

INSTRUCTIONAL MEMORANDUMS

To Local Public Agencies



To: Counties and Cities	Date: September 13, 2016
From: Local Systems Bureau	I.M. No. 4.190
Subject: Highway Improvements in the Vicinity of Airports or Heliports	

Contents: This Instructional Memorandum (I.M.) provides guidance for a Local Public Agency (LPA) to comply with the notification requirements associated with improvements or alterations conducted in the vicinity of a public airport or heliport. This information is provided as a guide only. The Iowa Department of Transportation (Iowa DOT) does not oversee or monitor these requirements.

Introduction

To protect navigable airspace from encroachment by either construction operations or alterations, the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) promulgated 14 CFR 77. This regulation defines the airspace next to a public airport or heliport that requires a Notice of Proposed Construction or Alteration.

The [Iowa DOT Aviation Bureau](#) has a website that shows all public airports in Iowa on a [map](#).

Notification Criteria

The FAA does not need to be notified if the highway construction or alteration is taking place more than 20,000 feet from any public airport or heliport. For construction or alteration activities within 20,000 feet of a public airport or heliport, the FAA must be notified under the following conditions:

1. If the affected public airport has a runway greater than 3,200 feet in length:

The FAA must be notified if a point taken 15 feet above the highest point of the roadway, or any proposed construction or alteration, including construction equipment or utility poles, penetrates an imaginary surface that extends outward and upward at a slope of 100 to 1 for a horizontal distance of 20,000 feet from the nearest point of the nearest runway. See Figure 1 below.

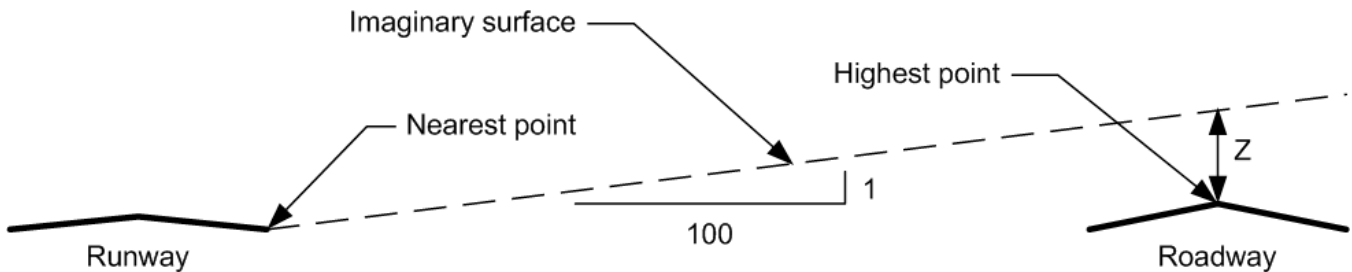


Figure 1 – Runways > 3,200 feet

If “Z” is less than 15 feet, then Form 7460-1 must be completed and submitted to the FAA.

2. If the affected public airport has a runway less than or equal to 3,200 feet in length:

The FAA must be notified if a point taken 15 feet above the highest point of the roadway, or any proposed construction or alteration, including construction equipment or utility poles, penetrates an imaginary surface that extends outward and upward at a slope of 50 to 1 for a horizontal distance of 10,000 feet from the nearest point of the nearest runway. See Figure 2 below.

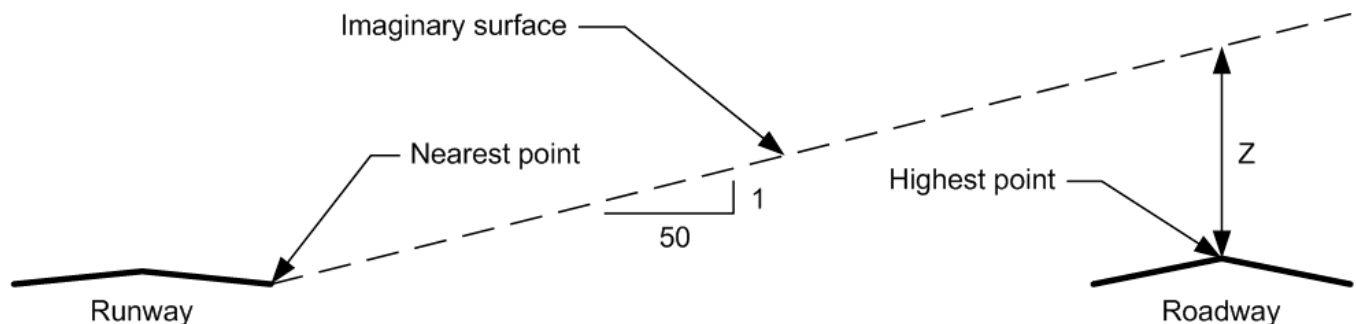


Figure 2 – Runways < 3,200 feet

If "Z" is less than 15 feet, then Form 7460-1 must be completed and submitted to the FAA.

