

Chapter A3

Options and Alternatives



Summary of key findings:

Before recommending the construction of a parallel north-south runway system, Melbourne Airport considered a variety of alternatives.

As a result of this process it was decided that Melbourne Airport's Third Runway (M3R) is the most appropriate solution for managing the growing demand for air travel to and from Melbourne.

The case for M3R is further strengthened because implementation of operational efficiencies has already deferred the need for an additional runway by more than 10 years; and because any further opportunities for enhancing efficiency in operations are limited and short-term.

A parallel north-south runway system was identified as the preferred orientation for M3R following technical assessments and industry consultation.

This parallel north-south runway system will provide reliable capacity and maximise runway availability in all weather conditions.

Refinement of the M3R design and development footprint has reduced its expected impact on the environment and community.