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Sydney Airport: Proposed Variation to the T2/T3 Ground Access Solutions and Hotel Major Development Plan

Sydney Business Chamber is dedicated to creating, advocating, and promoting Sydney as a City of Opportunity – a global city to invest, work, live and visit. A division of Business NSW, formerly NSW Business Chamber, Sydney Business Chamber represents over 145 leading corporations and through our work we drive the economic growth, prosperity, and sustainability of our great City.

The Chamber values the opportunity to comment on the amendments to the T2/T3 Ground Access Solutions and Major Development Plan for Sydney Airport. Sydney Airport is one of the leading generators of economic activity in NSW. It supports over 330,000 jobs for our citizens and is critically important to the functioning and growth of our City and State economy. Its national significance is highlighted by its role as the gateway for international visitors entering Australia and its capacity and capability to manage nearly half of our nations international airfreight.

The Sydney Business Chamber has always taken a strong and close interest in the planned development and growth of Sydney Airport and has followed major developments and planning around land-based access. In particular, the Chamber has advocated for greater transport choice for users of the airport. Sydney Airport has for too long been overly reliant on the private car for both travelers and for employees to access the facility. The congestion and traffic these vehicles cause have metropolitan wide implications and have been undermining the productivity of both the Airport and the local economy. We have for many decades been pressing for a greater emphasis on better public and active transport options and less reliance on the private vehicle.

To this end we support the amendment to the Major Development Plan to relocate the proposed Hotel to the east of its current suggested location and away from the proposed Sydney Gateway road project.

The new location will offer future patrons of the hotel with enhanced amenity and outlook. Importantly, co-locating the Hotel with the existing Mantra Hotel provides an opportunity to share back of house services and hotel infrastructure as well as integrating existing car parking and access and egress arrangements. The new Hotel will also provide an opportunity to provide a gateway building to the Airport improving the quality of urban design and creating a clear definition of entry to the precinct.

The relocation of the Hotel also presents an opportunity to improve and expand the proposed, to be developed, Ground Transport Interchange. This Interchange is critical to improve bus, cycling and pedestrian access to the Airport. The inclusion of end of trip facilities such as bike racks, lockers, storage, and showers will address an urgent current unmet need. Similarly, the improved access for public and private bus services will provide significant economic, social, and environmental benefits through reduced congestion in and around the Airport.

We strongly urge Sydney Airport Corporation Limited to fast track the adoption of the revised Plan and take the opportunity presented by the COVID 19 pandemic to bring forward this much needed addition to our airport infrastructure and our City.

Sydney Business Chamber welcomes the opportunity to comment on the T2/T3 Ground Access Solutions and Major Development Plan and looks forward to continuing to work with the Sydney Airport Corporation on delivering a world class Airport.

Should you have any questions or would like to discuss in more detail, please do not hesitate to contact me at katherine.oregan@thechamber.com.au

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'K O'Regan', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Katherine O'Regan
Executive Director
Sydney Business Chamber