

60%

The increase in total international arrivals to King Shaka Airport since 2010

Further fuelling interest from property investors on the north coast is the increase in economic activity at the Dube TradePort which, together with King Shaka International Airport, forms part of the regional aerotropolis (see storybox below).

International travel was significantly bolstered last year by the addition to Durban's network of four new international airlines, in addition to the daily Emirates flights and regional services to Zimbabwe, Mozambique and Mauritius. Official statistics show that total international arrivals have risen by 60% since King Shaka opened in 2010 due to direct international flights — with a new record in international arrivals registered in January 2016, representing an 85% hike from January 2010.

International flights open and reinforce global and regional trade links by moving passengers and cargo. Local officials believe that this increased global connectivity will drive the region's aerotropolis and associated regional economic growth.

AEROTROPOLIS: KWAZULU-NATAL

An aerotropolis is a metro area where the layout, infrastructure and local economy are centred around an airport which serves as the commercial core. Aerotropolis: KZN — the heart of which is Dube TradePort and King Shaka International Airport — is set to become a major trade and business hub in sub-Saharan Africa. By creating a highly competitive business operating environment,

complete with state-of-the-art infrastructure — road, rail, seaport and IT — it is designed to accelerate business efficiencies and enhance global supply chain.

The development aims to become South Africa's new gateway to Southern Africa.

SOURCE: AEROTROPOLISKZN.COM



To extend the transport network with the TradePort, local authorities are planning a rapid rail system which will connect King Shaka with Durban, Pietermaritzburg and Richards Bay.

The increase in economic activity — and hence the improved employment opportunities — generated by developments at King Shaka and Dube TradePort is undoubtedly contributing to the revival in the property market in the region.