

# WAGGA WAGGA AIRPORT CHANGES TO APPROACH PROCEDURES

Airservices is modernising the approaches for aircraft arriving to Wagga Wagga Airport from 28 January 2021.

## BACKGROUND

Airservices Australia has been undertaking a range of activities to modernise the approach procedures to both ends of the main runway at Wagga Wagga Airport (RWY 05/23). This includes the introduction of a Baro-VNAV approach to RWY 05, recalculation of the minimum safe altitude (MSA) to the west of the Airport, and redesign of the Instrument Landing System (ILS) and Localiser (LOC) approaches to RWY 23, including a new holding pattern.

Baro-VNAV is a technology available on most modern aircraft. Baro-VNAV increases the likelihood of a stabilised approach by providing vertical guidance to the pilot during their descent to the runway without relying on ground based navigation equipment. It also reduces the workload for pilots and decreases their reliance on visual assessments, making landing safer.

The introduction of Baro-VNAV to RWY 05 is part of a national safety improvement program and has been implemented at more than 100 suitable aerodromes across Australia.

## WHAT WILL CHANGE AT WAGGA WAGGA AIRPORT?

The new Baro-VNAV procedure to RWY 05 will be overlaid on the existing approach procedure (**Figure 1**).

Aircraft using this procedure may operate up to 1,600 feet lower on approach than they currently do.

The communities of Maxwell, The Rock and Uranquinty may visually notice these aircraft operating lower on approach to RWY 05 than they currently do.

Some rural properties in the locality of The Rock may experience an increase in aircraft noise of up to 10 dB(A) from currently levels of 50 dB(A) when aircraft are in the holding pattern for the approach to RWY05. This will be similar to noise levels in a busy office.

The locality of Mangoplah currently experiences aircraft noise between 40 to 50 dB(A) when aircraft are arriving to RWY 05 on this approach. As aircraft may now be operating lower on this approach, noise levels in this area may increase by 5 to 10 dB(A).



**Figure 1:** Existing approach procedure to RWY 05 and existing holding pattern (orange)

For arrivals to RWY 23, the distance at which aircraft intercept the ILS or LOC approaches (known as the DME arc) will be extended to the north-west by 1.5 kilometres, to enable a safer and more stable approach (**Figure 2**). This will reduce the likelihood of a pilot needing to perform a missed approach.

Some rural residences located along the revised DME arc in the localities of Harefield (Leahy Rd) and Borambola (Windamarra Rd) may visually notice aircraft tracking closer to them. These residences may experience an increase in noise levels of 10 dB(A) from current levels of approximately 50 dB(A) when aircraft are operating on the arc to join the approach to RWY 23. This is similar to noise levels in a busy office.

A holding pattern will also be introduced at the commencement point of the RWY 23 ILS or LOC approach. Holding patterns are used in poor weather, for traffic management purposes or for flight training purposes.

Aircraft in the holding pattern will be at 4,200 feet or above.

When aircraft are holding for approach to RWY 23, Mundarlo may experience noise levels of 50 dB(A). Wantabadgery may experience noise levels of 50 dB(A), up from current levels of approximately 40 dB(A). This is similar to noise levels of a conversation.

The community of Wantabadgery will also continue to experience aircraft arriving to RWY 23 on the straight in approach.

There will be no change to the types of aircraft arriving at Wagga Wagga Airport as a result of these changes.



**Figure 2:** Existing ILS/LOC approaches and DME arc (orange) for RWY 23 and new DME arc and holding pattern (yellow)

## WHEN WILL THIS OCCUR?

These improved approaches will be effective from 28 January 2021.

## HAVE A QUESTION?

For questions about this change and/or current aircraft operations, contact the Noise Complaints and Information Service (NCIS) on:

w: <http://www.airservicesaustralia.com/aircraftnoise/about-making-a-complaint/>

t: 1800 802 584 (free call)

t: 131 450 (interpreter service)

