

16 July 2015

Grant Kerr  
Head of NZ Business  
Jetstar Airways  
Auckland

Dear Grant

On behalf of the Cambridge, Raglan and Te Awamutu Chambers of Commerce we unreservedly support Hamilton Airport's bid to secure Jetstar as an airline to service the Waipa, greater Waikato and Bay of Plenty regions.

Reflecting on your presentation to the Cambridge Chamber of Commerce at last's year AGM, where the expectation for consideration of flights into Hamilton by Jetstar was definitely not on the radar, I am delighted to see how things can change quickly in such a dynamic industry notwithstanding the significant changes in the environment within the region itself which makes the proposition worthy of serious consideration.

Hamilton Airport is less than 20 minutes from Cambridge, Te Awamutu, and Hamilton and within 60-90 minutes of outlying Waipa areas, Raglan and key regions such as Bay of Plenty, Tauranga, Rotorua and Taupo. The benefits of further flight services at fair prices will be an advantage to the region, improving accessibility and competition on the route.

Waipa is experiencing unprecedented growth. Additional demand has come from those moving into the region, seeing it as an affordable lifestyle option and from evolving sectors such as high performance sport, and the continued development of tourism. This is in addition to our existing strong agricultural and equine base alongside the educational sector with Waikato University and St Peters School in close proximity. As our population grows and visitor numbers increase, access to affordable, convenient air connections will be critical for sustained economic development, growth and success in the Waipa, Raglan and wider Waikato regions.

With a significant event asset base and infrastructure; Mystery Creek/Fieldays, Avantidrome and Lake Karapiro, to name a few, additional air capacity and accessibility will further support these incredible venues that are already host to national and international events on a regular basis.

The region is poised for further growth across many industries. Tourism is one of these and accessibility is a key driver when developing and growing product. Hobbiton, Waitomo Caves, Hamilton Gardens and Sanctuary Mountain Maungatautari continue to attract domestic and international visitors.

There is opportunity to grow Hamilton/Auckland/Hamilton by providing access to a key market and airport hub. As pressure builds on the roadways due to increased congestion on the Auckland motorway, which will only be further exasperated upon the completion of the Waikato expressway, there is even greater opportunity to capitalise on this sector with the appropriate blend of scheduling and pricing.

In closing, Cambridge, Raglan and Te Awamutu Chambers of Commerce fully support Hamilton Airport's bid to secure Jetstar as an airline to service the region and look forward to engaging in this opportunity.

Yours sincerely



Tania Witheford  
On behalf of:

Cambridge Chamber of Commerce | Te Awamutu Chamber of Commerce | Raglan Chamber of Commerce



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