

\$3.6b shopping list for Badgerys Creek airport infrastructure

- by: JIM O'ROURKE and PHIL JACOB
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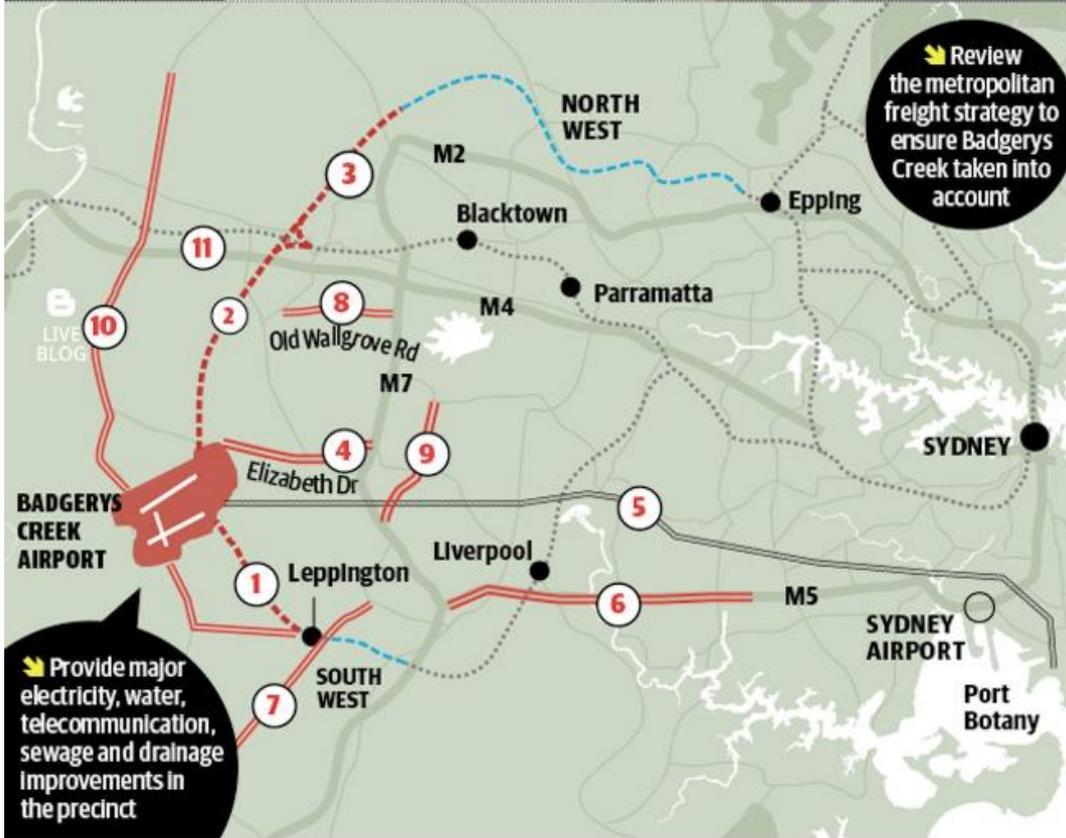
MULTI-million dollar rail links, upgrading regional roads to motorway standard and a 50km aviation fuel pipeline from Port Botany are all part of a \$3.6 billion shopping list of infrastructure projects vital to Badgerys Creek airport's future.

As well as improved transport links, basic utilities like water, electricity, sewerage and telecommunications in the surrounding area must also dramatically improve, western Sydney councils say.



BADGERYS CREEK

- Existing train lines
- - - - Rail links under construction
- - - - New train lines to be built
- ==== Road upgrade
- ===== Bulk fuel line to be built



PROPOSED UPGRADES

- | | | |
|---|--|--|
| <p>1. Extend South West Rail Link from Leppington to the new airport</p> <p>2. Train line then runs north from airport to meet existing Western Line</p> <p>3. Extend North West Rail Link to Western Line to create new orbital rail link</p> <p>4. Widen and upgrade Elizabeth Drive to motorway standard linking to the M7</p> | <p>5. High capacity bulk fuel line from Port Botany to Badgerys Creek</p> <p>6. Continue widening of M5 West</p> <p>7. Upgrade sections of Camden Valley Way to four lanes</p> <p>8. Upgrade of Old Wallgrove Rd between the M7 and Erskine Park Link Rd</p> | <p>9. Upgrade Cowpasture Rd</p> <p>10. Upgrades the Northern Rd, Bringelly Rd, Richmond Rd</p> <p>11. Build Werrington Arterial between the M4 Motorway and the Great Western Highway</p> |
|---|--|--|



The Badgerys Creek shopping list.

