



DARWIN INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT COMMUNITY CONSULTATION GROUP

Web Report No 22 – 15 March 2018

held at

Board Room, Wirraway Business Centre, Darwin International Airport

1. Welcome and Apologies

Chair Daryl Manzie welcomed members to the 22nd meeting of the Community Consultation Group. The Summary Record and Meeting Report of the meeting on 2 November 2017 had been previously settled by circulation.

2. DIA Property Developments

The following property developments were presented by Ross Baynes:

- The design of Osgood South Stage 3 is progressing, for lodgement of the Building Application. Discussions are ongoing with two anchor tenants.
- The Liquor Commission has now been re-established, with Dan Murphy's to soon lodge an application for a liquor licence transferral.
- Stage One of the Osgood Dr / Bagot Rd intersection has now been agreed with NT Government, which will provide a direct connection from Totem Rd to Osgood Dr, as well as the right hand turn from Osgood Dr onto Bagot Rd. A 2027 Master Plan of the intersection has been developed with additional lanes and stacking capacity.
- DIA has undertaken a subdivision proposal for 1.6ha land adjacent to Little Flyers Childcare. The subdivision consists of 8 plots of varying sizes, with DIA currently seeking interest from the market before progressing the project.
- The Major Development Plan for the Air Traffic Control Upgrade Project has now been approved.
- The new Careflight hangar is due for completion by late March 2018.
- DIA has lodged an application with the Building Better Regions Fund for a new cold storage facility at the airport.
- Stage 3 of the Airport Lodge is currently being dismantled, with the site to be made good. Lesley Alford commented that prior to the Airport Lodge being built, the site had been eucalypt woodland. Lesley noted that she would prefer to see cleared land within the airport boundary developed first, although she was conscious that these areas are landmarked for future development. Ian Kew highlighted that this is not always achievable, as business operators often have clear views on where they want to place their business.
- DIA is continuing discussions regarding the proposed fuel pipeline and fuel storage facility at the port.

3. DIA Commercial Developments (retail & ground transport)

Shane de Wit provided an update on recent commercial developments at DIA:

- The online car parking booking engine is expected to go live early next week, taking bookings from 28 March 2018. Dawn Lawrie queried whether disabled driver permits could be linked into the online engine, offering double the amount of free parking. Shane to investigate further.

- DIA has been undertaking market research into our local customers, how they get to the airport, and what their preferences are.
- An international cosmetics brand will be opening a retail tenancy in the terminal at the end of March.
- Wine Selectors is undergoing a two-week trial in the international departure lounge.
- The Catalina Lounge is performing well.

4. DIA Aviation Developments

Matthew Findlay reflected on aviation developments at DIA over the past year, with three international airlines pulling out of the Darwin market, and two direct destinations to no longer be served from March (KUL/MNL). More positively, Silk Air commenced its new B737 MAX services in early 2018, which adds +41% more seats between Singapore and Darwin. The Boeing and Airbus industry outlooks show that 70% of air travel is booked based on consumer confidence.

5. RAAF Base Operational Update including Airservices Matters

SQNLDR Craig Sedgman provided the following update on behalf of Airservices:

- There were a total of 12 individual noise complainants from the Darwin Region in 2017, compared to 3 in 2016. This can be attributed to more exercises in Q1/Q2 2017, and more circuit work as a result of the exercises.
- In 2017, the main noise issues related to helicopters, training and military operations.
- Airservices and Defence have signed contracts signifying a major milestone in unifying the nation's civil and military air traffic management systems.
- Airservices is currently fostering civil aviation through supporting a Space Based Augmentation System (SBAS) trial.

The following operational update was provided:

- A range of future developments are planned at the base over the coming years, including extension of apron areas; a new hangar; new fuel facilities; updating of the aircraft arrestor system; duplication of the dormitory.
- The Marine Rotational Force Darwin will be here from April to October.
- Exercise Pitch Black will comprise 112 aircraft and run from 27 July to 17 August. There are 12 international partners engaged and 6 observing countries. The Pitch Black Open Day will be held on 4 August, and the fly past at Mindil Beach on 2 August. The highest intensity of the flying program will be from 6-17 August, with no flying on weekends.
- Exercise Kakadu to be held from 31 August – 15 September.
- The Detailed Site Investigation of PFAS at RAAF Base Darwin was published in February 2018. The findings of a Human Health Risk Assessment are scheduled to be released in May 2018.

