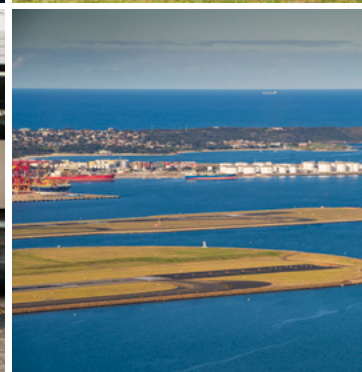


The Southern Aerotropolis

The Future of Sydney Rediscovered



The Proposition

As the Western Sydney Aerotropolis transforms the shape of Greater Sydney over several decades, we can draw from its inspirational model to achieve a jobs and lifestyle boom sooner, and at less cost, in one of Sydney's traditional heartlands

The Southern Aerotropolis can be the future of Sydney. It requires us to rediscover the economic potential of the arc stretching south of Port Botany and Sydney Airport and the connections west – an area that encompasses the local government areas of Bayside, Georges River, Canterbury-Bankstown and Sutherland.

Close to a million people, seven strategic centres – including the major collaboration areas of ANSTO and Kogarah in the south – major transport links, ample available industrial land and an unparalleled way of life by rivers and the ocean: it's all here.



7 strategic centres



945,000 residents



480,000 workers



350,000 jobs



2,223 hectares
of employment, urban services and
industrial land

And yet for such an obvious choice, this area's potential is untapped and almost hiding in plain sight.

Sydney Airport already contributes \$30 billion to the NSW economy – imagine the state-wide benefits if we could extend its economic influence south and west, including to Wollongong and a potential second container port at Port Kembla, as Greater Sydney evolves into a city of three to six interlocked cities encompassing Wollongong, Newcastle and the Central Coast.

The Southern Aerotropolis is ready to go. It offers:

- position and proximity
- strategic centres of activity, education, research and innovation
- Australia's two most important economic gateways (Sydney Airport and Port Botany)
- untapped large local skilled workforce
- essential employment lands
- unrivalled liveability, open spaces and creative, cultural hubs.

We already have direct connections to the Harbour CBD, yet too many of the area's skilled workers leave the area for work, negating the promise of the 30-minute city. We need better jobs, and more of them, near where people live.

A fully connected metropolis of three cities requires government at all levels not only to look west but to rediscover the potential of Greater Sydney's south. Sydney has always been planned around a monocentric, radial network, where all eyes turned east; we need to think beyond this approach in our planning for the city's west if we're to truly capitalise on investment and future jobs in the Western Sydney Aerotropolis and the Central River City.

And we know we can do this this. We can genuinely achieve the vision of a 30-minute city in the South District by connecting to the Central River City via the ambitious 'River Rail'.



River Rail

The right project at the right time

River Rail will connect the enormous potential of the south – Kogarah, Hurstville, Miranda, Sutherland and Bankstown – to the burgeoning heart of Sydney at Parramatta and the Central River City. It will contribute \$7.5 billion to the economy in the first 15 years. It could offer capacity for 30,000 additional trips a day and save 5,000 hours of travel time.

This proposition will increase in high-value jobs in the south and along the route. It will address social disparities in lower density suburban locations, including in the corridor between Kogarah and Parramatta, which has higher than average levels of social disadvantage.

The area's connections to key national and international gateways, plus the potential of an extended M6 to the south, would link every port. Businesses will benefit, more jobs can be provided. The Southern Aerotropolis would be integrated like never before.

Making it happen

NSW is rebuilding and we can make best use of public resources by leveraging the benefits of existing assets.

Now is the time to invest in the Southern Aerotropolis and the untapped opportunities and potential of driving jobs south of Sydney Airport. Utilising existing infrastructure and assets will have a more immediate impact, essential for a swift recovery.

To succeed, the Southern Aerotropolis needs:

- a NSW Government-led strategic vision and plan developed with councils, communities and other stakeholders
- a whole-of-government focus on business attraction and investment
- the identification and protection of infrastructure corridors, including an advanced program for the construction of River Rail
- an integrated economic strategy
- a university precinct in the South District, tapping into the potential of the existing health, education and innovation precinct at Kogarah and the innovation plans for ANSTO at Lucas Heights
- further investment in centres like Hurstville and Kogarah that offer brilliant lifestyles, events and

public places for the community

- greater availability and retention of industrial zoned land around Sydney Airport and Port Botany precinct to support nationally significant trade gateways and employment growth
- better operations on the A3 and A6.

Building River Rail will help to achieve the promise and opportunity of the south and grow prosperity for Greater Sydney and NSW – and there is no better time than now, when the COVID-19 pandemic is forcing a rethink around how cities work, how and where people travel, and the type of models of work that will become the norm.

River Rail taps into our thinking about places for people. We want to work with partners across the city to build economic locations that not only provide jobs or support new businesses, but help people to feel included and part of their community.

The Southern Aerotropolis is not a blank canvas: it's a rich network of cultural neighbourhoods, diverse people and communities, international gateways, ancient Aboriginal hunting grounds, upgraded schools, hospitals and sporting hubs, and precious waterways. Let's build on these foundations.

Its potential cannot be overstated: the Southern Aerotropolis is the future of Sydney and it is hiding in plain sight.

Georges River Council, the City of Parramatta and the City of Canterbury Bankstown are calling for immediate investment in River Rail.

Read the report here



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GEORGES RIVER COUNCIL

georgesriver.nsw.gov.au

