



The City of Roswell invites applications for
Roswell Air Center Director

Roswell Air Center (ROW)
Roswell, New Mexico

EXECUTIVE SEARCH SERVICES PROVIDED BY ADK CONSULTING & EXECUTIVE SEARCH



The Airport

Roswell Air Center (ROW) is a regional airport serving Roswell and southeastern New Mexico, combining commercial air service with a significant aviation business presence and a distinctive history. The Air Center emphasizes professional service and Southern New Mexico hospitality while serving both travelers and aviation industry professionals.

ROW provides commercial air service through American Airlines and United Airlines. American connects Roswell with Dallas/Fort Worth International Airport (DFW), while United provides service to Denver International Airport (DEN). Through these major hubs, travelers have access to hundreds of domestic and international destinations. The airport also offers free parking, contributing to a convenient and hassle-free passenger experience.

Beyond commercial passenger service, Roswell Air Center has a substantial presence in the Southwest aviation industry and is home to businesses supporting aircraft maintenance, painting, parts, asset management, fixed-base operations, aircraft dismantling and related services. Aviation partners operating at ROW include AerSale, Avflight, CAVU Aerospace, Dean Baldwin Aircraft Painting and General Airframe Support. The Air Center also offers facilities and leasing opportunities for businesses interested in establishing or expanding operations in Roswell.

ROW's aviation heritage is equally distinctive. The 4,600-acre property was originally Roswell Army Airfield during World War II and later became Walker Air Force Base, a major Strategic Air Command installation during the Cold War. Following the base's closure in 1967, the property transitioned to the Roswell Industrial Air Center and began a new chapter in civilian aviation and economic development.

The Air Center has also played a role in notable aerospace and high-altitude projects. In 2012, ROW served as the platform for Felix Baumgartner's record-breaking freefall jump from the stratosphere. Two years later, Alan Eustace launched from Roswell and set new records for the highest free-fall jump and total free-fall distance. More recently, Scye completed a high-altitude platform system mission from ROW in 2022, demonstrating technology designed to support broadband connectivity in rural areas.

Today, Roswell Air Center brings together commercial aviation, aviation-related businesses, aerospace activity and a rich military heritage. Historic sites, including Hangar 84 and the Walker Aviation Museum, further connect the airport's past with its continuing role as an aviation center for southeastern New Mexico.

For more information, visit [Roswell Air Center](https://www.roswellaircenter.com).

The Community

Located in southeastern New Mexico, Roswell offers the welcoming character of a smaller city with a distinctive combination of outdoor recreation, arts and culture, education, healthcare, community events and, of course, an identity unlike anywhere else. The community appeals to families, singles and retirees and provides residents with a variety of ways to enjoy an active and connected lifestyle.

Roswell's internationally recognized connection to UFO lore may attract visitors from around the world, but there is much more to discover. The community has a rich arts and cultural scene, with museums and organizations celebrating everything from contemporary and Southwestern art to regional, aviation and space history. Local attractions include the International UFO Museum & Research Center and the Anderson Museum of Contemporary Art, while the city's longstanding Roswell Artist-in-Residence Program contributes to its distinctive creative identity. Roswell is also home to the National Championship Air Races, formerly known as the Reno Air Races. Held each September, the event brings more than 70,000 visitors to the airport and community. Throughout the year, community events, festivals, exhibitions and other activities add to Roswell's cultural energy.

Outdoor recreation is another important part of life in Roswell. Residents have access to more than 20 parks and recreation facilities, along with trails for walking, running and biking, playgrounds, disc golf, baseball and softball facilities and golf. The Roswell Recreation and Aquatic Center expands those options with indoor and outdoor pools, water slides, basketball courts, a workout area and spaces for recreational activities.

Just outside the city, Bottomless Lakes State Park provides opportunities for camping, swimming, fishing and hiking. Additional outdoor destinations promoted by the Visitor Center include Bitter Lake National Wildlife Refuge and the Mescalero Sand Dunes, giving residents and visitors even more opportunities to experience southeastern New Mexico's landscape and wildlife.

Families can also enjoy Spring River Zoo, located within approximately 34 acres of parkland. The zoo provides wildlife experiences and educational programming while serving both residents and visitors. Community recreation programs, youth sports and seasonal activities provide additional options for people of all ages.





The Community

Roswell also offers a range of educational opportunities. The Roswell Independent School District operates elementary, middle and high schools throughout the community, complemented by private and charter school options. The city is also home to the New Mexico Military Institute, which offers high school and junior college education, and Eastern New Mexico University-Roswell, expanding local opportunities for higher education and workforce preparation.

Healthcare services are available through major local medical facilities as well as primary and specialty care providers. Together with the community's educational, recreational and cultural resources, these services support Roswell as a place to establish roots and build a life.

Perhaps Roswell's greatest strength is its ability to embrace the unexpected while maintaining the approachable character of a New Mexico community. From art, museums and local events to parks, outdoor adventures and its famous connection to the unexplained, Roswell offers residents a lifestyle that is distinctly its own.

For more community information, visit [See Roswell](#).



