



## MADRA PRESS RELEASE: MALLACOOTA AIRPORT

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Recent announcements about the downgrading of Mallacoota Airport by removing instrument navigation facilities have caused the Mallacoota and district community real concerns. While the airport remains open for VFR operations, the downgrade restricts access to the airport potentially limiting Air Ambulance and Angel Flight operations, aside from other aircraft movements that rely on instrument navigation when visual flight navigation is not possible.

As a result of approaches from MADRA and other concerned community members, a meeting was convened on Tuesday 9 August between MADRA and senior officers of the Civil Aviation Safety Authority, East Gippsland Shire Council (as owner of the airport) and our two parliamentary representatives, Mr Darren Chester MP and Mr Tim Bull MP.

“The discussions between the various parties were cordial and productive,” says Mr Ken Grime, MADRA Committee Member. “Resulting from the discussions, CASA and EGSC have agreed to take steps to finalise certification of the airport, which will see the re-introduction of instrument navigation. CASA and EGSC are reporting back to the community within 14 days on progress to resolve any outstanding certification issues and likely timelines for resolution.”

“Having a strong local community organisation like MADRA, that is committed to productive working relationships with all government entities and representatives, assists remote communities to achieve outcomes that may not be achieved where such coordinated representation is not present. The MADRA Committee thanks all of the representatives who met on Tuesday for their willingness to find a solution in a bipartisan and productive way.”

### MADRA

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