3 December 2018

Alison Collins, Project Lead, Integrated Movement Systems Discussion Paper
Department of Planning, Transport & Infrastructure
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Dear Ms Collins

Integrated Movement Systems Policy Discussion Paper

I am writing on behalf of both Adelaide Airport Limited and Parafield Airport Limited (together AAL) as operators of Adelaide and Parafield Airports in relation to the Integrated Movement Systems Policy Discussion Paper released for consultation by the Department of Planning, Transport and Infrastructure (DPTI) and the State Planning Commission.

AAL appreciates the opportunity to provide comments in relation to the Discussion Paper and wishes to commend the South Australian Government and the State Planning Commission on this initiative to provide further detail regarding the policy matters that will be addressed in the new Planning and Design Code. We have reviewed the Discussion Paper and its associated Background Paper and are pleased to see that issues related to planning for and around airports have been addressed.

We fully support an improved approach to planning policy in areas surrounding Adelaide and Parafield Airports to protect ongoing aviation operations in line with the National Airports Safeguarding Framework (NASF). Both airports contribute significantly to the State’s economy and this must be reflected in policy for areas surrounding the airports to ensure that their ongoing aviation future is assured.

The Discussion Paper also references a need to transition the policy intent of the Airfield Zone, with the inference that this Zone will be applied to Adelaide and Parafield Airports within the new Planning and Design Code. Both airports are located on land owned by the Commonwealth Government; the State’s planning legislation does not apply for aviation and non-aviation development within the boundaries of the airports’ land. Instead, planning and development matters are governed by the Airports Act 1996.

The Airports Act requires AAL to prepare master plans for each airport that set out our development objectives for the next 20 years. A land use plan is prepared for each airport’s master plan that aligns to the State’s planning system.

The Parafield Airport Master Plan 2017 was approved by the Commonwealth Minister for Transport and Infrastructure on 19 January 2018. It provides a 20-year development vision for the airport and a land use planning framework consistent with the State’s current planning system under the Development Act 1993. AAL reviews and assesses proposals for development on-airport in accordance with the 2017 Master Plan in a manner similar to the current development assessment regime under the Development Act.

AAL is currently reviewing the master plan for Adelaide Airport, with the expectation that a Preliminary Draft Master Plan will be released for public exhibition in mid-2019. The updated master plan will include a land use plan that builds upon the current framework contained in the Adelaide Airport Master Plan 2014.
We believe that it would be more accurate and appropriate for the Planning and Design Code to reference the relevant airport master plan, rather than provide a zoning and policy framework that is not applicable to on-airport development. In this way, the Airfield Zone can contain a policy framework that is more applicable to the smaller regional airports and aerodromes around South Australia. It also allows the focus of all stakeholders in our airports to be turned to ensuring an appropriate policy framework for the areas surrounding each airport in accordance with the NASF guidelines.

We are pleased that this imperative has been reflected in the Discussion Paper and look forward to working with DPTI, the State Planning Commission and the relevant Councils (primarily the Cities of Salisbury and West Torrens) to ensure that this ambition is realised in the Planning and Design Code.

Please do not hesitate to contact me to discuss our submission further.

Yours Faithfully,

Alicia Bickmore
Legal and Corporate Affairs Manager
Adelaide and Parafield Airports