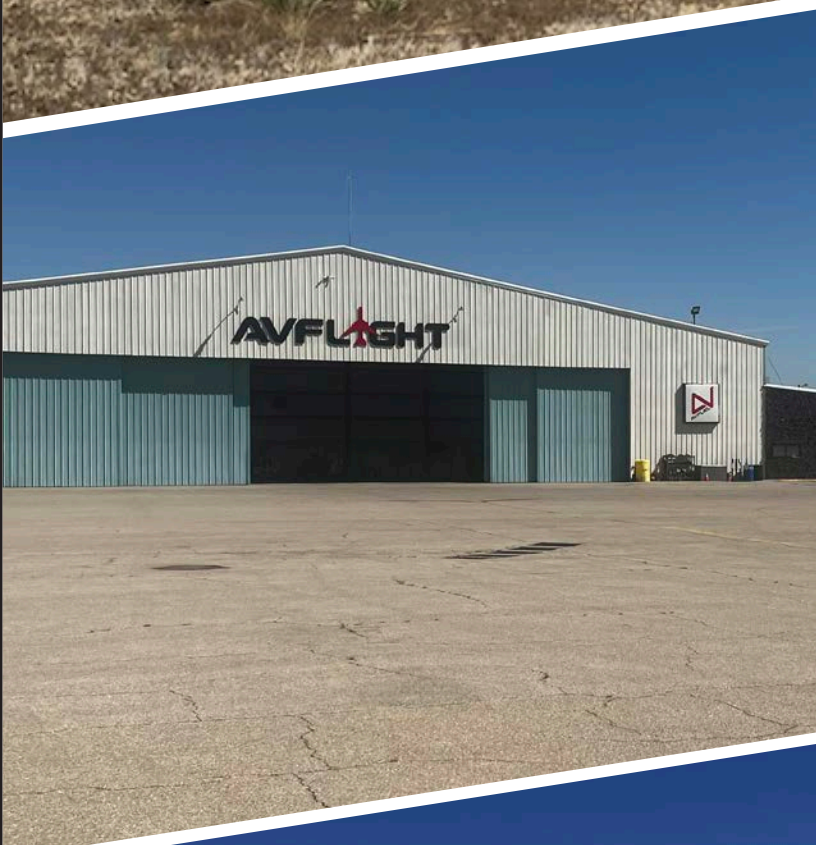
Position Overview

Reporting to the City Manager, the Roswell Air Center Director provides strategic and operational leadership for Roswell Air Center (ROW), guiding its continued growth as an important aviation and economic development asset for the City of Roswell. The Director oversees airport operations, safety and security, financial management, capital development, property management, and regulatory compliance while advancing long-term business and development opportunities. This executive role works closely with public- and private-sector partners to implement the Air Center Master Plan, strengthen revenue potential, and position ROW for sustainable growth while maintaining safe, efficient, and customer-focused airport operations.

About the Role

The Director balances day-to-day airport leadership with long-range strategic planning, economic development, and capital investment. The position leads airport staff and coordinates closely with City leadership, the FAA, public safety agencies, economic development partners, tenants, aircraft owners, and other stakeholders. The Director guides budgeting, capital planning, property and facility management, emergency preparedness, marketing, and business development while identifying grants and funding partnerships that support airport priorities. A strong emphasis on innovation, customer service, community relationships, and regulatory stewardship is central to advancing ROW's role in the regional economy.





Key Responsibilities

- Lead the safe, secure, efficient, and customer-focused operation of Roswell Air Center.
- Advance strategic and economic development initiatives aligned with City and Air Center master plans.
- Direct long-term capital planning, improvement projects, and infrastructure development.
- Manage airport financial planning, budgeting, and strategies to strengthen revenue potential.
- Oversee airport property, facilities, leases, and commercial development activities.
- Develop grant opportunities and public-private funding partnerships that support airport growth.
- Ensure compliance with FAA and applicable federal, state, local, and environmental requirements.
- Direct emergency preparedness, security, and operational contingency planning in coordination with partner agencies.
- Represent ROW through stakeholder engagement, public relations, regional marketing, and community partnerships.

Leadership Qualities and Style

The successful Director will be a strategic, collaborative, and forward-thinking leader who combines strong airport management expertise with an entrepreneurial approach to economic development. This individual will communicate effectively with City leadership, employees, regulators, business partners, and the community while building productive relationships across diverse stakeholder groups. Sound judgment, financial discipline, operational awareness, and a commitment to exceptional customer service are essential. The Director should inspire a high-performing team while confidently navigating complex operational, regulatory, and development priorities.

Preferred Qualifications

- Bachelor's degree in public administration, aviation administration, business administration, or a related field; a master's degree is desirable.
- Five years of professional aviation experience involving airport management or closely related responsibilities.
- Supervisory leadership experience is preferred.
- Certified Member (C.M.) designation through the American Association of Airport Executives (AAAE), or ability to attain the designation as required.
- Strong knowledge of airport operations, FAA requirements, fiscal management, security, economic development, and commercial property management.
- Demonstrated ability to build effective community, public, and stakeholder relationships.

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

Salary and Benefits

Salary is dependent on qualifications and will be based upon the knowledge and experience of the individual selected. The annual salary range for this position is \$115,562 - \$168,352 and is accompanied by a competitive benefits package.

How To Apply

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

Deadline for applications: October 11, 2026

The contacts for this search are:

Kenneth Gwyn, A.A.E.

kenneth@adkexecutivesearch.com

Kim Kenville, Ph.D., C.M.

kim@adkexecutivesearch.com

The City of Roswell is an equal-opportunity employer. We support diversity and are committed to creating an inclusive environment for employees.

