

22 August 2013

Mr Matt Francis  
General Manager, Corporate & Public Affairs  
Melbourne Airport  
Locked Bag 16  
Tullamarine VIC 3043

Dear Matt

**Melbourne Airport Master Plan 2013 (Preliminary Draft) – Plan Feedback**

Thank you for making time to meet at the LeadWest offices in June and supplying a copy of the Draft Melbourne Airport Master Plan 2013 released in May. Your briefing about the key proposals included within the plan was much appreciated.

As explained when we met, Western Melbourne Tourism Inc (WMT) is an association incorporated for the purposes of promoting and developing visitation and tourism within the western metropolitan region, embracing the municipal boundaries of Brimbank, Hobsons Bay, Maribyrnong, Melton, Moonee Valley and Wyndham councils. The association is overseen by an independent board comprising representation from the six western metropolitan partner councils as well as Parks Victoria, Victoria University as well as representatives from the tourism industry and the community in the region.

WMT has a strong strategic interest in the future development of Melbourne Airport and would like to offer the following supportive comments to the draft plan, pertaining to the tourism development interests of Melbourne's west:

- WMT strongly endorse the statements in section 2 of the submission related to the economic and social importance of the Melbourne Airport, and in particular its contribution to the local economy of the western Melbourne region;
- WMT endorses all proposals to reduce the road congestion ie construction of the elevated loop and expand the existing road network including an Outer Metropolitan Ring Road. These developments are imperative to improving links/ access from the west, but also to reduce traffic pressure on the Tullamarine Freeway;
- In general principle WMT endorses the outline master plan proposals for the airport related to Ground Transport set out in Section 9. WMT believes a rail link to the airport should be a high priority of the State Government. WMT endorses the proposed 'Albion East' alignment shown in the Master Plan, as a connection to a future Melbourne Metro Rail link including an interchange at Sunshine;
- In the light of the anticipated business and population growth in the region WMT also supports the further extension and frequency of metropolitan bus services linking the region /local transport hubs (including Avalon Airport) with Melbourne Airport;

- As discussed, WMT would like to work in collaboration with Melbourne Airport management to promote the local visitor assets of the west and take greater advantage of the direct proximity of the airport to attractions and accommodation businesses in the region.

If you would like to contact me to elaborate further on the above I am available on 03 9317 5794 or email [richard@melbourneswest.com.au](mailto:richard@melbourneswest.com.au) if required.

WMT greatly appreciates the commitment by Melbourne Airport to consultation with local stakeholders in Master plan development process. We look forward to remaining in contact.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Richard Ponsford". The signature is written in a cursive, slightly slanted style.

**Richard Ponsford**  
Executive Officer  
Western Melbourne Tourism Inc