3. For heliports:

The FAA must be notified if a point taken 15 feet above the highest point of the roadway, or any proposed construction or alteration, including construction equipment or utility poles, penetrates an imaginary surface that extends outward and upward at a slope of 25 to 1 for a horizontal distance of 5,000 feet from the nearest point of the nearest landing and takeoff area. See Figure 3 below.

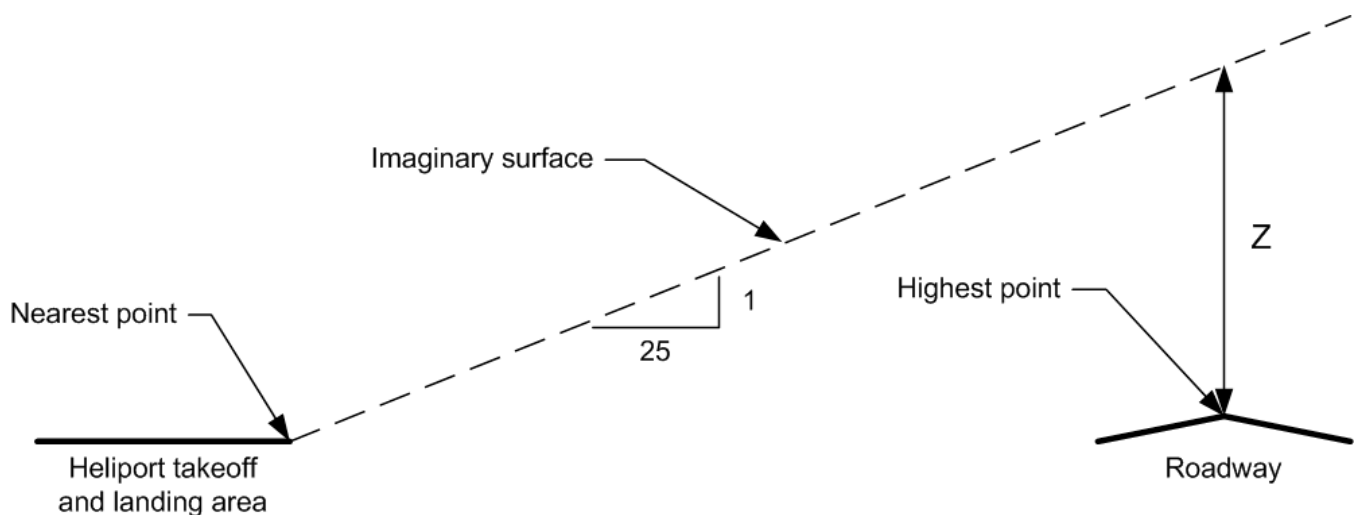


Figure 3 - Heliports

If "Z" is less than 15 feet, then Form 7460-1 must be completed and submitted to the FAA.

Note: Each of the situations shown above assumes the roadway is not an Interstate Highway. If the roadway is an Interstate Highway, use 17 feet for the "Z" dimension shown in the diagrams above.

Notification Procedures

Notification is made using FAA Form 7460-1, Notice of Proposed Construction or Alteration. The LPA shall submit this form to the FAA either electronically or by mail. To obtain a copy of the form and / or to submit it electronically, refer to the [FAA's Obstruction Evaluation / Airport Airspace Analysis \(OE/AAA\) web site](#). Completed paper forms should be mailed to the address shown on this web site.

Construction should not begin until the LPA receives an acknowledgment from the FAA, which will include a determination of the impact of the proposed construction. In some cases, the FAA may require additional study or may require the LPA to file a supplemental notice at least 48 hours before the start of the proposed construction. Therefore, the Form 7460-1 should be submitted at least 60 days, but in no case less than 30 days, prior to beginning construction.

Other Restrictions

Any highway project financed with Federal highway funds shall comply with Section 318 of Title 23 U.S.C., Highway Relocation Due to Airport. This code section does not allow Federal participation in highways which serve an airport, or which must be relocated or reconstructed to accommodate airport improvements, unless such participation has been found to be in the public interest, as determined by the Iowa DOT and the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA).

During activities on, or in proximity to, an airport, including maintenance or construction, the LPA shall contact the airport manager and comply with FAA Advisory Circular No. [150/5370-2F](#), "Operational Safety on Airports During Construction", and FAA Advisory Circular No. [150/5210-5D](#), "Painting, Marking, and Lighting of Vehicles Used on An Airport."

Any highway construction that may create a potential wildlife attractant within 5,000 feet of an airport serving piston powered aircraft, or 10,000 feet of an airport serving turbine powered aircraft, should also comply with the FAA Advisory Circular No. [150/5200-33B](#), "Hazardous Wildlife Attractants on or Near Airports."