

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

Meeting held Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> June 2023, at 10:30am 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. Frank Manti (Community Representative) Christine Campbell – Air Services Tim Gill (Airservices Australia),Kathy Craig (EAPL)

## Invited Guests:

Christine Campbell (Airservices Australia) Warwick Wearing (Dept of Infrastructure), Kathy Craig (EAPL)

## 1. Welcome

Brad Evans welcomed the committee and attendees to the second CACG meeting for 2023.

Apologies for the meeting included:

- i. Braden Hartcher (Dept of Infrastructure)
- ii. Danny Pearson MP
- iii. Bill Shorten MP
- iv. Cr. Narelle Sharp

## 2. Items arising from previous CACG minutes (10 March 2023)

The minutes from the previous meeting held 10 March 2023 were accepted by all.

## 3. Noise

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

KC questioned if Airservices is able to break down the complaints to determine if complainants are new to the area and responding to noise impacts not previously experienced. TG noted Airservices don't normally seek that form of data however can integrate this on review on a site-by-site basis.

FM noted that he has experienced increase helicopter activity in Maribyrnong and Tims data noted that one off complaints had been received from a number of suburbs which would reflect the increased use of helicopters over this last period.

## 4. Community Feedback/Concerns

RG noted that Bill's office had received a complaint from Buckley Street Essendon in relation to large aircraft activity. TG noted that these complaints usually end up with Airservices.

## **5. Jet Curfew (Infrastructure)**

### ***Current movements (January to March 2023)***

The DITRDCA provided EAPL with aircraft curfew movement data prior to the meeting. The data demonstrates a substantial increase in helicopter activity noted in relation to permitted curfew movements (increased by some 315 movements over the period. Refer attached summary.

## **6. Aviation operations (EAPL)**

### ***EF aviation update***

Matt Marais outlined a detailed airfield operations update.

- Pavement works;
- Drainage works and review of onsite drainage.
- CASA surveillance event. EAPL operations audited by CASA which identified three lighting-based issues. EAPL working through actions to remedy.
- Forecast movements over the winter period are expected to reduce slightly with growth expected following the Winter period.

## **7. Development Update (EAPL)**

BE provided a detailed update of planned new development across the airport which included the commencement of site early works in the Hart Precinct to facilitate the development of a future 20,000m<sup>2</sup> warehouse which will develop modular buildings.

Development of 274 Lionel Street will also shortly commence with site sheds to be located on site in the next 7 days. The site works will comprise development of a showroom building for motor vehicle sales.

## **8. EF Master Plan (Planning Matters)**

Extension of time to lodge the Masterplan with the Department of Infrastructure has been approved. The Master Plan will now be lodged by January 2025. EAPL will likely go out to public consultation in September 2024.

BE noted that EAPL has undertaken a review of the 2006 Heritage Management Plan. Lovell Chen have been appointed to review the former plan and prepare a new Heritage Management Plan to accord with the requirements of the EPBC Act.

## **9. Other Matters**

CC noted some staffing shortages associated with the tower. EAPL requested to be kept informed of this matter as it will have impacts to access the airport for its aviation users.

RG queried if EAPL will continue its community grants program. BP noted that it is planned to continue to roll this out.

**Meeting Closed 11:10am**

**Next meeting will be held Friday 15<sup>th</sup> September 2023 @ 11:00am by videoconference /  
in EF Office**

**Chair – Brad Evans) – (Please confirm if you will attend in the office or via Teams)**