

Knoxville McGhee Tyson Airport Tarmac Delay Contingency Plan

McGhee Tyson Airport has prepared this Tarmac Delay Contingency Plan pursuant to §42301 of the FAA Modernization and Reform Act of 2012. Questions regarding this plan can be directed to Trevis D. Gardner, at Trevis.gardner@tys.org. McGhee Tyson Airport is filing this plan with the Department of Transportation because (1) it is a commercial airport or (2) 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, McGhee Tyson 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).

McGhee Tyson Airport has facility constraints that limit our ability to accommodate diverted international flights. We strongly encourages all aircraft operators, both domestic and international, to contact the airport at 865-342-3088 for prior coordination of diverted flights, except in the case of a declared in-flight emergency. Specific facility constraints include the following: 1) Absence of any international passenger processing facilities/capabilities; 2) Limited airline terminal ramp parking space; 3) Limited access to mobile boarding stairs. We have noted the first of these constraints in the Airport/Facility Directory record. During diversion events, McGhee Tyson 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: McGhee Tyson Airport

Name and title of person preparing the plan: James W. Roberts

Preparer contact number: 865-342-3032

Preparer contact e-mail: jim.roberts@tys.org

Date of submission of plan: June 5, 2017

Airport Category: Small Hub

Contact Information

In the event of diversion or other irregular operations events, aircraft operators should contact the Airport Dispatch Center at 865-342-3088, or dispatch@tys.org for assistance.

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

All passenger boarding bridges and other support equipment is operated solely by each air carrier or their contract services providers. McGhee Tyson Airport does not 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 equipment owned or operated by air carriers or contract service providers. We will provide to airlines a list of airlines, ground handlers, fixed base operators and others who may have the necessary equipment and personnel to safely deplane passengers, as soon as practicable after receiving requests from such airlines experiencing excessive tarmac delays at the contact number listed above.

Aircraft that are remotely parked (not at a terminal gate) may experience delays in the arrival of mobile boarding stairs, as these are in limited availability. For passenger transportation from remote parking to the terminal building, McGhee Tyson Airport has on hand one 44-passenger bus, and may, with adequate notice, acquire additional bus transportation.

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

Most gates at McGhee Tyson 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 gate. 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.

The airport may be unable to accommodate aircraft other than regional jets or narrow body mainline aircraft at our gates. Larger aircraft will need to deplane passengers from remote parking positions.

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

McGhee Tyson 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 officials 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.

Public Access to the Emergency Contingency Plan

McGhee Tyson Airport will provide public access to its Tarmac Delay Contingency plan through its website, www.tys.org.