin now that flight training at Moorabbin has paused.

Prior to the implementation of Stage 4 restrictions, flight training had been working through a backlog. Flight training likely to be busy once restrictions lift. In the meantime, EF is receiving some practice approaches from regional-based flight schools.

The new Airservices Community Engagement Framework is online:

<https://engage.airservicesaustralia.com/>

Online noise reporting is updated on the 10th business day of each month:

<http://aircraftnoiseinfo.emsbk.com/essendon/intro/>

4. Community Feedback/Concerns

a) A resident of Mascoma Street, Strathmore Heights

Complaint received by the office of Danny Pearson MP, regarding the number of practice approaches to the Runway 26 Instrument Landing System. The pilots apply power and turn away to the left or right, flying away over houses. The resident believes the flights should continue straight ahead over the airport, rather than turning to fly over his home.

EAPL spoke with Airservices about the possibility of these training flights turning over the airport site instead. However, separation from other air traffic is required, including Melbourne Airport.

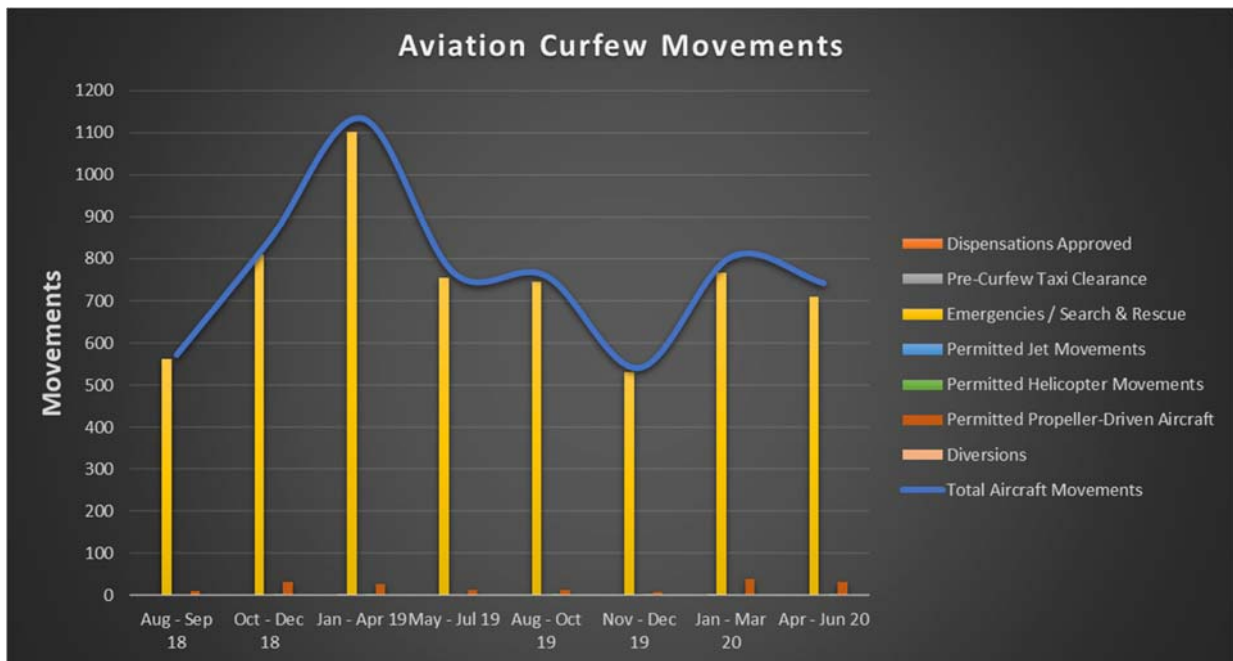
EAPL does not control air traffic and it is a Lease obligation that EAPL must provide access to the airport by interstate and intrastate air transport. It is difficult that the flying schools seem unusually busy and many of these flights originate from other airports.

5. Jet Curfew (Infrastructure)

a) Current movements (April to June 2020)

See attached summary.

- 697 movements conducted by Victoria Police and Air Ambulance Victoria using helicopters and propeller driven aircraft.
- There were also 12 other movements classified as emergency operations. This included 9 movements conducted by jet aircraft (5 arrivals and 4 departures).
- 33 exempt propeller driven aircraft and 1 helicopter movement, which are allowed under the *Air Navigation (Essendon Fields Airport) Regulations 2018*.



Note: Large variances in graph are due to the format data was received in blocks of 2, 3 or 4 months.

Action: EAPL discuss with Infrastructure whether historic and future data can be provided in a monthly format.

6. Aviation operations (EAPL)

a) EF aviation update

EAPL has switched to a new data source for flight information and will now have access to information about flights, such as type of aircraft and time of movement.

Flight training by operators based at EF had accounted for approximately 30% of all flights, but has paused due to COVID-19 restrictions. There are still training flights from the regions.

The Police Air Wing is implementing its new fleet of AW139 Helicopters.

The Aviation team has seen a spike in “controlled activity” applications for cranes to operate in prescribed airspace.

b) Melbourne Airport 3rd Runway

Discussion regarding status of Melbourne Airport's planning.

Colin Fort has attended a working group between Melbourne Airport and Airservices which is looking at ways to manage the air traffic during the different runway operating modes. EAPL is awaiting further information about noise and operational implications for EF.

7. Development Update (EAPL)

a) Automotive Training Centres – Earhart Court, Wirraway North Precinct

Construction of a regional office and training centres for Porsche and Volkswagen underway. Porsche is scheduled to be complete by October.

b) High-Tech Industrial, Challenger Court (Hart Precinct)

Construction of an office/warehouse for Elenium Automation is underway. Scheduled to be complete by October.

c) Refurbishment of Hangar 85, Bristol Street

Refurbishment of this Second World War era hangar has been completed, to meet the needs of modern aviation tenants. Occupants include The Royal Flying Doctor Service and Aviation Australia. YMCA has leased office space on the first floor.

d) Terminal Refurbishment Stage 2 “Bell Business Centre”

Pre-leasing has commenced for the planned refurbishment of the southern end of the Terminal building, which includes the addition of a Business Centre with shared meeting facilities.

8. Master Plan and Major Development Plan (MDP) matters (EAPL)

a) Draft Master Plan 2019 (dMP)

EAPL is pleased to advise that the Deputy Prime Minister has allowed the withdrawal of the dMP and provided an extension of time for a new dMP to be submitted by 31 January 2023. This will enable EAPL to update all plans and forecasts and consult with the community after planning proposals for Melbourne Airport's third runway are further progressed.

EAPL considers this to be an excellent outcome for the community because the updated dMP will be based on the most-up-to-date information and be far more accurate in its forecasts.

9. Other business

a) Melbourne Airport Environs Safeguarding Standing Advisory Committee Part B: Review of Planning Provisions for Airport Safeguarding

Public submissions closing 5pm Friday 18 September 2020 [extended to Friday 2 October]

<https://engage.vic.gov.au/airport-safeguarding-advisory-committee>

EAPL will make a submission and encouraged other members to review the Terms of Reference and make submissions.

b) Stakeholder Engagement Activities – Draft Annual Report

EAPL circulated its draft annual report and requested comments.

c) Hangar 82, Bristol Street – New Maintenance, Repair and Overhaul Facility

EAPL has previously presented plans of the development to the CACG and looks forward to announcing the development and its operator.

Meeting Closed 11:30am

Next meeting will be held Friday November 27, 2020 @ 10:30am

Chair – Rory Kennedy (EAPL)

By Videoconference