



The Santa Maria Public Airport District invites applications for
General Manager

Santa Maria Airport (SMX)
Santa Maria, CA

EXECUTIVE SEARCH SERVICES PROVIDED BY ADK CONSULTING & EXECUTIVE SEARCH



Airport

The Santa Maria Airport is owned and operated by the Santa Maria Public Airport District, and has provided commercial and general aviation transportation to the Central Coast residents for more than 80 years. Located in Northern Santa Barbara County in the heart of the Santa Maria Valley, the Airport is conveniently located near U.S. Highway 101 approximately halfway between Los Angeles and San Francisco. SMX serves many unique operations with the longest and most capable civilian runway along the California coast between Los Angeles and San José. SMX is a non-hub primary airport and an economic driver for the community. It is an integral part of the transportation system and an economic engine for the region, and partner for surrounding communities including a U.S. Forest Service Tanker Base fighting local and regional wildland fires and host to many military and government contract operations that support Vandenberg Space Force Base and other nearby bases utilizing the restricted airspace along the central coast.

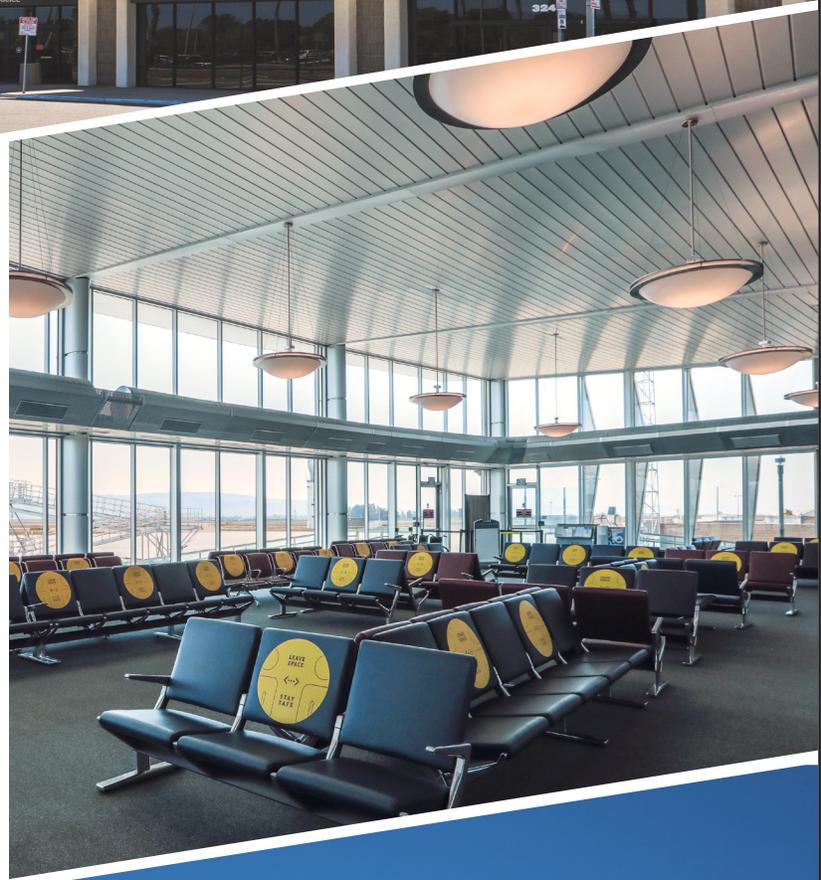
The Airline Terminal complex consists of a two-story building modernized in 2008 with the addition of a new hold room and baggage claim area. Passenger parking is convenient, within walking distance of the Terminal, and currently free for all customers. The modern glass faced hold room boasts stretching views of mountains and a great view for launches from the nearby Vandenberg Space Force Base. Passenger amenities include a full-service bar and restaurant located outside of security, an onsite hotel with a full-service bar and restaurant within walking distance of the terminal, free WIFI, car rental facilities, and ground transportation. Allegiant Airlines currently operates less than daily non-stop service to Las Vegas, and has offered seasonal service to Mesa, AZ and Portland, OR within the last year. United Airlines announced daily service to Los Angeles, San Francisco, and Denver which was scheduled to begin June 2020, and remains on an indefinite delay related to the pandemic and recent airline industry issues.





