INQUIRY INTO WESTERN SYDNEY SCIENCE PARK AND AEROTROPOLIS DEVELOPMENTS

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FEDERAL MEMBER FOR HUME



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Public Accountability and Works Committee
NSW Parliament House
Upper House Committees
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Inquiry into the Western Sydney Science Park and Aerotropolis developments

Dear Committee Members

As the Federal Member for Hume whose constituents will be vastly impacted by these developments, I strongly advocate that infrastructure, employment opportunities and housing are matched to the significant population growth which is expected to double over the next 30 years with the expectation of over 2 million people moving into Greater Western Sydney.

The Western Sydney Science Park and Aerotropolis developments, provides an exceptional opportunity for employment creation, recreation facilities, educational and business opportunities for Greater Western Sydney.

These developments provide a one-off opportunity to have a successful precinct that is well planned, constructed and connected. A focus must be on the design and construction, public transport, public spaces, road networks, accessibility to education and employment.

It is critical that planning and implementation of connectivity between the Western Sydney International Airport and Greater Macarthur and South West Growth Areas including the Wollondilly LGA by rail is fast tracked. Rail connectivity to these areas is crucial for employment and education opportunities, access to leisure facilities and access to the airport without increasing congestion on road networks and other public transport services.

The WSIA will add a large volume of traffic on arterial, main and local roads that dissect through Wollondilly and Camden LGA's. These LGA's will be a thoroughfare for greater South Western Sydney and the Illawarra accessing the airport.

The combination of the expected 10 million passengers a year and the expected 200,000 jobs in and around the Aerotropolis, the increase in movements throughout Wollondilly and Camden will be significant. The recent announcement from the NSW and Federal Governments regarding funding for critical road infrastructure around the Aerotropolis needs to address the wider regions needs for road infrastructure.

The existing transport infrastructure around the Camden and surrounding areas is nearing capacity with the current levels of development and growth.

Current modelling in Wollondilly shows that without the Picton Bypass being delivered that the traffic growth will see the road network reaching capacity by 2031. Picton Bypass is a significant piece of infrastructure that needs to be considered and in order to secure funding for this project.

The lack of existing public rail infrastructure in the LGA's already impacts the volume of road movements. The proposed south west rail corridors need to be expedited to ensure a smooth transition to an operational airport and increase in road movements. It also must be noted that the rail lines in Wollondilly are not electrified and share the train line with ARTC for freight trains, which limits the amount of passenger movements. This will restrain controlling the level of road usage.

Consideration would have to be given to freight movements which will be significant to support the activities of the airport and surrounding Aerotropolis. The freight movements will be reliant on heavy vehicles which will adversely impact arterial and main roads.

Given the significant implications this will have on the communities, it is essential that genuine, fair, and transparent consideration be afforded to the people of Wollondilly and Camden LGA's to ensure that the liveability of the residents is not adversely affected.

As the Assistant Minister for Cities and Digital Transformation I knew how crucial it was to create a vibrant, liveable, economic viable region with the delivery of Western Sydney International Airport and governments has commenced some great projects with the Western Sydney City Deal, we need to ensure that delivery of infrastructure for these communities continues.

I would also implore that NSW Govt. as soon as possible following Minister King signing off on the flight paths that they expedite NSW State Environment Planning Policy for Greater Western Sydney to avoid any further delays in uncertainty and impacts to residents.

Thank you for consideration of these matters.

Regards

Hon. Angus Taylor MP Federal Member for Hume