Source: Supplied

The Western Sydney Organisation of Councils (WSROC) and infrastructure bodies warned the proposal would be a disaster unless the state and federal government committed billions to massive infrastructure upgrades to improve what is now a “virtual sheep paddock”.

Badgerys Creek airport would drive growth in Sydney suburbs, PwC report shows (<http://www.google.com.au/url?sa=t&rct=j&q=&esrc=s&frm=1&source=web&cd=1&ved=0CCsQqQlwAA&url=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.dailytelegraph.com.au%2Fnews%2Fbadgerys-creek-airport-would-drive-growth-in-sydney-suburbs-pwc-australia-report-shows%2Fstory-fni0cx12-1226845273563&ei=BV4YU8HtNMG-IQW8o4CQBA&usq=AFQjCNHVN-f8quoC48E9GzEeDR2gHprs9w&bvm=bv.62577051.d.dGI>)

Editorial: Three-tiered attack for Badgerys Creek airport lift-off (<http://www.google.com.au/url?sa=t&rct=j&q=&esrc=s&frm=1&source=web&cd=3&ved=0CDEQFjAC&url=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.dailytelegraph.com.au%2Fnews%2Fopinion%2Fthree-tiered-attack-for-badgerys-creek-airport-lift-off%2Fstory-fni0cwl5-1226846311332&ei=BV4YU8HtNMG-IQW8o4CQBA&usq=AFQjCNFWFzlgY-lbx3QjrH0nKuWBq6rO8Q&bvm=bv.62577051.d.dGI>)

NSW Premier Barry O'Farrell finally signals support for Badgerys Creek (<http://www.google.com.au/url?>)

The joint study on aviation capacity in the Sydney region released in 2012 suggests infrastructure including road, rail and utilities for a “greenfield” site such as Badgerys Creek could cost between \$950 million and \$3.6 billion.

The push for infrastructure spending came as Premier Barry O’Farrell finally admitted he was prepared to back Badgerys Creek.



Traffic congestion on the M5 motorway near the King Georges Road exit.

Source: News Limited

Responding to exclusive reports in yesterday’s The Daily Telegraph that he had backed the proposal after “secret” meetings with Prime Minister Tony Abbott, Mr O’Farrell said he had always planned to back it as long as the state got extra money from the Commonwealth.

WSROC president Tony Hadchiti said the current \$250 million suggested to cover infrastructure spending was “barely a drop in the bucket” for a site “virtually a sheep paddock”.

The Daily Telegraph revealed last month that Transport Minister Warren Truss had drawn up a cabinet minute that included a \$250 million infrastructure package around the airport site.

Infrastructure Partners Australia chief executive Brendan Lyon agreed with Mr Hadchiti, saying much-needed extensions of the South West and North West rail links to the proposed airport would cost at least \$47 million a kilometre to build.

Mr Lyon said a high capacity bulk fuel line to carry aviation fuel also needed to be built from Port Botany to Badgerys Creek.



Aerial views of the proposed Badgerys Creek airport site in western Sydney. Picture: Kelly Rohan
Source: News Limited

The Western Sydney Airport Alliance — a coalition of business, unions, councils and community groups — said there needs to be an infrastructure “grand partnership” between the state and federal governments.

Spokesman David Borger, said the state government could extend the South West Rail Link, which terminates at Leppington, to the new airport with an option for the line to head north from the airport to meet the existing western line and create an orbital line that also gives people in southwest Sydney greater access to public transport to the city’s northwest.

There is already a state government proposal for a rail line connecting the city’s southwest and northwest via land bordering the Badgerys Creek site. Mr Borger said Elizabeth Drive, at the northern end of the airport site, must be widened and upgraded to handle greater capacity.



