

MELBOURNE AIRPORT SMART PATH-LOWERING OF AIRSPACE SOUTH OF THE AIRPORT

Airservices is introducing Smart Path technology at Melbourne Airport to improve safety and predictability for aircraft.

Airservices has requested that the Civil Aviation Safety Authority (CASA) approve the lowering of controlled airspace at the edge of Port Phillip Bay between Altona South and Station Pier. This will facilitate the introduction of a precision approach using Ground Based Augmentation System (Smart Path) technology, into Melbourne Airport from the south.

WHAT IS SMART PATH TECHNOLOGY?

Smart Path technology is a Global Navigation Satellite System (GNSS) based precision approach and landing

system. This landing system was installed for other approaches at Melbourne Airport in 2017, to provide Australian and international airlines with access to the technical and operational advantages from this form of precision approach.

This technology provides a precision approach with vertical guidance, which results in significant improvements in safety and predictability for landing in poor weather and navigating terrain. Further information on this technology can be found on the Airservices website at <http://www.airservicesaustralia.com/projects/ground-based-augmentation-system-gbas/>

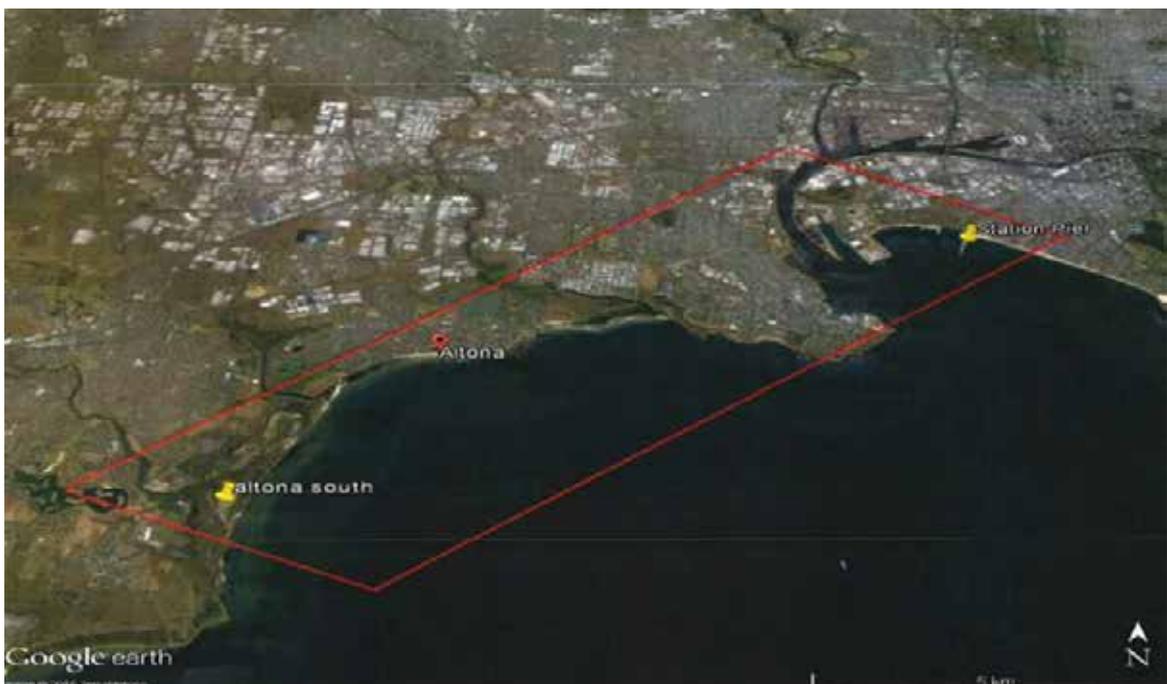


Figure 1: Area controlled airspace to be lowered

WHAT IS GOING TO CHANGE?

In order to introduce Smart Path technology to the approach route south of Melbourne Airport, the controlled airspace at the edge of Port Phillip Bay between Altona South and Station Pier, will require lowering by 500ft.

Light general aviation aircraft currently use the airspace between Altona South and Station Pier to track along the coast. They currently fly between 500ft and 2500ft. The lowering of airspace along this route will require the aircraft to fly lower - between 500ft and 2000ft.

The proposed airspace change will not result in any changes to flight paths, however more light aircraft may be at lower altitudes. In 2017 12% of the total number of light aircraft that fly along this route are between 2000ft and 2500ft, therefore residents may notice that some of these aircraft will be flying lower as a result of the airspace change.

WILL THERE BE ANY CHANGE IN AIRCRAFT NOISE?

Residents are not expected to experience noticeable changes to noise levels. For the proposed altitude change of 500ft an increase in noise level of approximately 2 dB(A) can be expected.

WHEN WILL THIS CHANGE START?

Following approval from CASA, it is anticipated that the changes will be implemented in November 2018.

WHERE CAN I GET MORE INFORMATION ON THE CHANGE?

More information on Airservices operations at Melbourne Airport can be found at <http://www.airservicesaustralia.com/aircraftnoise/melbourne/>

To contact Airservices regarding this change call Airservices Noise Complaints and Information Service: 1800 802 584 (free call), an interpreter service is also available on 131 450 or visit the website at: <https://complaints.bksv.com/asa>