

PASSENGER TERMINAL EXPANSION



WHAT IS PROPOSED?

Darwin International Airport is planning the biggest expansion in its history, with a \$60 million investment that will:

- expand the passenger terminal floor space by about 65 per cent in a modern, partial three-storey building to the east of the current terminal (covered by a draft Major Development Plan);
- build new aprons to increase parking space for planes (start August 2008)
- relocate staff carparking facilities (start July 2008)
- expand public carparking facilities by 160 spaces (start June 2008)

HOW WILL FACILITIES BE IMPROVED?

This is the first major capital investment in the passenger terminal since it opened in 1991. Until then, civil aviation facilities had been shared with the Department of Defence on the other side of the runway.

In the past 20 years, airport traffic has grown rapidly. Although there have been major refurbishments to the terminal, carparks and approaches to the terminal, there has been no major change in the capacity of the terminal leading to congestion and declining service standards.

Rapid growth and the concentration of services into the peak period around midnight, has placed pressure on the terminal's operations. There are constraints in the check-in hall, international baggage claims, passenger circulation and security screening.

The expansion is needed to support the growth of Darwin International Airport and cope with increased business and tourism visitors.

The expansion will increase floor space by about 65 per cent in a modern, partial three-storey building. This will minimise connection times, make passenger flows more efficient, see

Artist impression of terminal expansion: view from airside (south)



baggage handling improved, improve efficiency and increase customer satisfaction.

WHAT IS INCLUDED IN THE EXPANSION?

The expansion will allow for projected growth to 2015 with a partial three-story building providing an additional 11,000 square metres of floor space and a new goods delivery area.

- The ground floor will include new check-in facilities, domestic and international security screening, and inbound international processing;
- The first floor will cover domestic and international departure facilities, including expanded retail outlets;
- The second floor will incorporate airline lounges.

Improved facilities include enhanced security screening, a better retail precinct, separate baggage reclaim and arrivals areas for domestic and international passengers, more boarding gates to allow for simultaneous boarding and disembarking of passengers and a dedicated goods delivery precinct from Cecil Cook Avenue.

The design of the terminal will allow for later modular expansion.



Artist impression of terminal expansion: retail concourse



Artists impression of terminal expansion: view from east

WHAT IS THE PLANNING PROCESS?

The airport is on Commonwealth Land so it operates under the *Airports Act 1996*. This Act requires the airport to submit a Major Development Plan to the Federal Minister for Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development and Local Government for major projects.

The airport has to demonstrate that its proposed development is in accordance with the Act, and the airport's master plan.

A Major Development Plan for the passenger terminal expansion will be on display for 60 business days, so the public can make comment. Darwin International Airport will conduct a comprehensive stakeholder consultation process to ensure the public can ask questions and have their say on the project once the Major Development Plan is released.

WHAT ARE THE IMPACTS OF THE DEVELOPMENT?

There should be minimal environmental impacts from the expansion, as the new building will be on a sealed area now used for car parking. There may be some dust, noise and increased construction traffic.

The area will later be landscaped, in accord with the airport's Landscaping Masterplan developed by Greening Australia.

WHAT ARE THE PROJECT TIMELINES?

Darwin International Airport has commenced discussions with airlines on the functionality and commercial agreements which will underpin the passenger terminal development. In line with these discussions the Major Development Plan will be submitted to the Federal Minister later this year, after the public consultation period. It is hoped to start construction at the beginning of 2009, with the terminal completed in stages according to market conditions.

HOW CAN I HAVE A SAY?

Darwin International Airport will conduct briefings on the project. Detailed information will be posted on its website as it becomes available. In the meantime contact Darwin International Airport if you would like to discuss the project.