

Media Release

Runway strengthening now a reality

Tuesday 25 October 2022

With confirmation the \$60 million funding commitment to strengthening the runway at Hobart Airport is now funded, work can now begin in earnest to upgrade the tarmac.

Hobart Airport CEO, Norris Carter welcomed confirmation of the funding as part of the Federal Budget, which will ensure fully laden Code E aircraft can use the runway on a regular timetabled basis.

"When Prime Minister Anthony Albanese was last in Tasmania, he expressed his desire to see more international services at Hobart Airport. With this funding now locked in, this is one step closer," Mr Carter said.

"We can now act with certainty on the runway upgrade and are working to see construction start in summer late next year."

Mr Carter personally thanked Federal Infrastructure Minister Catherine King, Franklin MHA Julie Collins, and Senator Carol Brown for their support of the proposal.

"I want to publicly acknowledge and thank Minister King, Minister Collins and Senator Brown for their help with this matter. Without them this would still be only a pipe dream.

Earlier this year Hobart Airport released a KPMG report which showed an additional annual \$122 million in economic activity will be derived from tourism, trade, and Antarctic activities enabled by the runway upgrade, as well as an additional 1,261 jobs.

Hobart Airport has also announced plans for a doubling in size of its terminal as the centrepiece of its 20-year vision for the state's key gateway.

"We are looking at a doubling in the footprint of the terminal from 12,000 square metres to 23,000 square metres," Mr Carter said.

"This redeveloped terminal would not only increase space throughout the terminal, but would deliver a much-improved passenger experience, with significantly more food and beverage offerings as well as retail outlets."

ENDS

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