

Airport Safeguarding



Responsible planning by Melbourne Airport and local, state and federal governments is necessary to enable the airport to operate and grow, as well as balance the needs of new and existing residential and commercial developments surrounding the airport.

As Melbourne and Victoria continue to grow, so does the demand for more land for residential housing in areas previously rural. Residential developments adjacent to airports and under flight paths may lead to complaints about aircraft noise and calls for operating restrictions. Erecting structures that physically intrude into the flight paths of arriving and departing aircraft can limit or prevent the airport's

use. Impacts on the airport can also occur because of other developments that are perhaps less obvious.

Melbourne Airport is preparing for this growth and addressing potential impacts with several key projects, particularly through the 2022 Master Plan. The growth of Melbourne Airport is supported and enabled by the continued safeguarding efforts to ensure the airport continues to operate 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

The long-term and effective safeguarding of Melbourne Airport is critical to maintaining the social and economic benefits the airport provides to local communities, Melbourne and Victoria, and to protecting surrounding communities.

Key features:



MAINTAINING AND SUPPORTING GROWTH

Maintaining, protecting and supporting ongoing operations and growth at Melbourne Airport



WORKING WITH GOVERNMENT

Working closely with the Victorian Government, local government and surrounding communities to restrict incompatible development from encroaching on airport operations



MANAGE FLIGHTS OVER RESIDENTIAL AREAS

Preferential runway use and flight paths to manage flights over residential areas



NIGHT NOISE ABATEMENT PROCEDURES

Night noise abatement procedures



REGULAR MONITORING

Regular monitoring and review of aircraft operations and flight paths



The objectives of the airport safeguarding strategy are to:

- ✓ strengthen Melbourne Airport's role within the state's economic and transport infrastructure and protect its ongoing 24-hour operation;
- ✓ enable the airport to compete nationally and internationally;
- ✓ ensure any new land use or development around the airport does not prejudice the airport's safe and long-term operations, and avoids or minimises incompatible land use;
- ✓ manage and, where possible, minimise the impact of airport and aircraft operations on surrounding areas and communities;
- ✓ ensure strategic planning for metropolitan Melbourne recognises and protects Melbourne Airport, that land use decisions are integrated, that appropriate land use buffers are in place, and that provision is made for future growth and development;
- ✓ continue to respect the safeguarding role of the green wedges and restrict incompatible land uses in these areas.

To ensure that an airport's operation is not constrained by development in the vicinity of an airport, the National Airports Safeguarding Framework (NASF) was developed to provide a set of principles and guidelines to assist in protecting the ongoing operation of airports in Australia.

Section 15 of the 2022 Master Plan outlines Melbourne Airport's safeguarding strategy, including how each NASF guideline applies and is currently being addressed, and it also identifies areas for improvement where appropriate.

There are a number of statutory planning mechanisms in place that provide some protection to the airport including; the Melbourne Airport Environs Strategy Plan, Planning Policy Framework, Urban Growth Boundary and Green Wedges, and the Melbourne Airport Environs Overlay. The Victorian Government is currently reviewing the effectiveness of the planning policies and controls intended to safeguard Melbourne Airport Environs Area and the airport's ongoing curfew-free status, utilising the Melbourne Airport Environs Safeguarding Standing Advisory Committee (MAESSAC).