The Airport *(continued)*

The Airport has several significant capital improvement projects in process, most of which are part of the Airport's master plan. Examples include Airport Terminal Ramp Reconstruction, Taxiway Reconstruction including Geometry Improvements, Airport Business Park Specific Plan Update, Taxiway Bravo Extension and many other projects on the more than 2,500-acre facility. Under the leadership of the General Manager are 11 FTEs including a Manager of Operations and Maintenance and a Manager of Finance and Administration. The District also contracts with partner agencies for Law Enforcement and ARFF support. Airport leases include a full service FBO, Self Serve Fuel Facility, Aircraft Maintenance, Aircraft Paint Shop, USFS Tanker Base, Nationally Branded Hotel, 200 aircraft storage hangars, agriculture, a mobile home park, Go-Kart track, and many other aviation and non-aviation uses. The FY 2022-2023 Operating Budget is \$6 million, which includes an annual airshow.





The Community

Here in northern Santa Barbara County on California's Central Coast, you will discover a valley like no other, with an original blend of local flavor, genuine hospitality and natural beauty. Designated in 1998 as an All American City, Santa Maria has something for everyone!

Santa Maria is located on the famed Highway 101 at the mid-point of California's Central Coast and is the largest city in Santa Barbara County with a population of over 106,000. Santa Maria is the industrial, commercial, agriculture and retail hub for a region that includes approximately 165,000 residents located in Northern Santa Barbara County and neighboring Southern San Luis Obispo County.

Known for our famous Santa Maria-style barbecue and our many rolling grapevine covered hills producing a fabulous wine industry, the Santa Maria Valley is becoming home to an increasing number of vineyards, wineries and wine makers! The Santa Maria Valley region produces strawberries, celery, lettuce, peas, squash, cauliflower, spinach, broccoli and beans. [Learn more about why you should visit the Santa Maria Valley!](#)

Santa Maria is also home to thriving industries including aerospace, communications, high-tech research and development, energy production, military operations, and manufacturing. 1902 marks the date that oil was discovered at the Orcutt Oil Field and has produced more than \$640 million barrels of oil over the years. Manufacturers in our area produce a wide array of products ranging from medical testing supplies to aircraft interiors and baby care products to fire hoses.



