Roanoke Regional Airport Commission
Emergency Contingency Plan for Irregular Operations at Roanoke-Blacksburg Regional Airport
May 10, 2022

The Roanoke Regional Airport Commission ("Commission"), owner and operator of the Roanoke-Blacksburg Regional 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 Mrs. B.J. Nipper, Operations Manager, at billiejo.nipper@flyroa.com.

The Roanoke Regional Airport Commission is filing this plan with the Department of Transportation because (1) it is a commercial airport and (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, Roanoke-Blacksburg Regional 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).

The Roanoke-Blacksburg Regional Airport has facility constraints that limit its ability to accommodate diverted flights and strongly encourages aircraft operators to contact the Commission's on-duty Public Safety Officer at (540) 797-3093 for prior coordination of diverted flights, except in the case of a declared in-flight emergency. Specific facility constraints include the following:

- Customs & Border Protection (CBP) personnel and facilities are not available on-site or locally for international passenger processing.
- Limited ground support equipment to accommodate full sized jets.
- There are no segregated facilities in which to hold international passengers or separate hold rooms or restrooms to provide to such persons.

- Limited hold rooms and aircraft parking positions at or near the terminal.
- Maximum of 63,000 gallons of jet fuel available on airport.

Airport Information

- **Name of Airport:** Roanoke-Blacksburg Regional Airport (KROA)
- **Name and title of person preparing the plan:** B.J. Nipper, Operations Manager, Planning and Engineering Dept.
- **Preparer contact number:** (540) 362-1999
- **Preparer contact email:** billiejo.nipper@flyroa.com
- **Date of submission of plan:** (June 20, 2017; August 23, 2019, October 13, 2020, January 13, 2022, May 26,2022)
- Airport Category: Non-Hub

Contact Information

In the event of diversion or other irregular operations event, aircraft operators should contact the Public Safety Officer at (540) 797-3093 (24 hours per day) for assistance.

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

Roanoke Regional Airport Commission 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, Commission 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 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

Although there are six terminal aircraft parking positions, there are only five passenger hold rooms at Roanoke-Blacksburg Regional Airport, three of which are under preferential use leases with air carriers and are not fully controlled by the Commission. If use of additional gates is needed, the Commission will direct our tenant air carriers to make preferential use gates and/or other facilities available to any air carrier seeking to deplane passengers 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.

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

The Roanoke-Blacksburg Regional Airport does not have international passenger processing facilities. The Commission has coordinated with the Richmond – Petersburg, Virginia, CBP (804) 226-9675, Emergency/After hours (804) 347-7453, 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. Response time by CBP to KROA is 3 to 8 hours or longer.

Public Access to the Emergency Contingency Plan

The Roanoke Regional Airport Commission will provide public access to its emergency contingency plan through one or more of the following means:

- Posting in a conspicuous location of the airport website (flyroa.com)
- Providing notice on the airport's social media accounts of the availability of the plan
- Posting signs in conspicuous locations in the terminals