Getting to and from Adelaide Airport

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Airport Transport Planning

Adelaide Airport Limited (AAL) works closely with the South Australian Government and surrounding Local Government authorities to ensure current and future Adelaide Airport operations are reflected in strategic network planning - in particular, connectivity of the airport to the major North-South Corridor and the Adelaide CBD for both passenger and freight movement.

The number of passengers using the airport annually is expected to increase from 8.5 million in 2018 to 19.8 million by 2039. This passenger growth, along with the increased employment required to support it and further commercial development within the airport site, will result in an increase in vehicle traffic to and from the airport.

Adelaide Airport is well connected to the metropolitan road network, with four major arterial roads providing transport links from the airport to metropolitan and regional areas and the Port of Adelaide. Sir Donald Bradman Drive and Richmond Road provide direct access to the CBD and passenger rail hubs; while Marion Road and Tapleys Hill Road provide access to the north and south metropolitan areas. Adelaide Airport is also well connected to South Road and the North-South Corridor which is one of Adelaide's most important freight and transport corridors. Connectivity to the Port of Adelaide is via Tapleys Hill Road and the North-South Corridor.

Each day there are approximately 54,000 vehicle movements into and out of the airport. By 2039, this is expected to reach 126,000 daily vehicle movements. As Adelaide Airport grows, it is critical that adequate consideration is given to future ground transport demands within and adjacent to the airport.

Airports are major transport hubs and trip attractors. The demand for ground transport varies depending on the availability of different modes of transport, comparative cost, travel times and trip purpose. Reliability is a primary factor for passengers, ensuring they make flights on time.

The key considerations for the Adelaide Airport Ground Transport Plan are:

- Passenger experience, including access to and from Adelaide Airport by means of multiple modes of transport and ease of getting to Terminal 1
- Ensuring efficient passenger and freight access to and from Adelaide Airport via the North-South Corridor
- Maintaining and improving B-Double access to facilitate critical current and expanded freight and logistics operations
- Level of service during peak periods, based on performance measures such as vehicle density and queue times
- Catering for existing and planned aviation and commercial developments and associated employment and visitor traffic
- Segregating as much as practicable commercial (larger vehicles) and aviation traffic
- Effective, safe and efficient connectivity for all users of the airport
- Maximising the efficient use of existing infrastructure
- Provision of access alternatives
- Cost effective infrastructure investment
- Development of flexible and adaptable infrastructure to maximise reuse to support new transport models/services

Innovative and sustainable technologies are regularly investigated. In 2016, AAL won an Australian Airports Association award for innovation and excellence in technology for its online carpark-booking system; and in 2017, Adelaide Airport became the first airport in Australia to provide electric-vehicle charging stations in its public car park.

AAL will continue to monitor emerging technologies. Adaptable staging and timing of infrastructure investment allows AAL to consider and respond to opportunities for incorporating innovative and sustainable access options.

Connections to the Airport East Precinct from the future North-South Corridor via Richmond Road will also see improved efficiencies and benefits for South Australia's freight network.

Recent Developments

Between 2012 to 2018, there has been significant infrastructure investment to improve the airport's road network and provide new facilities for taxi, rideshare, bus and chauffeur vehicles.

The improvements to the ground transport network that have been implemented include:

- An upgrade to the intersection of Sir Donald Bradman Drive and Sir Richard Williams Avenue to improve egress from the airport

- Construction of Atura Circuit, which is a new road link connecting Sir Richard Williams Avenue to Terminal 1, Atura Hotel and the new taxi drop-off area

- New pedestrian walkway from Sir Donald Bradman Drive to Terminal 1

- Construction of a new taxi drop-off area to Atura Circuit, which will open in mid to late 2019

- Redesign and reconstruction of the taxi pick-up, bus and chauffeur area at the western end of Terminal 1 forecourt to provide improvements for chauffeur and taxi services and improved pedestrian links to Terminal 1

- Dedicated rideshare facility constructed in August 2017 for private passenger pick-ups close to Terminal 1

- Secure long-stay bicycle storage facility constructed within the ground level of the multi-level car park to complement other bicycle facilities at the airport

- Four electric-vehicle charging stations installed in the multi-level car park in December 2017

- Road extension to Burbridge Business Park, to create an internal road loop providing improved connectivity

- Designation of a zone for carshare operations

Key to ensuring ongoing access to the Airport

AAL is planning to change the way people access the airport. It is proposing to transition to a primarily one way road system, which will mean the main access at the intersection of Sir Donald Bradman Drive / Sir Richard Williams Avenue / Airport Road will become the main entrance point only and a new exit interchange along Sir Donald Bradman Drive will be constructed. This change is required to ensure that both the external and internal roads can meet the expected increase in vehicle traffic entering and exiting the airport.

