

2024 Annual Report

Community Aviation
Consultation Group



1. Overview

The Melbourne Airport Community Aviation Consultation Group (CACGMA) works collaboratively to achieve broad community engagement on airport planning, development and operations, and their impact. It provides advice regarding communication, consultation and engagement to Melbourne Airport and other stakeholders.

I offer my sincere thanks to all CACG members all of whom donate their time. I also thank representatives of the various agencies and the Melbourne Airport team who contribute to making CACG a valuable part of the airport's community engagement.

2024 Members

Kim Jordan	Independent Chair
Fred Ackerman	Community
Maggie Baron	Community
David Cleland	Community
Matt Faubel	Community
Margaret Giudice	Community
Susan Jennison	Community
Victor Ng	Community
Jane Waldock	Community
Fonda Zahopoulos	Community
Liz Beattie	Victorian Trades Hall
Justin Burgess	Brimbank Council
James McNulty	Hume City Council
Stephen Pykett	Macedon Ranges Shire Council
Ashley Minniti	Maribyrnong City Council
Steve Finlay	Melton City Council
Petrus Barry	Moonee Valley City Council

Regular meeting participants

- Melbourne Airport
- Victorian Department of Planning and Transport
- Commonwealth Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development, Communications, and the Arts, Airport Branch
- Airservices Australia

Guest participants attended from time to time, as reflected in the meeting minutes.

Support staff

Secretariat support was provided by Melbourne Airport.

2. 2024 In Summary

Meeting agendas followed a standard format with reports from Melbourne Airport, Airservices Australia and where suitable from the federal and state government representatives.

Items which took most attention included the Aviation White Paper, Senate Noise Inquiry, approvals process for the third runway, progress of the Airport Rail Link, noise and other health and environmental issues, and community engagement. Other matters regularly monitored include developments on the airport, improvements to passenger and commuter experience including accessibility, airport based work opportunities, runway and other maintenance, taxis and touting.

Meetings and other activities

CACG holds at least four meetings a year. During 2024 two extra meetings were held to:

- Test a new community engagement platform
- Discuss revising the Terms of Reference
- Workshop likely content for the airport's new mobile information van.

In addition there were out of session email exchanges to develop questions for meeting presenters and consider changes to agenda items.

Membership changes

Membership of the CACG remained generally constant throughout the year. Changes were:

Susan Jennison retired at the end of the year. Susan was CACG's longest serving member, and her knowledge, experience and professional approach will be greatly missed. Emma Langoulant is replacing Susan in 2025.

Henry Lamb resigned due to work commitments, replaced by Victor Ng. We thank Henry for his time and enthusiasm.

Matt Faubel resigned due to family commitments, replaced by Greg Bisinella. Matt was an excellent advocate for inner city areas affected by air traffic and we thank him for his contribution.

Performance measurement – member attendance record

Most members attended over 80 per cent of meetings. Two attended between 70 and 55 per cent of the time but were always assiduous in providing input and feedback. One member had an attendance record of less than 40 per cent.

During the year CACG agreed to amendments to the Terms of Reference which include an expectation of 75 per cent attendance.

Performance measurement – member survey

At the end of 2024 members were invited to complete a survey on CACG's performance. The survey was based on a series of statements, with participants responding from strongly agree to strongly disagree. We received twelve responses including 24 free text comments. A brief summary is outlined below.

How well has CACGMA conducted itself?	My own performance	The Chair's performance
<p>16 statements, responses were: 6 excellent; 10 satisfactory. Potential improvement included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Action to form a pipeline of future candidates for membership Government attendees could provide better information on strategic plans and priorities 	<p>12 statements, responses were: 11 excellent; 1 satisfactory. Potential improvement included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Being mindful of encouraging all members to have a say. 	<p>8 statements, responses were: 6 excellent 2 satisfactory. Potential improvement included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Being firmer in keeping presenters, members and content on point.

Comments were generally very positive with respect to the changes in CACG's operations and the involvement and responsiveness of the airport.

Community interaction

CACG members' details are listed on the Melbourne Airport CACG web page. Community members are able to contact the member most likely to represent their interests or concerns.

The minutes of CACG meetings are published on the Melbourne Airport CACG web page.

Members are always welcome to attend Melbourne Airport's community engagement activities and are actively encouraged to circulate information within their own networks.

Melbourne Airport has produced an information sheet to highlight CACG and its role.

3. Outlook For 2025

2025 will be a busy year for CACG. In particular:

- Working to meet the Minister's conditions for consultation on the third runway.
- Following on from our CACG member survey, we will introduce a standardised appointment and induction process for new members and the chair. The aim is to provide a stable way to refresh the group while maintaining a solid level of knowledge and experience.
- Members are keen to keep abreast with the changes that may come about from the Aviation White Paper and the Senate Noise Inquiry. They are also looking for more information about international best practice that balances the clear benefits of a healthy aviation industry while keeping social licence and community concerns and impacts front of mind.

Report prepared by Kim Jordan, Chair

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