

From:

[REDACTED]
Department of Planning and Environment
[REDACTED]

Sent:

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To:

[REDACTED]

Subject:

Webform submission from: [webform_submission:source-title]

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Submitted by: Anonymous

Submitted values are:

Submission Type: I am submitting on behalf of my organisation

First Name: Therese

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Submission file:

[rda-sydney-ws-aerotropolis-plan-submission.pdf](#)

Submission: RDA Sydney Ws Aerotropolis Submission

URL: https://pp.planningportal.nsw.gov.au/admin/structure/webform/manage/draft_plans_and_policies/submission/72906/resend

28th February 2020

Western Sydney Planning Partnership
PO Box 257
Parramatta NSW 2124

RE: RDA Sydney's Submission to the Western Sydney Planning Partnership regarding the Western Sydney Aerotropolis Planning Package

Dear Sir/Madam,

Regional Development Australia Sydney (RDA Sydney) welcomes the opportunity to comment on the Western Sydney Aerotropolis Planning Package issued by the Western Sydney Planning Partnership.

RDA Sydney is part of a network of national regional development bodies, overseen by a local Committee and Chair appointed by the Australian Government. We receive funding from the Australian Government, and source other funding to deliver projects that align with our charter of investment attraction, economic growth and jobs creation. Our Vision is one of a greater Sydney with more diverse and innovative jobs closer to home and our primary objective is to work with local stakeholders (private and public) to advance economic development and employment growth across Sydney. We have detailed knowledge of the Sydney region, supported by up-to-date economic data and access to multi-sectoral expertise.

Our current work, in conjunction with a wide range of stakeholders, has allowed us to develop a broad understanding of:

- factors that accelerate growth in innovation and entrepreneurship ecosystems in areas outside capital city CBDs area;
- metropolitan rural areas and the paddock to plate supply chain requirements;
- building export capability of our SME community;
- tapping into the Defence and aerospace market opportunities;
- procurement opportunities for SMEs in western Sydney;
- Economic profiling of the 33 LGAs in greater Sydney with bespoke data capture;
- identifying factors that promote liveability and;
- the economic argument for an innovative approach to waste management.



Our Submission is underpinned by RDA Sydney's primary focus on job creation, investment attraction and growing the Greater Sydney economy.

Submission

Firstly, I would like to commend the Western Sydney Planning Partnership for their vision and determination in creating a place that will have liveability as its primary focus. Liveability is about walkable cities, jobs close to home and ready access to services, education and entertainment including outdoor activities. A liveable place provides opportunities for all residents and the connectivity to take advantage of these opportunities. It is a safe place and accommodates the needs of the local community including various industry sectors and their business operators, educational and research institutes and it is resilient in facing the adverse effects of climate change.

The *Planning Package* provides a framework at a strategic level to assist in the design of the local granular precinct plans which are due out later in 2020 and we look forward to that level of detail to add more comment. It has not been identified in the in the *Western Sydney Aerotropolis Plan* what are the challenges to achieving the vision and what processes will take place in addressing those challenges.

In exploring the *Plan* one of the greatest challenges faced by the Aerotropolis will be heat management and the supply of water. The target of 5 million trees for greater Sydney, where a large percentage are targeted for the Aerotropolis and the Western Parkland City, water usage and supply creates a huge challenge in relation to viability of plant life in an area that is the driest and hottest in Sydney. The soon to be released Water Plan may provide the response to these challenges with consideration to the already existing technological and structural solutions both locally and internationally but these solutions do come at a price. The *Plan* in section 8 provides the framework for Infrastructure funding and provision which states that the NSW Government is committed to ensuring affordability and value for money when considering infrastructure investments in the Aerotropolis but our concern is that affordability for both household and business residents will be impacted due to the high costs of water supply solutions and heat management.

It may become clearer in the Precinct Plans how the heat management strategies will be rolled out, at this stage it is unclear if the intention of planting tree canopies will be with fully grown trees or smaller trees that grow to full size over time. If the latter, what other sheltering structures will be in place to encourage usage of pathways/bikeways and open spaces in the hotter seasons? Also what measures will be in place to secure power supply in those times of high temperatures and ensure the mass transport system remains an uninterrupted service?

RDA Sydney also recommends that the *Plan* explores more deeply waste and resource recovery measures as a priority. Infrastructure Australia with its recently released Infrastructure Priority List has called for a national waste and recycling management strategy. Given the anticipated population growth within the Aerotropolis and surrounding areas and the increased presence of industry coupled with a 24/7 Airport this presents an opportunity for the Western Parkland City and the Aerotropolis to be at the forefront in providing innovative solutions to waste management.

The summer of 2019-20 has been the most devastating period for NSW due to drought, fires and floods. Many of the areas affected sat outside the Sydney metropolitan area but given that the Aerotropolis is going to be heavily canopied by trees with adjoining areas bordering on national parks RDA Sydney recommends that in planning the Aerotropolis that learnings are taken from the independent inquiry into NSW's bushfire season, which has focused on the impact of climate change, fuel loads and drought as well as the role of hazard reduction, to build preventative measures and build resilience against these events. Greater Sydney is not sheltered from climatic events, so it is important to acknowledge this in any planning tool and have frameworks in place to respond accordingly.

Once again thank you for giving us this opportunity to provide feedback and we look forward to providing more comments as the various plans are released. If you wish to discuss any of the matters mentioned please do not hesitate to contact our Executive Officer, Therese O'Dwyer [REDACTED]

Sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Rob Lang', is centered within a light blue rectangular box.

Dr Rob Lang
Chair
Regional Development Australia Sydney