Eagle County, Colorado Invites Applications for

Director of Aviation

Eagle County Regional Airport (EGE)

Gypsum, Colorado

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

Just minutes from Vail and the best skiing in North America, the Eagle County Regional Airport (EGE) gets you directly to the heart of the Colorado Rockies, year-round. In the winter, Air Canada, American, Delta, and United provide non-stop jet service between EGE and twelve major U.S. cities, including Atlanta, Chicago, Dallas/Ft. Worth, Denver, Houston, Los Angeles, Miami, Newark, New York, Phoenix and Washington, DC. Summer options include flights between EGE and Dallas/Ft. Worth and Los Angeles on American Airlines and Denver and Houston on United.

Eagle County Regional Airport has grown with the opening of an award-winning passenger terminal in 1996. In 2016, EGE served our eight millionth passenger. Enplanements exceeded 164,000 in 2016, an increase of 4.0% over 2015. Seven major car rental and two ground transportation companies offer EGE guests an easy connect to their ultimate destination. The operating budgets for EGE and the Eagle County Air Terminal Corporation (ECAT) exceeds $7.5 million annually. The airport has 21 full-time employees.

EGE’s full service Fixed-Base Operator (FBO), Vail Valley Jet Center, was ranked the 10th best independent FBO in the nation according to Professional Pilot Magazine in 2016.

In 1996, a $9 million, 36,000 sq. ft. passenger terminal was unveiled, accommodating a 73 percent increase in passengers during that season. The demands on the new terminal prompted an additional 30,000 sq. ft. expansion in 2001, to accommodate the growing popularity of commercial air service to EGE. An in-line baggage handling system was installed in 2012 and currently the Airport is in the midst of a Terminal Design with construction slated for 2017.

In 2006 an Instrument Landing System (ILS) was commissioned and in 2007 a BI-6 radar system was added which has increased the arrival acceptance rate at EGE. The effect of these navigational aids is twofold: allowing aircraft to land in lower visibility conditions and increasing the rate at which EGE can accept the arriving aircraft in low visibility conditions. Other recent projects for the Eagle County Regional Airport include the installation of a Runway Weather Information System (RWIS), Apron Reconstruction, and the completion of a Snow Removal Equipment (SRE) Building.
The Organization

Eagle County Government is a full-service county, with 476 full-time equivalent employees spread over more than 30 departments. The organization is led by a three-member Board of Commissioners elected on a partisan basis to staggered four-year terms, with the authority to appoint the county manager, county attorney and various board and commission members. Other elected officials include the Assessor, Clerk & Recorder, Coroner, Sheriff, Surveyor and Treasurer/Public Trustee.

Eagle County’s finances are healthy, with 2016 budgeted revenues of $111.6 million. Eagle County’s strong fund balance reserves, low debt and excellent credit rating illustrate the organization’s commitment to fiscal stewardship.

The county provides services from multiple locations, including the Eagle County Building, Justice Center, Fairgrounds and Animal Services facilities in the county seat of Eagle, as well as from satellite offices in Avon and El Jebel, the Eagle County Regional Airport and Maintenance Service Center in Gypsum, and the Solid Waste & Recycling Center in Wolcott.

Eagle County Government is a vibrant, forward-thinking organization with aligned priorities captured in a strategic plan that leverages both strengths and opportunities. Eagle County’s strategic plan provides a roadmap to allocate resources, gauge performance and ensure the county is delivering quality services to its constituents. The five strategic goals are Eagle County is Financially Sound, Eagle County is a Great Place to Live for All, Eagle County Protects the Natural Environment, Eagle County Promotes a Diverse & Resilient Economy and Eagle County is a High-Performing Organization.
The Community

Eagle County, Colorado is located on the western slope of the state, approximately 100 miles west of Denver via Interstate 70. The county is surrounded by the White River National Forest and is home to the world-renowned ski resorts of Vail and Beaver Creek. Tourism and real estate drive the economy, and the ski industry is a crucial component of the region’s vitality.

