



2024 JOB RECRUITMENT

DIRECTOR OF AIRPORTS

\$171,402 - \$204,841

THE ORGANIZATION

Kern County is focused on three strategic goals:

- Enhancing the quality of life for our residents
- Becoming a model of excellence in how we manage our business and workforce
- Developing and growing a thriving, resilient, and diverse regional economy

We'll achieve this by investing where it benefits our community most, delivering sustained value in programs and services, strengthening our fiscal outlook, proactively preparing for the future, developing our workforce, delivering smart change, developing strong public and private partnerships, and diversifying our tax base.

THE COMMUNITY

Kern County is the third largest county in California geographically with over 8,000 square miles of beautiful mountains, valleys, and deserts. As one of the most affordable regions in California, Kern County is an ideal place to both live and raise a family. According to the 2022 Census, Kern County has nearly 917,000 residents. Population growth remains high, bolstered by a young population, growing job opportunities, and affordable home prices.

Kern County is the nation's leader in agriculture production and is the energy capital of California. Our region's economy is diversified through tourism, transportation, logistics and advanced manufacturing, aerospace and defense, energy and natural resources, health care services, and a growing technology sector. We maintain a business-friendly atmosphere and offer an enterprising approach to growth and development.



THE OPPORTUNITY

This is your chance to be part of an unprecedented economic expansion and lead the way to diverse and sustainable, and equitable growth.

Kern County is looking for a Director of Airports who will not just manage the day-to-day operations of the County's airports, but bring vision and implementation to a community that is growing and changing every day. We're looking for a proactive change agent who will build relationships, expand services, and usher in opportunities to make our airports a model of excellence for others to follow.

OUR IDEAL CANDIDATE IS:

One who helps create Kern County's future by forging partnerships and connecting with professionals to generate value for our regional economy. Advance connectivity and leverage investment centered around Meadows Field Airport's strategic location. Develop plans that link air transport to Kern County's growing tourism and hospitality industry. To do these things, the selected candidates will possess the following attributes:

A Visionary capable of thinking beyond today and developing strategic goals and viable plans to achieve those goals.

A Leader who is bold, courageous, and confident in how they run a critically important department for the growth and economic development of Kern County.

An Effective Communicator that is always sharing information with stakeholders, County leadership and other departments.

A Collaborative Strategic Partner who actively engages with other agencies, the business community and elected officials to implement positive change.



EDUCATION & EXPERIENCE:

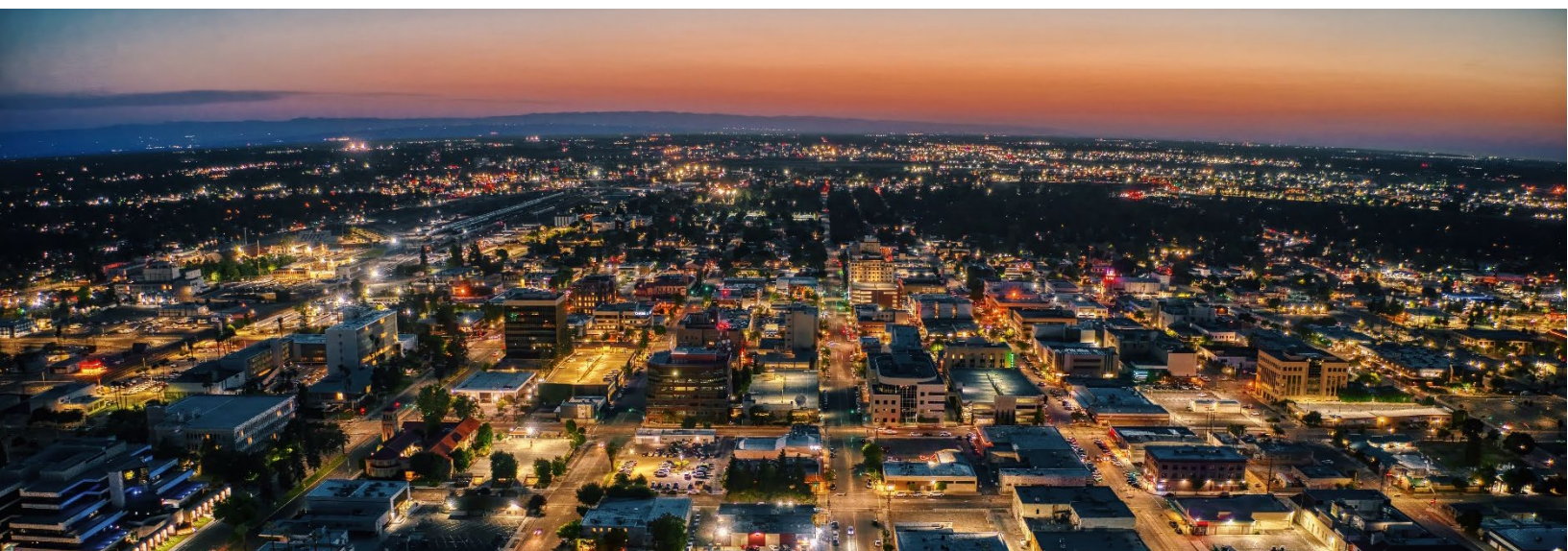
- Bachelor's degree in business administration, public administration, airport management, or related field
- Seven years of increasing responsibility managing a multi-purpose, multi-structure facility, including five years of experience with a part 139 certified airport in management and operations
- Existing relationship with the FAA
- Experience with State, Federal, and FAA Grant Programs

OUR AIRPORTS

The Kern County Department of Airports was formed in the 1920's as the first county-owned airport system in the United States and operates the County's six airports located in Bakersfield (Meadows Field), Elk Hills, Kern Valley, Poso/Famoso, Taft and Wasco. In addition to commercial service at Meadows Field, the department prides itself on meeting the needs of general aviation.

Our commercial airfield is Meadows Field Airport (BFL). Meadows Field is uniquely positioned to be at the center of economic development and enplaned nearly 200,000 passengers in fiscal year 2023-24.

- Meadows Field is approximately 1,400 acres in size and is certified under Federal Aviation Regulations Part 139
- Provides direct flights to San Francisco, Phoenix, Denver and Dallas through United and American Airlines
- The 2024-25 Airports budget includes 26 authorized permanent positions
- In 2016, California Aeronautical University (CAU) joined Meadows Field Airport to be the first university to help bridge the gap in a global pilot shortage
- Meadows Field Airport contributes nearly \$200 million in economic benefits to the community each year



THE COMPENSATION PACKAGE

- The salary range for the position, depending on experience, is \$171,402 - \$204,841
- 401(a) defined benefit retirement plan
- 457(6) deferred compensation plan with up to 6% employer match
- Employer paid \$400,000 life insurance coverage
- Alternate life and disability insurance plans available
- Generous vacation and sick leave accruals
- Monthly car allowance

HOW TO APPLY

Submit your cover letter and resume to wiebej@kerncounty.com by **Friday, November 1, 2024**, for priority consideration. Please be sure to include the following:

- Details of your administrative and management experience
- Scope of responsibility
- Number and level of staff managed
- Education, relevant certifications/licenses, and additional training
- Experience with strategic planning and economic development initiatives
- Three (3) professional references

