

# MEDIA RELEASE



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## Infrastructure Priority List confirms importance of continued airport investment

Today's release of the Infrastructure Priorities List has highlighted the importance of continued airport investment to meet growing demand.

Australian Airports Association Chief Executive Officer Caroline Wilkie said the Infrastructure Australia report's observation that the infrastructure sector must do more than "just keeping pace with demand" confirmed the value of smart investment to meet the long term needs of the economy and community.

"Continued investment in our national aviation network is more important than ever as demand for air travel grows and technology evolves," Ms Wilkie said.

"Australian airports plan to invest \$20.6 billion over the next 10 years in airport improvements to meet this need as they continue to enhance the customer experience for passengers and airlines.

"Airports play a vital and growing role in connecting Australians and facilitating tourism and trade."

The report identified the Sydney Gateway project, which will improve access in and out of Sydney Airport, as a high priority initiative.

New runways at Melbourne and Perth airports were named as priority initiatives, along with Melbourne Airport public transport access. The construction of Western Sydney Airport also remains a high priority project.

"Sydney Airport has worked closely with the NSW Government to ensure the Sydney Gateway project will not only make it easier for passengers to get to and from the airport, but will free up local roads for local communities and improve traffic flows for commuters in the area," Ms Wilkie said.

"This is a great example of Australian airports working together with government to identify solutions that will stand the test of time.

"New runways at Melbourne and Perth will be truly nation building projects and are absolutely essential to meet growing demand for air travel.

"Together with Brisbane Airport's new runway currently under construction, these projects will support a resilient national aviation network that continues to support our growing tourism industry."

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Ms Wilkie said all major Australian airports were working closely with their partners to ensure passengers could choose from a range of transport modes to get to the airport.

“The AAA welcomed the Federal and Victorian governments’ funding commitments for a rail line to Melbourne Airport last year and look forward to the project progressing,” she said.

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