

Essendon Airport expansion 'minimal impact on traffic' – Moonee Valley Leader 3/4/07

More than 100 residents concerned at the development of Essendon Airport attended a public meeting run by Wills MP Kelvin Thomson.

Most of the 120 or so Strathmore residents were concerned by reports of extra traffic using Mascoma Street. Speaking in parliament last month, Mr Thomson said that with Australia Post set to move 170 staff to Essendon Fields by September, residents were worried about increased traffic.

A proposed bike track for posties is to run from the airport, behind some properties, to Mascoma Street, Strathmore then linked to a trail in Boeing Reserve. Mr Thomson said Airport General Manager Tim Anderson told the meeting there would be "very minimal" impact on traffic flows in Mascoma Street and nearby residential streets because the airport also planned to introduce a second entrance off Melrose Drive which links with Matthews Avenue.

He said residents were angry that Essendon Airport management did not plan to repair Mascoma Street where it passes under the Tullamarine Freeway and wanted sound barriers to be extended from the freeway. However, VicRoads, which controls that stretch of road, had measured noise levels and concluded sound barriers were not needed. Airport Management has been in discussions with the State Government and several bus services to establish a public transport line to and from the precinct.

