



Federal Aviation Administration

Memorandum

Date:

To: Gary Powell, Director, Aeronautical Information Services
Floyd Badsky, Director, Aircraft Operations

From: *For* Wade E.K. Terrell, Acting Manager, Flight Technologies and
Procedures Division

Subject: Revised Circling Maneuvering Area Criteria Implementation Plan

Regarding our memorandum, subject "Application of Circling Maneuvering Area Criteria" dated March 7, 2019; this is to acknowledge that we understand and accept the resolution delay resulting from the unprecedented global pandemic. We also agree to the jointly established updated implementation plan described below.

1. The Instrument Flight Procedures Group (IFPG) has evaluated all instrument approach circling areas utilizing the current criteria from FAA Order 8260.3, United States Standard for Terminal Instrument Procedures (TERPS), and has issued Temporary Notices to Airmen (T-NOTAMs) to increase circling minimum descent altitudes where required.
2. The IFPG is in the process of converting the T-NOTAMs to permanent NOTAMs (P-NOTAMs) with estimated completion by May 2022.
3. The requirement of FAA Order 8260.19I, paragraph 8-6-10.s to add the circling icon to approaches evaluated with the larger circling areas will no longer be applied.
4. The IFPG will provide all necessary information to Flight Program Operations, Technical Support Group to conduct flight validation of the circling areas, as they are able.
5. Once all the circling areas have been validated, Flight Program Operations will notify IFPG, who will, in cooperation with Flight Standards, initiate the process to remove the circling area icon from all instrument approach procedure charts.
6. Flight Standards will initiate changes to the Aeronautical Information Manual (AIM), Instrument Procedures Handbook (IPH), and any other applicable directives to remove references to the smaller circling areas and the circling area icon. At the same time, Aeronautical Information Services will undertake the necessary actions to remove the same information and references from the Legends & General Information section of the Terminal Procedures Publication (TPP).

If you have any questions, please contact TJ Nichols at (405) 954-9359 or thomas.j.nichols@faa.gov.