

WARREN TRUSS

Federal Member for Wide Bay Minister for Trade

Media Release

1 August 2007

Congratulations to Maryborough Councils and Rex

May I congratulate the Maryborough City Council on their initiative in bringing Rex Airline Services to our city.

Rex will bring much needed competition to Queensland regional airline routes and restore sadly missed air services between Maryborough and Brisbane. The loss of air services was a serious blow to Maryborough and has cost the city dearly in services and convenience.

The Australian Government has provided nearly \$400,000 over the past 3 years to upgrade security at the airport. We will also provide en route navigation subsidies to Rex for their services to Maryborough.

Maryborough Airport became a security-controlled airport on 10 March 2005. It is one of 147 regional airports that are now required to have a transport security program approved by the Australian Government in order to strengthen aviation security around the country.

A fully functional airport is vital to the economic and social well being of our city, and with the recent announcement of a large pilot training facility to be built on site, the future of aviation in Maryborough looks great.

Over recent years Rex has established itself as one of the most successful regional airlines in the world. Their Saab aircraft are comfortable and quick and Rex has an excellent reputation for reliability and friendliness.

I encourage local people to make their new air service work and to re-establish the practice of flying to Brisbane.

Brokering an arrangement like this on behalf of the people of the region requires dedication, a positive outlook and more than a little patience, and with that in mind I would again like to thank councillors and Mayor Barb Hovard for their work in bringing Rex to Maryborough.

It is another demonstration of the bright future that lies ahead of Maryborough and adjacent areas.

ENDS



Contact: Jim Kennedy 0438 191 233
Electorate Office: 07 4121 2936
P.O. Box 283 Maryborough Q 4650
Email: jim.kennedy@aph.gov.au
Website: www.warrentruss.com