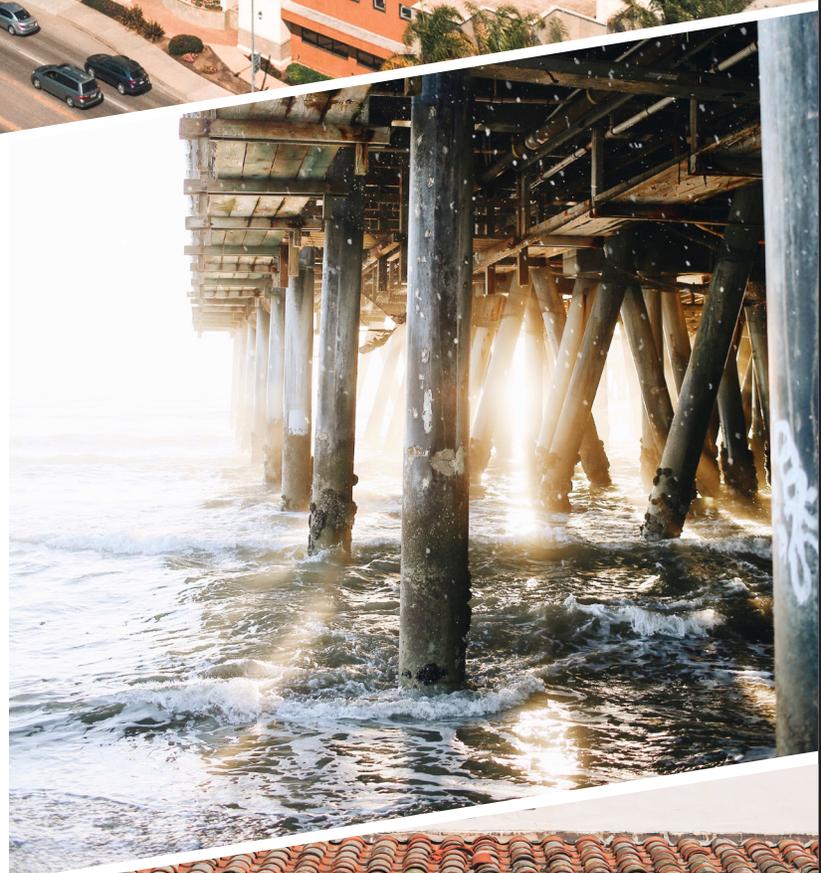
The Community *(continued)*

Enjoy Santa Maria's world-class wineries, vibrant cultural scene with world-class theatre anchored by the PCPA/ Pacific Theatre Conservatory, world-class Rodeo, biking through idyllic rolling hills, 12 miles of the Pacific coastline, tallest beach dunes, smog free air and mild temperatures year-round. When you visit Santa Maria, you'll want to stay and be a part of such a warm & welcoming city!

[SMV-Visitor-Guide-2022.pdf](#)

Government

Santa Maria is managed by the California Independent Special District form of government. As an independent public agency, all aspects of operating the airport are done in house, through contracts with other public agencies, or contracts with private companies. The five-member Board of Directors are elected by district from within the 400 square mile district boundaries stretching from Los Alamos, CA to Guadalupe, CA and communities in between.





The Position

The General Manager of the Santa Maria Public Airport District is a highly responsible, high-profile position, appointed by the SMX Board of Directors. This is an “at-will” position, serving at the Board’s pleasure. The General Manager is responsible for the execution of contracts, permits and commercial agreements on the Board’s behalf, including aircraft, mobile home and storage leases, professional and specialized services, and license agreements. He or she approves purchases and public projects of \$25,000 and below. The General Manager also selects, appoints and manages all District employees, except those employees appointed by the Board. He or she prepares the District’s annual budget and submits an annual financial report and other requested reports to the Board. The Manager represents the Board and SMX at meetings, in addition to attending regular Board meetings. He or she is the chief custodian of District records and files, including Board minutes and deliberations, and has authority to certify District records with its official shield. The Manager audits the District as required and is responsible for maintaining its accounting and auditing systems. The General Manager appoints employees and performs additional duties as assigned by the Board.

The Ideal Candidate

The Ideal Candidate for the General Manager position will have 3 to 5 years’ experience in airport management, including experience working with elected and appointed officials. The Candidate appointed to this position must be a politically astute go-getter with both commercial and general aviation experience including experience in land development, public relations, and dealing with environmental issues. He or she must be able to develop and maintain effective working relationships with members of the City Council, District staff, Federal officials and employees, Airport stakeholders, and the general public. The Ideal Candidate must live within 20-30 miles of the Airport (within the district or adjacent to it).

For a full job description, [click here](#).



Salary and Compensation

The salary range for this position is \$140,000 - \$180,000. SMX offers an attractive benefits package and may assist with relocation costs.

How To Apply

To apply online, [click here](#).

Deadline for applications: November 20, 2022

The contact for this search is:
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barry.r@adkexecutivesearch.com

Please note: After your application is complete, you will receive an important email from us. Please check your inbox and your junk/spam folder, and if you have not received our email, please notify us at: admin@adkexecutivesearch.com.

The Santa Maria Public Airport District is an equal opportunity employer.