6. Defence Support Report

Kim Macdonald gave the following update:

- Julie Rendell is the new Acting BSM for RAAF Base Darwin.
- Land management for the Base is on target, with January works occurring as scheduled.
- An environmental specialist is being engaged to work with Defence's contractors.
- 80 new homes by DHA are now occupied.

Lesley Alford queried some recent Defence weed management processes. Darren Skuse, DIA's Environment Manager reiterated the positive working relationship between Defence and DIA. SQNLDR Craig Sedgman extended an invitation to Lesley to inspect weed issues at the RAAF Base.

7. DIA Airport Service Quality survey results 2017 and *Welcome To Our Place* Update

DIA's Head of Operations, Garry Porter, outlined:

- The airport's ASQ survey results for 2017, with the 'overall customer satisfaction' remaining steady since 2016.
- DIA is to undertake a review of all 42 identified touch points in the typical passenger journey.
- DIA is working with stakeholders to ensure passengers receive a coordinated approach to communications, such as check-in, safety and security messages.

8. Department of Infrastructure, Regional Development and Cities update

Helen Gannon advised of recent ministerial changes, with the Hon Michael McCormack MP replacing the Hon Barnaby Joyce MP as the Deputy Prime Minister and Federal Minister for Infrastructure and Transport. The Department now includes Cities (previously part of the Department of Prime Minister and Cabinet), and the Office of Transport Security has moved to the newly formed Department of Home Affairs.

The Aviation Access Forum last met in November 2017, with the main issues discussed being access to aircraft toilets, processes for seating passengers with reduced mobility, and the carriage of mobility aids. The next meeting is to be held in May 2018, with items for discussion including access to flight entertainment systems, access to flight information display screens, and an update on the carriage of assistance animals. Guidance on the carriage of mobility aids has been published to the Department of Infrastructure website: https://infrastructure.gov.au/aviation/aaf/guidance_operators.aspx
https://infrastructure.gov.au/aviation/aaf/guidance_passengers.aspx

The PFAS National Environmental Management Plan (NEMP) was released on 16 February 2018. The NEMP is designed to provide a nationally consistent risk management approach to PFAS, and is to be implemented by state and territory governments.

9. DIA Operations Update

Mike Little, DIA's Operations Director, presented on a variety of investigations the airport has undertaken into further renewable energy initiatives:

- Solar expansion opportunities:
 - Leading grid integration policy discussions with PWC
 - Discussions ongoing with NT Government for large scale solar. DIA has secured a Generators Licence from NT Utilities Commission
 - A number of new rooftop solar locations identified across the DIA lease area
- Complementary solutions to solar energy including Electric Ground Support Equipment that service aircraft. This reduces the need for diesel powered equipment, improves the environment of the baggage area and efficiency of operations, and reduces maintenance and the airport's carbon footprint.

Mike also provided an update on the sewer rising main duplication project, advising that DIA has gone to tender on the project, with construction expected to commence in this year's dry season. Lesley Alford gave positive feedback on the method of construction.

10. DIA Events / Media

Jill Morris presented on the recent It's a Bloke Thing charity lunch that was held on 13 February 2018. The event raised funds to pay for a full-time prostate cancer nurse for Darwin. The lunch raised \$112,000, and with the NT Government and the Prostate Cancer Foundation Australia both matching dollar-for-dollar, the event managed to raise a total of \$336,000. The 380-guest event was the first time a lunch of this size and nature had been held in an international departure lounge in an Australian airport.

Jill also previewed a number of new short films that have been created as part of the short film series by NT Airports. These included a corporate film, a community engagement film, and an aviation history film.

11. Community Consultation Group member issues

Daryl Manzie queried the recent media attention regarding lengthy security screening queues at DIA. Ian Kew advised that the longer queues were a result of items being screened more thoroughly which takes a little more time, compounded with passenger facilitation. DIA have arranged with its airline for check-in counters to be opened up earlier to customers, along with the secondary screening point to be opened in order to alleviate congestion.

12. General Business

No general business items were raised.

Next meeting: Thursday 5 July 2018