The majority of Eagle County’s residents live along the I-70 corridor in the Eagle River Valley, with an additional population center located in the Roaring Fork Valley in the southwest corner at the convergence of three counties. The county’s 2013 population was estimated at over 53,000 residents, and although considered rural, Eagle County is the 14th most populous of Colorado’s 64 counties.

Eagle County’s early history includes ranching and mining, with fortune hunters and settlers striking lead carbonate ore in Leadville in 1874. The strike brought many prospectors to the valley, and by 1879 a permanent camp was established and the Town of Red Cliff was born. Eagle County was carved from Summit County by the Colorado legislature in 1883, with Red Cliff designated as the first county seat. County government moved west to the town of Eagle in 1921.

The evolution of Vail from a quiet sheep pasture to an international resort is credited to the famous 10th Mountain Division ski troops who were introduced to the valley while training at Camp Hale in the 1940s. Following World War II, a group of former Army buddies returned to the Gore Creek Valley to fulfill their collective dream of developing a ski resort. Vail later emerged as a ski giant and the county has flourished ever since.

Outdoor recreation opportunities abound in Eagle County. Paved and unpaved trails connect many of the towns and natural landmarks and allow for easy access to hiking, biking and horseback riding. World-class skiing and snowboarding can be found at both Vail Mountain and Beaver Creek Resort. Rafting, fishing and kayaking take place on the area’s many streams and rivers. A wide variety of cultural offerings attract locals and visitors, ranging from internationally acclaimed dance and symphony performances to outdoor concerts, rodeos, food festivals and celebrations of the area’s ranching heritage. The region is also home to premier golf courses designed by Arnold Palmer, Greg Norman, Tom Fazio and Robert Trent Jones, Jr.

In addition to Eagle County, larger employers include Vail Resorts, Vail Valley Medical Center, Eagle County School District, Comcast, CenturyLink, American Gypsum and the Gallegos Corporation.
The Position

The Director of Aviation represents Eagle County in all aviation matters by providing strategic vision for the airport, developing key relationships in the aviation industry, designing marketing strategies, and directing the overall operation of the Eagle County Airport under the general direction of the County Manager. The position oversees the terminal, operations, maintenance, compliance, safety and administrative activities for the airport. The Director of Aviation reports to the County Manager.

The successful candidate will be a:
• Visionary, taking the airport to the next level. Creating a vision for the airport for the future. Leading the master plan process and outcomes.
• Communicator, with clear, concise, and correct communication. Evaluating the subject matter and the audience to deliver a persuasive and informative message.
• Facilitator, with the ability to create and enhance community partnerships and be engaged with the community.
• Partner, with a skill to be a team player with airport users and stakeholders.
• Regulator, possessing distinct knowledge of airport rules and regulations and the ability to work with FAA, TSA, etc. for regulatory compliance.
• Negotiator, with the ability to identify the appropriate approach to work with vendors, airlines, and airport users.
• Manager, leading the professional staff as well as managing applicable airport protocol, processes, and outcomes.
• Leader, identifying situations, determining appropriate response, and providing positive outcomes.
• Mentor, willing to develop airport personnel.

Position Qualifications

As a minimum, you will possess a Bachelors degree from an accredited college or university in Business Administration, Airport Management or a related field, with a minimum of 5 years of progressively responsible experience in the aviation management field at a commercial service airport of similar or larger size. A.A.E. or C.M. accreditation is preferred.

For a full job description and position qualifications, click here.
Compensation & Benefits

The salary range for this position is up to $152,000, depending on prior experience and qualifications. This position offers an attractive range of benefits including a 401(a) with 6% Employer Contribution.

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: EGE@adkexecutivesearch.com

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

Filing Deadline: Sunday, March 5, 2017

Only complete electronic submissions will be considered.

Email questions to: EGE@adkexecutivesearch.com