

## THE HILLS SHIRE COUNCIL

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14 December 2020

Director, Aerotropolis Activation Western Sydney Planning Partnership PO Box 257 PARRAMATTA NSW 2124

Our Ref: FP99, FP247

Dear Sir/Madam

## **Draft Western Sydney Aerotropolis Precinct Plan**

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the Draft Western Sydney Aerotropolis Precinct Plan and associated exhibition documentation. The NSW Government is to be congratulated on progressing the planning for the Western Parkland City during a difficult year.

These comments are provided having regard to previous resolutions of the Hills Shire Council and the strategic framework provided by the Hills Future Community Strategic Plan and the endorsed Hills Future 2036 – Local Strategic Planning Statement. Please note that the submission itself has not been reported to Council but rather contains officer level comments which draw on and reiterate previous submissions made by The Hills Shire Council regarding critical transport links.

It is noted that the Draft Precinct Plan intends to provide overarching guidance for the development and provision of infrastructure for several of the precincts within the Aerotropolis and is not intended to provide further detail than is currently available regarding the North South Rail Link and the Outer Sydney Orbital. However, the efficient progression of planning for the Western Parkland City will require clarity surrounding the two abovementioned key transport links.

In the interests of achieving a Metropolis of Three Cities as envisaged in the Greater Sydney Region Plan, further information about the alignment of the Orbital and the connection between the current endpoint at Richmond Road and the Central Coast is sought, including confirmation of a timeframe for the investigation and identification of this section of the Orbital corridor and commitment to funding. The strategic value of connecting The Hills LGA to the Orbital is in supporting the desired employment growth as envisioned in the Central District Plan, The Hills Local Strategic Planning Statement and the supporting Integrated Transport and Land Use Strategy. Confirmation of the corridor to the Central Coast will also undoubtedly benefit the economy of the Central Coast region.

The section of the Metro network that will connect the Sydney Metro Northwest to Nancy-Bird Walton Airport will be the vital public transport connection between the Airport and The Hills. The Hills continues to advocate that as planning for the airport and surrounding development progresses, so should the planning for this vital mass transit link.

Confirmation of the allocation of funding for the completion of this project would likewise be welcomed, and would allow affected Councils to plan appropriately for the significant population and employment growth that is anticipated over the next decades.

Should you have any enquiries in relation to Council's submission please contact Janelle Atkins, Principle Planner on .

Yours faithfully

**Nicholas Carlton** 

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MANAGER - FORWARD PLANNING