

Media statement

Contact: Jeff Donne | Communications Coordinator
02 6499 2106 | 0417 882 074

Merimbula Airport upgrade

Friday, 10 February 2017

Bega Valley Shire Council will continue to progress positive plans for Merimbula Airport confident in the planning, research and wide support the vision has received to date.

Recent statements from Rex Airlines reported in local media have come as a surprise to Council, but given the commercial interest at play are understandable.

The Federal and State Governments are primarily funding the \$7.8 million redevelopment works at Merimbula Airport, all levels of government share this community's ambition for improved access to air travel and understand the potential to be unlocked for the regional economy.

Other's to support the infrastructure upgrade include surrounding local government bodies, local chambers of commerce, and regional tourism organisations.

As the authority responsible for the Airport, Council has always had a constructive and collegiate relationship with Rex, that will continue.

We hope that Rex see a role for themselves in the airport's future. It is in the community's interest for Council to work with Rex and other airline operators to build a framework around this project that ensures prosperity.

Recent community feedback concerning the deregulation of the Merimbula to Sydney air route was clear, people are looking for greater choice and improved access.

This is a project that presents a significant level of opportunity for our region. Bega Valley Shire Council is committed to being an active player in that future and rising to meet the needs and expectations of our community and the regional economy.

Photograph: Merimbula Airport

END

