

The City of Santa Barbara Announces New Airport Operations Manager

SANTA BARBARA, CA. – Aaron Keller has been named the new Airport Operations Manager for the Santa Barbara Municipal Airport (SBA). The Santa Barbara Airport is owned and operated by the City of Santa Barbara, Airport Department, and has provided commercial and general aviation transportation to the region for more than 80 years. SBA is the busiest airport between Los Angeles and San José carrying approximately 660,000 passengers annually



Aaron Keller, CM, ACE
Airport Operations Manager

Mr. Keller will manage and coordinate the operations and security of the City's airport; ensure that Airport operating practices comply with a range of State and federal safety laws, operating regulations, and environmental requirements; coordinate airport construction projects and manage staff. He will start his new position January 1, 2018.

"I'm honored and excited to join the team in Santa Barbara," said Aaron Keller. "They have developed a beautiful facility that is well suited to accommodate the recent growth in enplanements and achieve the mission to be the region's airport of choice. I look forward to providing the leadership they seek to facilitate a safe, secure, and compliant operation."

Mr. Keller most recently served as Assistant Airport Operations Manager of the Portland International Jetport where he managed FAA Airport Certification, Wildlife Hazard Management, Stormwater Management, Noise Compatibility, Surface Movement Guidance and Control System, Snow Removal, and Airfield Driver Training. Previously, he was employed by Gerald R. Ford International Airport as Airport Operations Supervisor. He also served as an Airport Operations Specialist with South Bend International Airport.

Mr. Keller earned a Bachelor of Science in Aerospace Administration from Indiana State University. He is a Certified Member (C.M.) of the American Association of Airport Executives (AAAE) and completed the Airport Certified Employee (ACE) of Operations program. He is also an instrument-rated commercial pilot.

This national search was conducted by ADK Executive Search, a retained executive search firm specializing exclusively in searches for the aviation community.