A Badgerys Creek airport would boost western Sydney’s growth.
Source: News Limited

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 **Bob** 5 days ago
This large vacant block of land (see photos) in the middle of Western Sydney is not going to sit idle for another 40 years. Whatever the future use, the NSW Govt is responsible for most of the above mentioned costs. The Federal and State Governments need to get together and work out who pays for what and when.

[Like](#) [Reply](#)

 **Bob** 5 days ago
Elizabeth Drive is the obvious option to get from the M7 to Badgerys Creek City but it is not the only option. There are 3 other options and two are probably better options. All 4 options need to be compared. The new north-south M9 Motorway (plus ECFT and heavy rail) common corridor also needs to go through Badgerys Creek City and West Sydney International Airport.

[Like](#) [Reply](#)

 **Bob** 5 days ago
The 50km bulk aviation fuel line need not be built from Port Botany to Badgerys Creek. The existing line to Plumpton would be extended south along a common motorway/ rail / fast train corridor by 23kms to Badgerys Creek City and to West Sydney International Airport.

[Like](#) [Reply](#)

 **Lucy** Mar 7, 2014
When they advertise jobs for the new airport, will it be advertised as "People living in the western suburbs only need apply" - I doubt it !

[Like](#) [Reply](#)

 **Neville** Mar 7, 2014
This should mean Sydney airport becomes 24/7 immediately. Great news knowing that we can open up the current airport at a cost of \$0 and be well within capacity/limits for 50 years. Why spend \$1 of taxpayers money on a not required project?

1  [Like](#) [Reply](#)

Brendan

Mar 7, 2014



Obviously not much thought has got into this location.... We already have a major airport on the South side of Sydney. South-East..... Wouldn't it make more sense to put the Airport in the North-west of Sydney considering we already have an Airport in the South???? Can see its going to be a shambles just like the M5 that they are wasting billions on re-doing!

Like Reply



Realist

Mar 7, 2014

Aviation emissions are unregulated, unreported and uncontrolled.

Jet engines are dirty and burnt jet fuel has many dangerous pollutants sprayed directly into the atmosphere.

In particular, **benzopyrene** is a highly carcinogenic byproduct of jet fuel combustion attached to soot particles. It can cause cancer and tumors in humans through lung and skin adsorption.

This will contribute to significant increases in asthma, respiratory ailments, and heart disease for those living under and around the flight zone.

Mascot runways extend into the ocean which minimizes pollution and noise. The Badgerys plan is to fly over residential housing, farmland and Sydneys main source of water - Warragamba Dam.

People, children, animals and plants living under the flight paths will be rained on by toxic airplane exhaust fumes, 24 hours every day and every night - **forever**.

1 Like Reply



fred

Mar 7, 2014

@Realist Well said mate, the house will be on the market as soon as an announcement is made, I insist on driving for an hour to get to an airport.

1 Like Reply



Nada

Mar 7, 2014

@Realist Totally agree, our catchment is our drinking water we do not need it polluted. Extend Kingsford Smith Airport simple, save billions also have 24/7 operations there we so not need it here in the western suburbs

Like Reply



Bob

5 days ago

With runways going from N-E to S-W, the flight paths are well away from Warragamba Dam. The flight paths should be 7kms south of the dam. There is no need to worry about polluting Sydney's water.

Like Reply



Edward

Mar 7, 2014

Originally an airport was planned for completion at Badgerys Creek in 1984. Costs are now far greater. Take for example Suvarnabhumi International Airport Bangkok which took 4 years to completion in 2006 for USD 5 billion under very low Thai labour costs and without a rail link into Bangkok. Judging by the NBN fiasco time to completion and cost of Badgerys Creek will put this project far into the future.

Like Reply



Martin

Mar 7, 2014

You know \$ 3.6 billion is not a lot of money, considering the last federal Government reportedly wasted \$104 billion.

1 Like Reply



Steve

Mar 7, 2014

@Thomas I haven't read anywhere that it is going to be a 24 hour operation for the airport, or that its going to anything more than a domestic feed service to other states and cities.

Like Reply



Garry

Mar 7, 2014

I am sixty years old and ever since I could read and use a Gregory's to travel around Sydney, there was always a corridor of land that lead through the suburbs from the Tempe/Mascot area out to the Glenfield/Hoxton Park/Badgerys area.

