



# TUS Emergency Contingency Plan

## TUCSON INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT (TUS) EMERGENCY CONTINGENCY PLAN

The Tucson International Airport (TUS), operated by the Tucson Airport Authority (TAA), 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 Andrew Gestrine at [agestrine@flytucson.com](mailto:agestrine@flytucson.com). The Tucson International Airport (TUS) is filing this plan with the Department of Transportation because:

1. It is a commercial service airport.
2. This airport may be used by an air carrier described in USC 42301(a)(1) for diversions.

The TUS Emergency Contingency Plan describes how, following excessive tarmac delays and to the extent practical, TUS will:

- Provide for 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 and Border Protection (CBP) processes.

TUS has facility constraints that limit its ability to accommodate diverted flights or maintain the airport's safe operation, and strongly encourages aircraft operators to contact TUS at (520) 573-8111 for prior coordination of diverted flights, except in the case of a declared in-flight emergency.

Specific facility constraints include the following:

- Limited gate and ramp parking space.
- Limited resources after hours; and,
- Limited ground-based equipment to help deplane / enplane passengers.

Prior aircraft operator notification during diversion events allows TUS staff to prepare for requests, provide assistance, and if necessary, 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.

<b>Tucson International Airport – Contact Information</b>	
Airport Name:	Tucson International Airport (TUS)
Name and Title of Person Preparing this Plan:	Andrew Gestrine, Airport Duty Manager
Preparer Contact Number:	(520) 573-8108
Preparer Contact Email:	<a href="mailto:agestrine@flytucson.com">agestrine@flytucson.com</a>
Date of Submission:	10/06/2021
Airport Category:	Small Hub
Aircraft operators should contact the Airport Communications Center in the event of diversion or other irregular operations events.	(520) 573-8111

### **Deplanement of Passengers Following Excessive Tarmac Delays:**

TUS 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, TAA personnel have no training to assist in the deplanement of passengers or using equipment owned or operated by air carriers or contract service providers. However, TUS has requested that each airline, ground handler and FBO operation on the airport provide TUS with a list of the equipment and resources they have for deplaning passengers and contact information. TUS will provide this inventory and contact information to airlines as soon as practicable after receiving requests from such airlines experiencing excessive tarmac delays at the contact number listed above.

### **Sharing of Facilities and Make Gates Available in an Emergency:**

The TUS terminal has 20 airline gates. The Tucson Airport Authority (TAA) owns 16 of the gates. Nine (9) of the gates are leased to air carriers for preferential use, seven (7) gates are common-use gates, and two (2) have jet bridges owned by air carriers who are entitled to exclusive use of them. Of the 16 gates owned by TAA, it should be noted that 14 are equipped with jet bridges into the main terminal and three require airstairs for deplaning to the apron. Gates A1 and A2 have direct access to the Federal Inspection Services for Customs. Gate A1 requires deplaning to the apron and Gate A2 has a jet bridge. Gate C1 requires deplaning to the apron and does not have direct access to the main terminal building. TUS will make every accommodation possible to share the facility and make gates available in an emergency. Operators are requested to contact the Airport Communications Center (ACC) at (520) 573-8111 in the event of a diversion or other IROPS event. TUS will direct common use gate lessees, permittees, or users to make gates available to an air carrier seeking to deplane at a gate to the maximum extent practical. If additional gates are needed, TUS will direct tenant air carriers to make preferential and/or exclusive use gates and other facilities available to an air carrier seeking to deplane at a gate, during those time periods when the tenant airline is not using, or not scheduled to use, the gates, to the maximum extent practical. A map is available of this gate configuration upon request.

### **Provide a Sterile Area for Passengers who have not cleared United States Customs and Border Protection (CBP):**

TUS has defined sterile areas capable of accommodating limited numbers of international passengers. TUS will coordinate with local CBP officials to develop procedures to allow international passengers, who have not yet cleared United States Customs and Border Protection, to be deplaned into these sterile areas to the extent practical.

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

TUS will provide public access to its emergency contingency plan through one or more of the following means:

- Post on the airport website (<http://flytucson.com>)
- Provide notice of the availability of the plan on the airport social media accounts.
- Post signs in conspicuous locations in the terminal.