The City of Amarillo Invites Applications for
Director of Aviation
Rick Husband Amarillo International Airport (AMA)
Amarillo, Texas

Executive Search Services Provided by ADK Consulting & Executive Search
The Airport

The Rick Husband Amarillo International Airport, owned by the City of Amarillo, is 6 miles east of downtown and serves the Texas and Oklahoma panhandle areas and eastern New Mexico. AMA was renamed in 2003 after NASA astronaut and Amarillo native Rick Husband, who died in the Space Shuttle Columbia disaster in February of that year.

The passenger terminal underwent a $52.2 million renovation that was completed in 2011. Future terminal projects include completion of the Airport Master Plan in 2017, security upgrades in terminal and parking facilities, parking facility upgrades and apron repairs.

Over 800,000 passengers flow through AMA annually with service provided by American, United and Southwest. Avis, Enterprise, Hertz & National have rental counters in the terminal. A U.S. Customs and Border Protection Port of Entry is located at AMA. The airport complex is home to nearly 2100 employees. Airport staff, which numbers 58, is responsible for the operations budget for this fiscal year is approaching $16 million and the current capital budget is $5.8 million.

Rick Husband Amarillo International Airport covers 4,187 acres and has two concrete runways: 4/22 is 13,502 x 200 ft. and 13/31 is 7,901 x 150 ft. The most recent data shows 341,132 enplanements and AMA has 36 based aircraft. Leading Edge Corporation has an aircraft painting facility at the airport specializing in commercial jet aircraft. Other significant tenants include Bell Helicopter, TACAIR, Pantex, and Arden Companies. Rick Husband Amarillo International Airport and its federal security detail was awarded the 2012 TSA Airport of the Year Award for airports in the West Texas Region. No discrepancies were noted during AMA’s annual FAA Part 139 Certification inspection.
The Community

Amarillo sits at the crossroads of America, almost equidistant from both coasts, with a population of over 200,000 residents and covering 100 square miles. Amarillo is the 14th largest city in Texas in terms of population. Located in Potter and Randall Counties in the Texas Panhandle, it is the county seat of Potter County.

Amarillo is situated at the intersection of Interstate 40 and Interstate 27, approximately 120 miles north of Lubbock, 360 miles northwest of Dallas-Fort Worth, and centered approximately 275 miles from both Albuquerque and Oklahoma City. The City of Amarillo and the associated region have a quality of life that makes living and working in the area very attractive. Amarillo has an ample workforce and low property taxes. Amarillo citizens enjoy some of the lowest water and sewer rates in the state, and some of the lowest gas and electric rates in the nation.

The city is dedicated to the revitalization of the downtown area, with over $100 million in new construction underway including new retail, corporate headquarters, new restaurants, a new convention hotel and a minor league baseball stadium with an anticipated opening in 2019.

Amarillo is the regional center for emergency management and homeland security coordination, hospitals, medical facilities, higher education, shopping, and entertainment for the 26 counties of the upper Panhandle of Texas and communities in Oklahoma, New Mexico, and southern portions of Kansas and Colorado. Amarillo has a diversified economy.

Two mainlines of the Burlington Northern Santa Fe Railway intersect at Amarillo and provide direct service to 11 major locations. Local businesses and industries include energy research and development, beef processing, agriculture, copper refining, wholesale distribution, fiberglass production, defense contracting, aviation assembly and maintenance, metal machining and finishing, and oil and gas production.
The Community (continued…)

The medical community is very important to the Amarillo economy. Texas Tech Health Sciences Center, located in Amarillo, has a consolidated 20-acre medical center comprising the schools of medicine, pharmacy, and allied health. The City is also home to the Thomas E. Creek VA Medical Center, which includes a 120-bed skilled nursing facility. Amarillo’s two major hospitals are Baptist Saint Anthony’s Healthcare System and Northwest Texas Healthcare System, affiliated with Universal Health Systems. Baptist Saint Anthony’s has been rated one of the top 100 hospitals in the United States for several years.

The arts are well represented in Amarillo. The Globe-News Center for the Performing Arts is home to the Amarillo Symphony, Amarillo Opera, and Lone Star Ballet, while also hosting a variety of concerts, touring shows, and special performances. Amarillo Little Theater presents local productions of drama and comedy each season. Museums include the Amarillo Museum of Art, the American Quarter Horse Museum, and the Don Harrington Discovery Center & Space Theater. The Panhandle Plains Historical Museum, located in nearby Canyon, is the largest history museum in Texas. In addition to diverse art venues, Amarillo is located just 20 miles away from the spectacular and historically rich Palo Duro Canyon State Park; the nation’s second largest canyon offering camping, hiking, biking, and horseback riding. In addition, the scenic mountains of Colorado and New Mexico are only five hours away.

