

Community and Stakeholder Feedback

Feedback from Phase 1: October to December 2025

Melbourne Airport's Third Runway Project involves the construction of a new north-south runway to provide more capacity for passenger and freight movements, reduce delays, and enable economic growth.

The addition of a third runway will change how aircraft operate at Melbourne Airport and how aircraft noise is experienced by surrounding communities.

There will be more options for managing arriving and departing aircraft across the three runways, which means opportunities to share aircraft noise over neighbouring areas will increase.

Some areas will experience aircraft noise for the first time, while others will encounter more than they currently do.

Independent consultants have been engaged to develop a Noise Sharing Plan to meet a condition of approval for the third runway set by the Federal Minister for Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development and Local Government.

The Noise Sharing Plan aims to give communities periods of respite from aircraft noise using carefully designed flight paths and runway operations.

Community feedback on noise sharing

From October to December 2025, communities across Melbourne and aviation stakeholders were invited to provide feedback on various aspects of the project. This feedback was used to understand community and stakeholder priorities and inform the draft Noise Sharing Plan.

We received 574 online survey responses and engaged with more than 500 community members across 24 sessions held during the consultation period. This included two webinars.

To notify people of the opportunity to provide feedback we:

- Advertised in local and state-wide newspapers in both print and online
- Promoted feedback opportunities through social media, available in multiple languages
- Spoke with communities at 24 pop-up and drop-in sessions held across Melbourne
- Advertised through aviation industry networks.

ENGAGEMENT SNAPSHOT



Total sessions held

24

community sessions

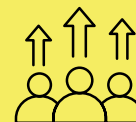
14

stakeholder sessions



551

participants engaged



574

Noise Sharing Plan online survey submissions



What we asked:

This phase of consultation focused on understanding people's awareness of the project and their preferences for the Noise Sharing Plan. Participants were asked their thoughts on the following themes:

- Awareness of the Noise Sharing Plan Project
- Principles that the Noise Sharing Plan should prioritise
- Preference for flight alternation scheduling to help share noise across Melbourne
- Preferences for the timing of respite periods to provide breaks from continuous aircraft noise
- What people want to know more about in the draft Noise Sharing Plan.

NOISE SHARING PLAN SURVEY INSIGHTS



574

respondents

Awareness of the project



11.5%
not at all aware



38%
somewhat aware



28%
heard of it, don't know the details



22.5%
fully aware of the details

We heard from the community that:

- The majority of people are aware of the project, however understanding of the project varies
- There is a preference for alternating runway use to provide regular days of respite
- Respite from aircraft noise is preferred at night, particularly during sleeping hours
- There is an interest in learning how flight paths are designed and decisions are made
- There is a strong interest in how feedback and concerns are considered
- People would like a clear understanding of noise impacts they should expect.

We heard from aviation industry stakeholders that:

- There is an interest in understanding potential impacts on their operations, including safety, efficiency and training
- Emergency and other time critical operations should continue to receive priority access
- Understanding how new airspace and flight path designs could impact day-to-day operations is important, as well as understanding how changes might interact with current flights in the Melbourne Basin
- There is uncertainty around how flight path changes might affect general aviation stakeholders' access to local airspace, including availability of transit routes and potential implications for training, recreational flying and regional flights.

Factors outside the Noise Sharing Plan scope:

- Airport curfews. These are set by federal law and not part of the Noise Sharing Plan
- On-ground transport such as buses and rail.

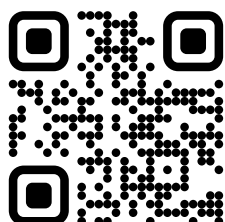
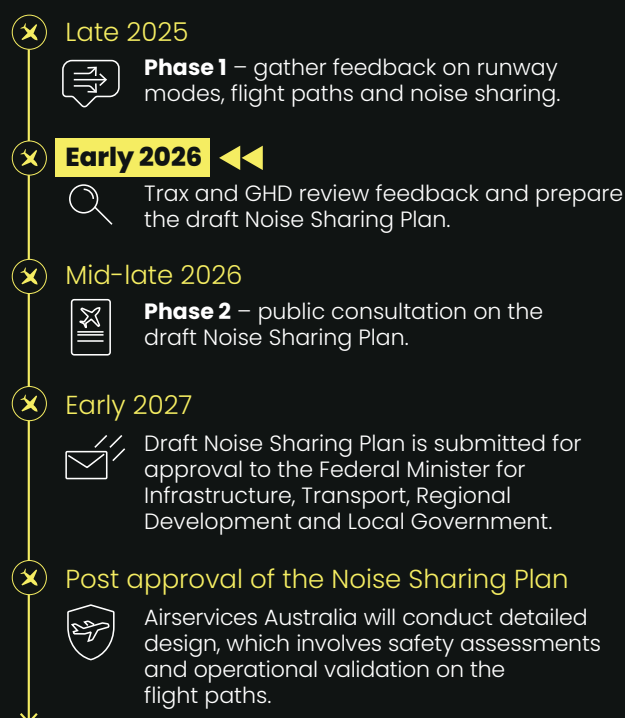
What's next?

The feedback received is being considered in the development of the draft Noise Sharing Plan which will be released for further consultation mid-late 2026.

For more information on the engagement approach for the Noise Sharing Plan see:

Engaging on Melbourne Airport's Noise Sharing Plan

What is the timeline for the Noise Sharing Plan?



Stay up to date

You can subscribe to receive emails on project updates and engagement opportunities.

Scan the QR code to stay informed and enter your email address to subscribe.

For further information about Melbourne Airport's third runway, visit <https://www.melbourneairportprojectshub.com.au/>

MELBOURNE AIRPORT