

From: clientservice clientservice@infrastructure.gov.au 
Subject: RE: Melbourne Airport Draft 2022 Master Plan and Draft Third Runway Major Development Plan [SEC=OFFICIAL]
Date: 5 September 2022 at 4:36 pm
To: Mark Carter contact@no3rdtullarunway.net.au
Cc: clientservice clientservice@infrastructure.gov.au

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OFFICIAL

Dear Mr Carter,

Thank you for your follow up email of 22 August 2022. Our apologies for the delay in responding.

Once APAM formally submits the draft Master Plan to the Minister for decision, there is no capacity under the *Airports Act 1996* (the Act) for the Department or the Minister to request changes, other than minor editorial changes, e.g. for currency of information, clarity of expression or to amend typographical errors. The Minister must make a decision within prescribed time period allowed to either approve or refuse to approve the plan. If approval of the draft Master Plan is refused, under Section 81 of the Act, APAM is required to submit a fresh draft Master Plan within 180 days of the date of refusal.

Similarly, there is no mechanism under the Act to notify stakeholders of changes that are made to a preliminary draft Major Development Plan (MDP) following public exhibition. However, in contrast to Master Plans, the Minister may place conditions on the approval of an MDP. For context, it may assist to visit the [Ministerial decisions listed on the department's website](#) where you can see previous MDPs that have been approved subject to conditions under the Airports Act.

If the draft Master Plan is approved, it must be made public as a final Master Plan within 50 business days. Similarly, if a draft Major Development Plan is approved, it must also be made public as a final MDP within 50 business days. Your organisation would then be able to compare the final versions of these documents with the preliminary draft versions, should it choose to do so, once the documents are finalised.

We trust this information is of assistance.

Airports Branch
Domestic Aviation and Reform Division

Client Services

Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development, Communications and the Arts
CONNECTING AUSTRALIANS • ENRICHING COMMUNITIES • EMPOWERING REGIONS

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*I would like to acknowledge the traditional custodians of this land on which we meet, work and live.
I recognise and respect their continuing connection to the land, waters and communities.
I pay my respects to Elders past and present and to all Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders.*

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From: Mark Carter <contact@no3rdtullarunway.net.au>

Sent: Monday, 22 August 2022 5:48 PM

To: clientservice <clientservice@infrastructure.gov.au>

Subject: Re: Melbourne Airport Draft 2022 Master Plan and Draft Third Runway Major Development Plan [SEC=OFFICIAL]

Dear Airports Branch of Domestic Aviation and Reform Division,

Thanks for your reply to my email.
We appreciate your informative answers.

Are you able to answer the other query we had? Namely,

Is it also possible for you to notify us of any changes to the Draft Master Plan 2022 that the Department requests of APAM?

And ... are you also able to notify us of any Draft M3R MDP content (when it is submitted to the Minister) that differs from that of the **preliminary** Draft M3R MDP that APAM put out for public comment?

Thanks again for your assistance.
Sincerely,
Mark Carter

On 19 Aug 2022, at 9:38 am, clientservice <clientservice@infrastructure.gov.au> wrote:

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Dear Mr Carter,

Thank you for your email of 11 August 2022.

The operator of Melbourne Airport, Australia Pacific Airports (Melbourne) Pty Ltd (APAM), has indicated it intends to submit the draft Master Plan to the Minister for Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development and Local Government, the Hon Catherine King MP, in September 2022. The Minister has 50 business days from the time it is provided to make a decision, as described in section 81 of the *Airports Act 1996* (the Airports Act, [a copy of which is available on the Federal Register of Legislation](#)). A decision on the Master Plan would therefore be expected before the end of 2022.

The Major Development Plan (MDP) for the proposed Melbourne Airport Third Runway Project (M3R) can only be submitted to the Minister for approval once the draft Master Plan has been approved and the timing is not yet confirmed.

Once the Minister receives either a draft Master Plan or a draft MDP, the

Department assesses the documents against the requirements listed in the Airports Act. Specifically, the requirements for Master Plans set out in Division 3 and those for MDPs in Division 4 of the Airports Act.

The Department undertakes an assessment and provides advice to the Minister, informed by the views of the Civil Aviation Safety Authority, Airservices Australia, the Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water and other relevant Commonwealth agencies. Included in the advice is an assessment of the extent to which the airport took into account the comments received during public consultation on preliminary draft Master Plan and preliminary draft MDP in preparing the draft versions of those documents. This is a requirement under section 79(2) of the Act for Master Plans, and 84A(2) for MDPs.

As you may be aware, the Master Plan is a strategic document that provides an overview of the Airport's land planning over a next 20 year planning horizon. It is important to note that should the Melbourne Airport draft Master Plan be approved by the Minister, this does not mean the subsequent draft MDP for the M3R will automatically be approved. A draft MDP for the M3R must be assessed on its own merits against the requirements of the Airports Act, and must undergo a separate approval process as outlined above.

We trust this information is of assistance.

Airports Branch
Domestic Aviation and Reform Division

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From: contact@no3rdtullarunway.net.au <contact@no3rdtullarunway.net.au>
Sent: Thursday, 11 August 2022 12:34 PM
To: clientservice <clientservice@infrastructure.gov.au>
Subject: Melbourne Airport Draft 2022 Master Plan and Draft Third Runway Major Development Plan

Transport Division
Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development,
Communications and the Arts
GPO Box 594
Canberra ACT 2601

Attention: Aviation section

Dear section,

I'm hoping you can help me.

My inquiries relates to the applicant APAM's Draft 2022 Master Plan and Draft Third Runway Major Development Plan

Can you please notify us when each Plan hits your desk?

Have either or both been received by the Department?

Can you please outline the departmental assessment steps these Plans are required to go through up to and including being presented to the Minister for approval, and the timeline?

Is it also possible for you to notify us of any changes to the Draft Master Plan 2022 that the Department requests of APAM?

Thanks for your help.

Yours sincerely,
Mark Carter
38 Miners Hut Road
Chewton 3451
contact@no3rdtullarunway.net.au
m: 0419 034 567

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contact@no3rdtullarunway.net.au

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