Now there is the M5 road and the MacArthur/East Hills/Airport/CBD network. Please do not tell me that the "Great" Infrastructure planners of past eras did not design this to accommodate a second airport in the future out in this vicinity?

Why are we wasting millions of taxpayers dollars watching a recession of Political Parties procrastinate over where it should be, let's just get on with the job!

3  Like Reply



Thomas

Mar 7, 2014

Think very carefully about the consequences of a 24 hour international airport in your local community.

If it so desirable to have an airport in your area, then where are all the communities clamouring to have Sydney's second airport in their area??? Also, a 24 hour airport would negatively affect home prices which would be under or near flight paths, and necessitate many homes having to instal soundproofing to combat aircraft noise. There have been thousands of homes around Sydney and Adelaide airports which had to be insulated under the Noise Insulation Programs.

This impact would be particularly devastating for the many young families who have moved into the Outer Western suburbs and are tied to mortgages, who won't have the option of moving for many years to come, if at all.

If sited according to Google Earth, Badgerys Creek Airport would be approximately 11 km from Warragamba Dam. This dam, as I understand, is the predominate source of fresh water for the whole Sydney metropolitan area and with its close proximity to the airport we would very concerned about the highly possible airborne contamination of our drinking water from aircraft.

All Outer Western Sydney residents need to be consulted prior to any final decision is taken.

I appreciate that an airport would create employment opportunities, however, I also believe that it would come at at a huge health, social and environmental cost to a vast number of Western Sydney residents.

2  Like Reply



Martin

Mar 7, 2014

Canberra Airport is a 24 hour facility, I live in Canberra, no issue from me.

1  Like Reply



rad

Mar 7, 2014

as they say in the pits..... go go go go go

3  Like Reply



Rita

Mar 7, 2014

Just get on with it! We all know that it is in the best interests of Pollies, Consultants, and Public Servants that this project gets discussed, and sent to various committees and sub-committees before anything is done. Really, it wont be ready till 2025 if they get started next year! So just start the bloody project by putting the supporting infrastructure in first

10  Like Reply



Jason

Mar 7, 2014

@Rita Well said Rita. At least Badgerys Creek Airport is more worthy than the ridiculous \$5 Billion inner city only metro rail that was also pushed for years by consultants and public servants. Sometimes the "public" servants are really serving themselves - not the public.

4  Like Reply



Eatin

Mar 7, 2014

Hopefully this doesn't become a phurphy like the Inner West light rail project that cost us tax payers around 600 million without so much as a spade of dirt being turned. Watch the pollies people, theyre very good at making very ridiculous decisions at times.

Like Reply



Jason

Mar 7, 2014

@Eatin I am suspicious when proponents of Badgerys Creek promote it on the grounds of the new infrastructure it will bring to Western Sydney. This infrastructure should be built regardless of any airport. But I am concerned by committing to new infrastructure for Badgerys Creek there will be less money for other pressing infrastructure such as Abbott's plan to develop Northern Australia or equally ambitious plans to irrigate West of the dividing range.

1  Like Reply



Saint Mike II

Mar 7, 2014

@Brooke @Eatin I have to agree Brooke - the current rail line to Leppington should be extended to Narrelan and also NW to St Marys - its were Sydney will grow and trains (properly operated) will carry a lot more people than 500 cars.

2  Like Reply



patricia

Mar 7, 2014

[@Saint Mike II](#) [@Brooke](#) [@Eatin](#) The Premier is keen on increasing rail lines, but no-one wants to use Public Transport, they prefer the comfort of their cars! In the early days after WW2, we all used Public Transport, and it was well run then, not dirty and unsafe as it is now! I live under Mascot fly path and don't know why people complain about fumes and noise, it's mostly those in the areas (such as Badgerys Creek) who are complaining!

1 Like [Reply](#)



gary

Mar 7, 2014

[@patricia](#) [@Saint Mike II](#) [@Brooke](#) [@Eatin](#) If that is so, just make Mascot 24/7. Then there is no need to spend billions on an airport anywhere in NSW and then the people of Mascot will be the only ones complaining!!

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