

# **NORTHWEST ARKANSAS REGIONAL AIRPORT**

## **EMERGENCY CONTINGENCY PLAN**

The Northwest Arkansas Regional Airport (XNA) 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 Charles Butcher at [charles.butcher@flyxna.com](mailto:charles.butcher@flyxna.com). The Northwest Arkansas Regional Airport (XNA) is filing this plan with the Department of Transportation because it is a commercial airport.

This plan describes how, following excessive tarmac delays and to the extent practicable, Northwest Arkansas Regional Airport (XNA) 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 Northwest Arkansas Regional Airport (XNA) 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 479-205-1000 for prior coordination of diverted flights, except in the case of a declared in-flight emergency. Specific facility constraints include the following: 1.) Eleven (11) jet bridges; 2.) Four (4) regional boarding ramps; 3.) Two (2) mobile air stairs; 3.) No on-site customs services. During diversion events, Northwest Arkansas Regional Airport (XNA) may issue 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: Northwest Arkansas Regional Airport

Name and title of person preparing the plan: Charles Butcher, Administrative/ Operations Coordinator

Preparer contact number: 479-205-1429

Preparer contact e-mail: charles.butcher@flyxna.com

Date of submission of plan: May 15, 2017

Airport Category: Small Hub

### **Contact Information**

In the event of diversion or other irregular operations events, aircraft operators should contact Kelly Johnson, Airport Director 479-790-1000 or [Kelly.Johnson@flyxna.com](mailto:Kelly.Johnson@flyxna.com) for assistance. Aircraft operators should contact Regional Jet Center at 479-205-1100. Regional Jet Center is open 24/7.

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

XNA owns the jet bridges, regional boarding ramps, and one mobile air stairs, but 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. However, we have requested that each airline, ground handler and FBO operation on the airport provide us with a list of the equipment and resources they have for deplaning passengers and contact information. We 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.

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

Eight (8) gates in the A concourse at the Northwest Arkansas Regional Airport (XNA) 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 direct 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. Three (3) gates in the A concourse are currently not being used, and could be made available to air carriers seeking to deplane passengers. The B level concourse can also be made available for four (4) regional boarding ramps and air stairs.

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

The Northwest Arkansas Regional Airport (XNA) 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**

The Northwest Arkansas Regional Airport (XNA) will provide public access to its emergency contingency plan through the airport's website at [www.flyxna.com](http://www.flyxna.com)