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### **Busselton Margaret River Airport Recognised at National Industry Awards**

Busselton Margaret River Airport (BMRA) received the 'Airport Innovation and Excellence Award for Infrastructure Development – Regional Airport' for its airside and landside civil infrastructure project at the 2018 National Australian Airports Association (AAA) Awards held in Brisbane last night. The AAA National Airport Industry Awards celebrate and honour excellence within Australia's airport industry.

The awards highlight the airport industry's commitment to investing in the aviation sector to drive growth and build the tourism industry.

City of Busselton Mayor Grant Henley said receiving the award was an important validation of achievements thus far.

"It is exceptionally pleasing to see that the City's efforts in building a first class facility for the benefit of the South West region and the State of Western Australia has been recognised by the aviation industry. The City continues its strong track record of delivering infrastructure projects and I congratulate the City's Airport Project Team and contractor Ertech for a job well done."

With airside infrastructure now complete, the City is focused on pursuing landside infrastructure, including development of the first dedicated airfreight hub in the South West. Works to progress the new terminal, a critical component of airport expansion, will proceed once State Government funding allocated to the project has been released.

"The City of Busselton Council extends its thanks to stakeholders across Government, industry and the broader community for continuing to support the airport expansion project. With City of Busselton operators shining so significantly in the recently announced 2018 WA Tourism Awards, it's clear that the South West is a major tourism drawcard for the State and that demand for regular passenger flights directly into the region will increase."

City of Busselton CEO, Mike Archer further acknowledged, "It would not have been possible without the hard work and commitment of the in-house Airport Project Team and consultants, APP Corporation Pty Ltd, led by Director of Community and Commercial Services, Naomi Searle. I congratulate the team on their dedication."

*The Busselton-Margaret River Regional Airport Development Project is made possible by investment from the Australian Government; State Government's Royalties for Regions program, Department of Transport's Regional Airports Development Scheme (RADS) program, City of Busselton, South West Development Commission and Tourism Western Australia.*

*Outcomes and objectives outlined in this statement align with Key Goal Area 4 in the City of Busselton's Strategic Community Plan (2017): An economy that is diverse, resilient and prosperous.*

**Image Attached:** Naomi Searle, Director of Community & Commercial Services receiving award.

**Ends.** Media enquiries can be directed to [media@busselton.wa.gov.au](mailto:media@busselton.wa.gov.au)

Media Release