Amarillo boasts numerous park facilities, including the Amarillo Zoo, three public swimming pools, four public and three private golf courses, miles of walking trails, and abundant outdoor play equipment. Wildcat Bluff Nature Center introduces visitors to the area’s native plants and animals. Amarillo is also home to an amusement park, a water park, two skate parks, the Amarillo Botanical Gardens, and three professional sports franchises. The Tri-State Fairgrounds hosts many national rodeos and equestrian events, as well as exhibitions.

Within the corporate limits of the City of Amarillo, there are five independent school districts. The Amarillo Independent School District (AISD) is recognized at the state and national level for quality programs and an innovative approach. (continued…)
Other public school districts include Bushland ISD, Canyon ISD, Highland Park ISD, and River Road ISD, and several private schools are available. Amarillo also offers a rich environment for higher education. In addition to Texas Tech Health Sciences Center providing education for medical students and residents in four different specialties, West Texas A&M University, with a student population of over 7,500, offers a doctoral program in agriculture, 60 undergraduate degree programs, and 43 graduate degree programs. Amarillo College is a public community college with six campus locations offering more than 160 different programs of study.

The City of Amarillo enjoys a very healthy governance and political environment. The City of Amarillo is a home rule municipality and operates under a Council-Manager form of government. The Amarillo City Council consists of the Mayor and four Commissioners. The entire Council is elected at the same time in the month of May during odd numbered years. The City Council appoints a professional City Manager, who is responsible for the day-to-day operation of all city departments.

In addition to providing traditional city services, Amarillo also operates a zoo, civic center and performing arts hall, and two municipal golf courses. The City of Amarillo has 2,045 full-time employees and 346 part-time employees. The city’s budget is $330 million including a Capital Improvement Program (CIP) budget in excess of $300 million. The current property tax rate is $0.35072 per $100 valuation, which is the one of the lowest in Texas.
The Position

Under the supervision of the City Manager, this position manages both the strategic development and day-to-day business operations of the City of Amarillo Rick Husband Amarillo International Airport, using funds generated by airport rents, fees, commissions and Federal Aviation Administration and other Grant funds authorized to the Airport. This position ensures that the airport is operated and maintained for the convenience and necessity of the traveling public in accordance with the airport deed and transferred to the City by the United States Government; ensures that the Airport is positioned to provide all necessary services to passengers, tenants, and other users of the Airport through prudent management and strategic planning; manages all airport operations in accordance with the approved annual operating and capital budgets and subject to appropriate City, State and Federal regulations and requirements; and is responsible for implementation of the Airport Master Plan and capital projects, including large-scale construction projects.

Position Qualifications

Bachelor’s Degree in Business Administration, Aviation Management, Engineering or a related field and a minimum of 10 years of progressively responsible experience at a certified air carrier airport is required. Airport experience must include airfield and landside operations, maintenance, security as well as capital planning and implementation. Must be designated “C.M.” (Certified Member) by the American Association of Airport Executives with A.A.E. certification required within one year. A.A.E. certification is desirable. A private pilot’s license or higher is preferred, but not required. Valid Texas Driver’s License required.
**Compensation & Benefits**

Starting Salary Range is $91,175 - $123,086 with a total salary range of up to $154,998 and an excellent benefit package including:

- Texas Municipal Retirement System
- Deferred Compensation Plan (457(b))
- Reasonable Relocation Benefits
- Airport vehicle

**How to Apply:**

**A.** Please submit both a cover letter and résumé. We require your files to be submitted as PDF documents. We prefer that you send both your cover letter and resume as one combined document. *Please do not send your cover letter in the body of an email.* Send your PDF files to ADK Executive Search at: [AMA@adkexecutivesearch.com](mailto:AMA@adkexecutivesearch.com)

**B.** Please complete the ADK employment application form at: [ADK Application Form (this is a secure link)](mailto:ADK Application Form)

**Filing Deadline:** Sunday, February 26, 2017

Only complete electronic submissions will be considered.

Email questions to: [AMA@adkexecutivesearch.com](mailto:AMA@adkexecutivesearch.com)