

## **General Wayne A. Downing Peoria International Airport EMERGENCY CONTINGENCY PLAN - 2026**

The General Wayne A. Downing Peoria International Airport (PIA) has prepared this update to the Emergency Contingency Plan pursuant to §42301 of the FAA Modernization and Reform Act of 2012. Questions regarding this plan can be directed to Gene N. Olson, Director of Airports, at [golson@flypia.com](mailto:golson@flypia.com). PIA 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, PIA 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).

PIA 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 Airport Operations at (309) 303-1001 for prior coordination of diverted flights, except in the case of a declared in-flight emergency. Specific facility constraints include the following: existence of only one gate (Gate 14) which can accommodate aircraft up to Boeing 757; lack of airstairs for aircraft larger than Boeing 737 (not compatible with higher door sill heights than B-737); lack of international passenger processing facilities (CBP can only clear general aviation aircraft up to 15 passengers); limited numbers of aircraft parking positions. PIA can only accommodate four aircraft of Aircraft Design Group III (ie: Airbus A319, A320, A321, Boeing 737) at one time, and only one Aircraft Design Group IV (ie: Boeing 757) at any time. During diversion events PIA 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: General Wayne A. Downing Peoria International Airport

Name and title of person preparing the plan: Gene N. Olson, Director of Airports

Preparer contact number: (309) 697-8272, ext. 100 (office)

Preparer contact e-mail: [golson@flypia.com](mailto:golson@flypia.com)

Date of submission of plan: February 10, 2026

Airport Category: Large Hub ☐ Medium Hub ☐ Small Hub ☐ Non Hub ☒

In the event of diversion or other irregular operations events, aircraft operators should contact Airport Operations at (309) 303-1001 or (309) 697-8272 extension 110 (24/7/365) or 100 (office hours only) for assistance.

### **Plan to Provide for the Deplanement of Passengers Following Excessive Tarmac Delays<sup>3</sup>**

PIA has limited equipment and personnel needed to safely deplane passengers from air carrier aircraft. This equipment is limited to portable boarding stairs that can be used to deplane aircraft up to the size (door sill height) of a Boeing 737, as well as shuttle buses that can be used to transport passengers from remote aircraft parking locations to the airline terminal. We will utilize this equipment to deplane passengers as soon as practicable after receiving requests from such airlines at the contact number listed above. PIA does not own or operate any other Ground Support 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 also 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 PIA 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.

### **Plan to Provide a Sterile Area for Passengers Who Have Not Cleared United States Customs and Border Protection<sup>5</sup>**

PIA does not have international airline 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. PIA has an International building with a General Aviation Facility on the ground floor and with two airline gates on the second floor. We will coordinate with local CBP officials to plan for use of these gates as a temporary sterile area.

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

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

- Posting in a conspicuous location on the airport website (<http://www.flypia.com>)
- Making hard copies of the plan available upon request at the Airport Administration Office