Connections to the Airport East Precinct from the future North-South Corridor via Richmond Road will also see improved efficiencies and benefits for South Australia's freight network.

Drop-off and Pick-up

AAL actively manages the way passengers are dropped off and picked up from the airport. AAL is currently implementing measures to make this process easier for passengers including the opening of a new taxi drop-off facility, which in turn reduces traffic volumes in the current drop-off zone. AAL will continue to ensure safe and efficient drop-off and pick-up facilities.
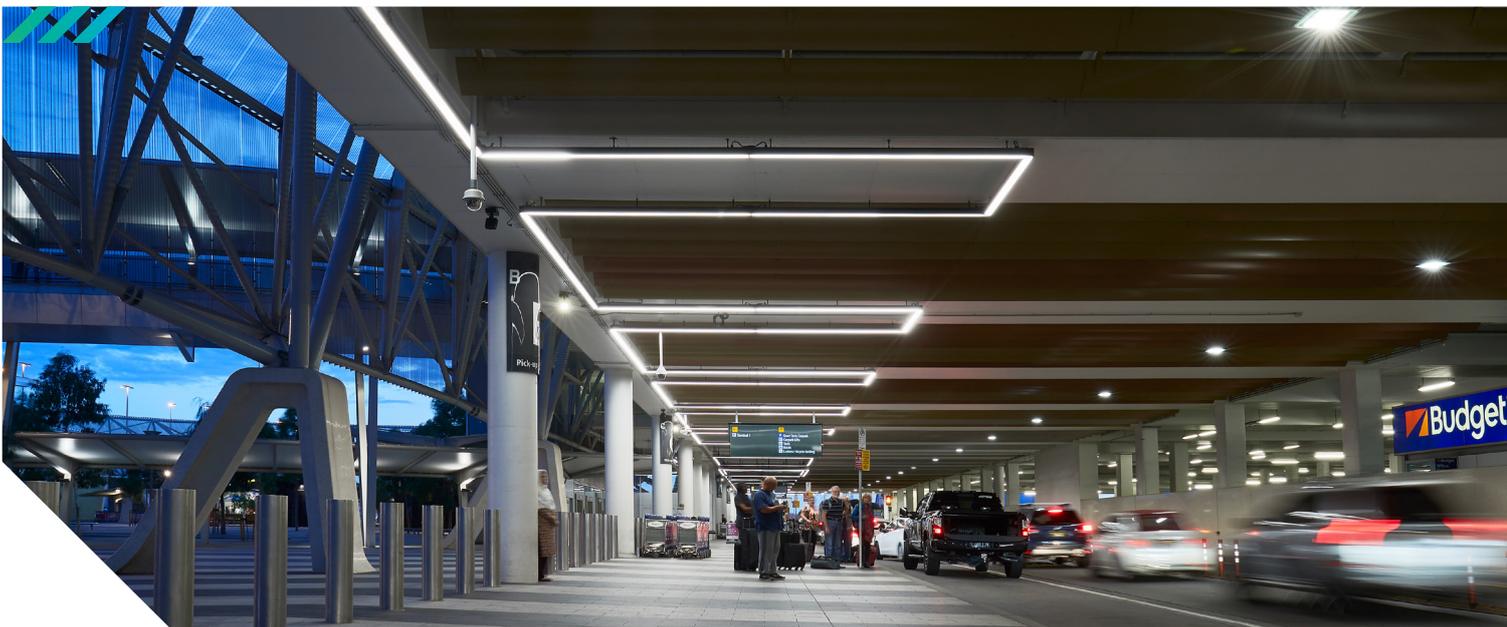
Public Transport

Ensuring that passenger and commercial businesses can access Adelaide Airport is critical to the airport's operations.

AAL is committed to working with the State Government to ensure efficient, continued and improved public transport to the airport. Provision for a high capacity public transport corridor servicing the airport is included in this Master Plan.

Taxis, Rideshare and Chauffeur Vehicles

Taxi services are a key component of the ground transport system and accommodate a large proportion of passenger access to and from the airport. There has also been growth in rideshare trips since starting at the airport in 2017, as well as ongoing demand for chauffeured vehicles.

Adelaide Airport provides designated areas for taxi, rideshare and chauffeur services. Duplication of the drop-off and pick-up area adjacent to the plaza will provide opportunities to improve taxi and rideshare arrangements.

Cycleways

There are a series of cycling paths within, around and connecting to the airport site. These consist of off-road shared paths and on-road bicycle paths.

State Government planning has identified a shared used pathway connection between the Airport East Precinct and Terminals & Business Precinct, in partnership with the City of West Torrens. This link will provide safe access and complete the cycleway to the perimeter of the airport site.