

18 June 2020

The General Manager
Wagga Wagga City Council
PO Box 20
WAGGA WAGGA NSW 2650

Via email: council@wagga.nsw.gov.au

Dear Mr Thompson,

**SUBMISSION REGARDING DRAFT FEES AND CHARGES 2020/21 –
WAGGA WAGGA AIRPORT**

This submission is made on behalf of the Committee and members of Wagga City Aero Club (WCAC).

Wagga Wagga has a vibrant private / recreational aviation sector of which most pilots and aircraft owners are members of WCAC. Club membership has slowly increased over recent years along with private / recreational flying. Private aircraft numbers and privately owned hangars have also grown reflecting growth in activity and revenue for the airport and Council.

Of concern to our members and private / recreational flyers is the continued increase in airport costs associated with our activities. While we accept that as users we are obliged to contribute to the operation and maintenance of the airport, we believe that annual costs should not increase above inflation (CPI) unless there are specific reasons for such increases.

Airport charges levied on the private / recreational sector over the last three years have increased in excess of CPI rates on both an annual and cumulative basis. The attached table analyses the increase of all the airport charges excluding the charges levied against the airlines and airline passengers.

Some of the most significant charge increases (17 – 24% over three years and 5.4 – 6.7% annually for 2020/21) are found in the administrative charges associated with the issue of access cards and driver authorities used by our members to gain access to their hangar leases. Charges associated with private aircraft landings and annual landing permits have increased by 6.9% as against a 5.4% increase in the CPI over the three year period and 5.4% annually for 2020/21 as against the CPI of 2.2%.

As there have been no significant changes to the facilities and services provided, we contend that annual increases should be no more than the annual CPI. The recession resulting from the COVID 19 pandemic is likely to mean a very low CPI rate for the 20/21 FY. Given this impact and that Council has received increases over the annual CPI for the last three years, the increase to be applied on 2019/20 rates for 2020/21 should be no greater than the annual CPI and not the higher rate proposed.

It is appreciated Council will receive substantially reduced airport revenue for 2019/20 and 2020/21 as a result of the greatly reduced activity by the airlines flowing from the COVID 19 pandemic. However, this should not be used as justification for increasing charges on the other user sectors, especially given the vast majority of costs incurred at the airport relate to airline / larger commercial aircraft operations.

We also note the proposed fees and charges have yet to be considered by the Airport Advisory Committee – one of the fundamental roles of that Committee.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Geoff Breust', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Geoff Breust

