

# **Tri-Cities Airport Emergency Contingency Plan**

The Tri-Cities Airport has prepared this Emergency Contingency Plan pursuant to §42301 of the FAA Modernization and Reform Act of 2012. Questions regarding this plan can be directed to Buck Taft at [bucktaft@portofpasco.org](mailto:bucktaft@portofpasco.org). Tri-Cities Airport is filing this plan with the Department of Transportation because (1) it is a commercial service airport or this airport may be used by an air carrier described in USC 42301(a)(1) for diversions.

This plan describes how, following excessive tarmac delays and to the extent practicable, Tri-Cities Airport will:

- Provide for the deplanement of passengers;
- Provide for the sharing of facilities and make gates available at the airport; and
- Provide a sterile area following excessive tarmac delays for passengers who have not yet cleared United States Customs & Border Protection (CBP).

Tri-Cities Airport has facility constraints that limit our ability to accommodate diverted flights or maintain the airport's safe operation and strongly encourages aircraft operators to contact the airport at 509.547.6352 for prior coordination of diverted flights, except in the case of a declared in-flight emergency. Specific facility constraints include the following:

- Terminal building capacity is 278 people
- Air Stairs available for A320 aircraft or smaller
- Jet Bridge available for A320 aircraft or smaller
- No food service after 2000 hours. Vending machines only
- No United States Customs on Site

We have noted these constraints in the Tri-Cities Airport's Airport/Facility Directory record. During diversion events Tri-Cities Airport issues NOTAMs regarding its ability to accommodate diverted flights to ensure the safe and efficient operation of the airport and its ability to serve the civil aviation needs of the public during irregular operations events.

## **Airport Information**

Name of Airport: Tri-Cities Airport

Name and title of person preparing the plan: Buck Taft, Deputy Director of Aviation

Preparer contact number: 509.547.6352

After hours/weekends: 509.727.3099

Preparer contact e-mail: [bucktaft@portofpasco.org](mailto:bucktaft@portofpasco.org)

Date of submission of plan: May 12, 2017

Airport Category: Non Hub

## **Contact Information**

In the event of diversion or other irregular operations events, aircraft operators should contact Airport at 509.547.6352, after hours and weekend please call 509.727.3099.

### **Plan to Provide for the Deplanement of Passengers Following Excessive Tarmac Delays**

Tri-Cities Airport does not own or operate any of the equipment needed to safely deplane passengers from air carrier aircraft and is, therefore, unable on its own to provide for the deplanement of passengers. Additionally airport personnel are not trained to assist in the deplanement of passengers using the equipment owned or operated by air carriers or contract service providers. We will provide a list of airlines, ground handlers, fixed base operators and others who may have the necessary equipment and personnel to safely deplane passengers to airlines as soon as practicable after receiving requests from such airlines experiencing excessive tarmac delays at the contact number listed above.

### **Plan to Provide for the Sharing of Facilities and Make Gates Available in an Emergency**

The Gates at the Tri-Cities Airport are under preferential lease to air carriers and are not fully controlled by the airport during those time periods when the tenant's usage of that gate meets the usage specified in the preferential use lease. We may be able to direct a tenant airline to accommodate another air carrier aircraft at its preferentially leased gate during those time periods when the tenant airline is not using, or not scheduled to use, the gates. We will work with our tenant air carriers to make gates and other facilities available to an air carrier seeking to deplane at a gate during those time periods the gates are not in use or not scheduled to be in use, to the maximum extent practicable.

Aircraft with doors higher than a A320 have the ability to use remote parking spaces; however the airport does not have equipment to assist with the deplanement of passengers. If larger aircraft are equipped with internal air stairs they may deplane their passengers and proceed to use the terminal facilities.

### **Plan to Provide a Sterile Area for Passengers Who Have Not Cleared United States Customs and Border Protection**

Tri-Cities Airport does not have international passenger processing facilities. We will coordinate with local CBP and law enforcement officials to identify suitable areas and procedures for establishing a temporary sterile area into which international passengers on diverted aircraft who have not yet cleared United States Customs and Border Protection can be deplaned. Once these efforts are complete, we will coordinate with local CBP official to develop procedures that will allow international passengers who have not yet cleared United States Customs and Border Protection to be deplaned into these sterile areas to the extent practicable.

The airport is currently unable to handle international passengers.

### **Public Access to the Emergency Contingency Plan**

Tri-Cities Airport will provide public access to its emergency contingency plan through one or more of the following means:

- Positioning in a conspicuous location on the airport website [www.flytricity.com](http://www.flytricity.com)