

Archerfield Airport Corporation ABN 31 081 619 123

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## MEDIA RELEASE

## Federal approval for Archerfield Airport Major Development Plan

The General Manager of Archerfield Airport, Heather Mattes, has welcomed Federal Government approval of a draft Major Development Plan (dMDP) to extend and improve the airport's main runway.

The Deputy Prime Minister and Federal Minister for Infrastructure, Transport and Regional Development, Michael McCormack, this week approved the runway extension, which is among some \$17.5 million worth of planned airport improvements.

Mr McCormack said he supported the continued growth of Archerfield Airport in its role as a major pilot training, emergency services, charter and recreational flying centre for South East Queensland.

"It is pleasing to see the airport's facilities being modernised, with safety as a core principle in the proposed airfield works," the Minister said in his letter of approval to Archerfield Airport Corporation (AAC). "I am pleased to advise I have approved the dMDP in accordance with section 94(2) of the *Airports Act 1996*."

The runway extension proposal, which was open for public comment from December last year to March this year, involves lengthening the main runway, providing runway end safety areas and installing new LED runway lighting. Complementary works include runway and adjoining taxiway strengthening, new LED taxiway lighting and other safety improvements such as Precision Approach Path Indicators (PAPI).

Mrs Mattes said major investment underway at Archerfield Airport would modernise ageing infrastructure and enhance existing aircraft capability to and from the airport. Project AIM (Airside Infrastructure Modernisation) would also help cater for anticipated growth in aircraft movements and ensure that Archerfield Airport continued to play a supportive role to Brisbane Airport for the foreseeable future.

"The improvements have been foreshadowed in successive airport master plans since 2000, and they will provide a range of safety, environmental, economic and operational benefits for the types and sizes of aircraft currently using the airport."

Mrs Mattes, who steps down from her position at the end of this month after almost five years as airport General Manager, said formal approval of the draft Major Development Plan was personally very satisfying.

"I am privileged to have had the opportunity to lead the airport during a time of massive change and modernisation, and Federal endorsement of AAC's future plans is a clear sign that the airport is on track to achieve its long term vision to become a state centre of excellence for all things aeronautical."



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AAC has injected over \$40 million into the repair, restoration and renewal of the airport since taking over operations in 1998. Project AIM works will continue to build on this investment and provide a solid platform for the airport's future. The works are expected to be completed over the coming 10 years, with the runway extension aspects anticipated to commence later this year or early 2020.

The final Major Development Plan will be published on Archerfield Airport's website in the coming few weeks.

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