President

WAGGA WAGGA AIRPORT FEES AND CHARGES

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Item No	Description	2017-18	% Increase	CPI	2018-19	% Increase	CPI	2019-20	% Increase	CPI	2020-21	% Increase	CPI	% Increase	CPI	
0114	Airside Access Card - Initial Issue	33.00	?	2.10	35.00	6.06	1.90	37.00	5.71	1.30	39.00	5.41	2.20	17.18	5.40	
0115	Airside Access Card - Re-issue	33.00	?	2.10	35.00	6.06	1.90	37.00	5.71	1.30	39.00	5.41	2.20	17.18	5.40	
0116	Airside Escort Duties	99.00	?	2.10	105.00	6.06	1.90	115.00	9.52	1.30	125.00	8.70	2.20	24.28	5.40	
0117	Authority to Drive Airside (ADA) - Initial Issue	132.00	?	2.10	140.00	6.06	1.90	150.00	7.14	1.30	160.00	6.67	2.20	19.87	5.40	
0118	Authority to Drive Airside (ADA) - Re-issue	33.00	?	2.10	35.00	6.06	1.90	37.00	5.71	1.30	39.00	5.41	2.20	17.18	5.40	
0119	Landing Charge - Fixed Wing - NON RPT	13.60	?	2.10	13.86	1.91	1.90	13.86	0.00	1.30	14.55	4.98	2.20	6.89	5.40	
0120	Landing Charge - Rotary Wing - NON RPT	6.80	?	2.10	6.93	1.91	1.90	6.93	0.00	1.30	7.28	5.05	2.20	6.96	5.40	
0121	Landing Charge - Aircraft Maintenance - subsequent flts	0.00	?	2.10	0.00		1.90	0.00	0.00	1.30	0.00	0.00	2.20	0.00	5.40	
0122	Resident Commercial and Pilot Training Aircraft - Annual	330.00	?	2.10	336.27	1.90	1.90	336.27	0.00	1.30	353.09	5.00	2.20	6.90	5.40	
0123	Resident Freight Aircraft - Annual	166.20	?	2.10	169.36	1.90	1.90	169.36	0.00	1.30	177.83	5.00	2.20	6.90	5.40	
0124	Private Aircraft - Annual Landing Permit	165.00	NEW	2.10	168.14	1.90	1.90	168.14	0.00	1.30	176.54	5.00	2.20	6.90	5.40	
0125	ILS Approach	27.32	?	2.10	28.28	3.51	1.90	29.27	3.50	1.30	30.29	3.48	2.20	10.50	5.40	
0126	ILS Approach - greater than 400 per year	19.68	?	2.10	20.37	3.51	1.90	21.09	3.53	1.30	21.82	3.46	2.20	10.50	5.40	
0127	Passenger Service Charge - Base rate RPT				13.60		1.90	13.60	0.00	1.30	TBA		2.20	0.00	5.40	
	Passenger Service Charge - WG-SY up to 180K				13.60		1.90	13.60	0.00	1.30	TBA		2.20	0.00	5.40	
0128	Passenger Service Charge - WG-SY above base threshold				6.80		1.90	6.80	0.00	1.30	TBA		2.20	0.00	5.40	
	Passenger Service Charge WG -MEL up to 6K				13.60		1.90	13.60	0.00	1.30	TBA		2.20	0.00	5.40	
0129	Passenger Service Charge WG -MEL above 6K				6.80		1.90	6.80	0.00	1.30	TBA		2.20	0.00	5.40	
	Passenger Service Charge WG-BN				13.60		1.90	13.60	0.00	1.30		-100.00	2.20	-100.00	5.40	
0130	Angel Flt, Care flt and NFP Chaitable	0.00	?	2.10	0.00	0.00	1.90	0.00	0.00	1.30	0.00	0.00	2.20	0.00	5.40	
0131	Screening Fees - per Departing Passenger	13.46	?	2.10	13.46	0.00	1.90	16.87	25.33	1.30	15.21	-9.84	2.20	15.49	5.40	
0132	Car Parking Annual	1575.00	?	2.10	1575.00	0.00	1.90	1655.00	5.08	1.30	1740.00	5.14	2.20	10.22	5.40	
0133	Car Parking Weekly	65.00	?	2.10	65.00	0.00	1.90	67.50	3.85	1.30	67.50	0.00	2.20	3.85	5.40	
0134	Car Parking Daily	13.00	?	2.10	13.00	0.00	1.90	13.50	3.85	1.30	13.50	0.00	2.20	3.85	5.40	
0135	Car Parking Hourly	2.50	?	2.10	2.50	0.00	1.90	2.70	8.00	1.30	2.70	0.00	2.20	8.00	5.40	
0136	Car Parking Lost Ticket	125.00	?	2.10	125.00	0.00	1.90	135.00	8.00	1.30	135.00	0.00	2.20	8.00	5.40	
0137	Car Park Access Card - Initial	33.00	?	2.10	35.00	6.06	1.90	37.00	5.71	1.30	39.00	5.41	2.20	17.18	5.40	
0138	Car Park Access card - Re-issue	33.00	?	2.10	35.00	6.06	1.90	37.00	5.71	1.30	39.00	5.41	2.20	17.18	5.40	
0139	Car Rental Operators - Use of Car Park				0.00		1.90	0.50	NEW	1.30	0.50	0.00	2.20	0.00	3.50	
0140	Replacement for Lost Parking Permit				60.00		1.90	65.00	8.33	1.30	70.00	7.69	2.20	16.03	5.40	
0141	VIC Card Issue	33.00	?	2.10	35.00	6.06	1.90	37.00	5.71	1.30	39.00	5.41	2.20	17.18	5.40	
0142	Promotional Displays	115.00	?	2.10	120.00	4.35	1.90	130.00	8.33	1.30	140.00	7.69	2.20	20.37	5.40	
0143	Pavement Concession Application Fee				0.00		1.90	220.00	NEW	1.30	235.00	6.82	2.20	6.82	3.50	
0144	Pavement Concession Above Weight Charge				0.00		1.90	10.91	NEW	1.30	11.46	5.04	2.20	5.04	3.50	

ANNUAL CPI

March 19 - 20	2.20%
18 - 19	1.30%
17 - 18	1.90%
16 - 17	2.10%

PRIVATE / RECREATIONAL OPERATIONS

ONE YEAR