

# MELBOURNE AIRPORT

## SMART PATH FOR RUNWAY 34

### Lowering of airspace south of the Airport Summary of Community Feedback

Airservices consulted the community about a proposal to implement Melbourne Airport Runway 34 Smart Path between May-June 2018. The details of the change are on our website: <http://www.airservicesaustralia.com/projects/flight-path-changes/melbourne-airport-smart-path/>

The purpose of this update is to provide a summary of the community feedback we have obtained regarding the change, including how the feedback has been considered.

#### **COMMUNITY AVIATION CONSULTATION GROUP**

The proposal was presented to Melbourne Airport's Community Aviation Consultation Group (CACG) at its meeting of 20 February 2018, and feedback was sought from members. However the area affected by the proposal is not represented at the CACG by community members or Local Council representatives. While the CACG members thanked Airservices for requesting their feedback, none was provided.

#### **COMMUNICATION WITH COUNCILS**

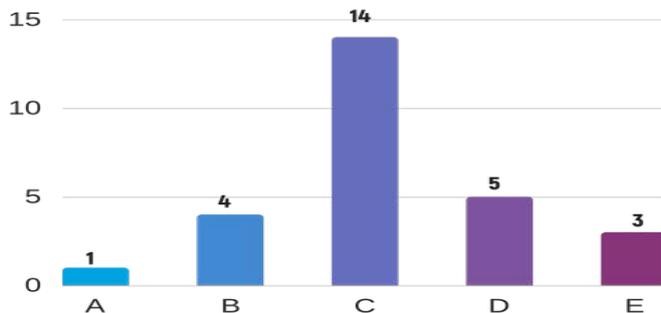
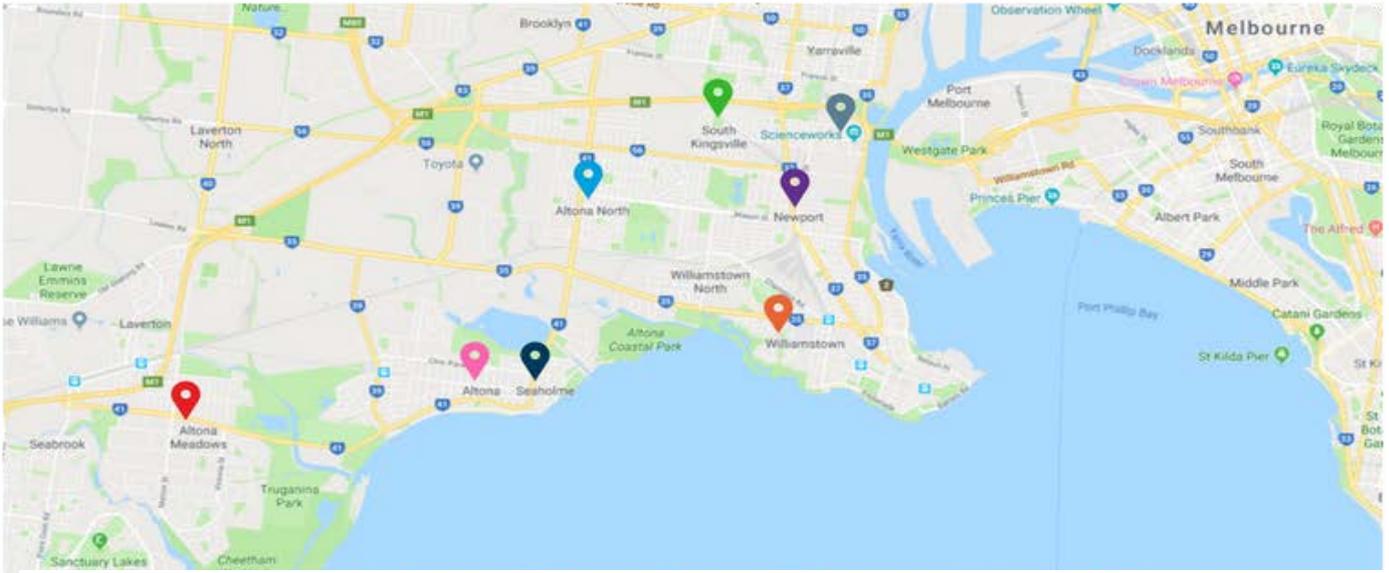
Information about the proposal was posted on Hobson's Bay Council social media in early May 2018 as part of Airservices consultation with residents about the change. The social media post included an invitation to provide feedback through the Airservices Noise Complaints and Information Service (NCIS).

#### **WEBSITE UPDATE**

A fact sheet which explained the proposal was published on Airservices' website. This fact sheet was also promoted to community members currently registered with the Airservices Noise Complaints and Information Service (NCIS).

### SUMMARY OF WHAT WE HEARD

Twenty seven (27) residents provided feedback to Airservices from the following areas:



- A - Not opposed to the change
- B - Objected to the change without providing further details
- C - Concerns about current noise and air traffic levels
- D - Concerned about why, how and when consultation was undertaken
- E - Questions about the change and request for further information

All individual community concerns and questions raised during the seven (7) week period have been considered and answers provided back to individual residents by the NCIS.

### **CONSIDERATION OF FEEDBACK**

Concerns about current noise and air traffic levels referred to the existing jet flight path and to frequent light aircraft traffic in the area. Existing traffic was described as already noisy and low and was perceived by some to be unsafe. Some residents felt that vibrations as well as noise were of concern.

While the noise impacts of the proposed change are not expected to be noticeable as they are below the decibel level generally acknowledged to be detected by the human ear, Airservices acknowledges that some residents may visually notice that some aircraft may be up to 500feet lower.

Some residents provided feedback about lack of clarity in the Airservices information provided to explain the change. The questions asked by respondents in their submissions highlighted areas for improvement in how Airservices presents information to the community to ensure it is easily understood. Similarly, feedback and suggestions on how we consult with the community are welcomed as they will assist us to improve our future consultation about proposed changes.

### **NEXT STEPS**

Airservices has considered the feedback from residents. As there were no recommendations for improvement actions identified in the feedback, the proposal will proceed to implementation. Changes will come into effect on 8 December 2018.

Airservices values all feedback received and thanks residents for taking the time to submit their views.