

O'Hare and Midway International Airports

O'Hare and Midway International Airports are owned and operated by the City of Chicago. The airports are managed by the Chicago Department of Aviation (CDA) and comprise one of the busiest airport systems in the world. Each year, Chicago's airports handle more than 1.1 million operations, and transport more than 86 million passengers and 1.5 tons of air cargo around the world, connecting Chicago to the global marketplace. O'Hare is an international dual hub airport, hosting American Airlines and United Airlines. It is the second busiest airport in the U.S. Midway International is known as the busiest square mile in aviation and the fastest growing airport in the nation. O'Hare and Midway are the "economic engines" of the region generating \$45 billion in annual economic activity and creating 540,000 jobs. Both airports, under the leadership of Mayor Rahm Emanuel, are focused on growing the airports' economic impact and connectivity to the world, and positioning Chicago as a leading global city. The CDA strives to provide the safest and most efficient operations, best concessions and amenities, and most innovative and sustainable services and programs in the country. CDA's goal is to provide best-in-class services, facilities and amenities in an environment that reflects the world-class city of Chicago. Specifically, the CDA manages a \$1 billion budget, including \$130+ million capital improvement program for O'Hare and Midway. The CDA also manages the \$8 billion O'Hare Modernization Program, which is currently the largest airport construction project in the U.S.

Job Description

To lead the airports, the City of Chicago is seeking a dynamic and energetic leader to serve as Commissioner for O'Hare and Midway International Airports. This position will require a customer – centric, enthusiastic and results - driven leader who will employ tactical and strategic leadership to ensure that the airports remain an economic engine for the City of Chicago and the region, while providing safe and efficient facilities and superior services and amenities to passengers. In addition to managing the airports' daily operations, the Commissioner will represent the airports as their Chief Marketer to the business community on a local, regional, national and international level, as well as to the airlines and airport industry and all other stakeholders to maximize the potential of the airport system. This position will focus on the core areas of air service planning and development, completion of the O'Hare Modernization construction program, developing an airport system that supports the City's mission of increased tourism, developing a revenue growth strategy that identifies new revenue opportunities and maximizes existing revenue streams focusing on new concession, parking and development opportunities at both airports, preparation for multiple new airline, cargo and hotel leases at O'Hare and growing the airports position in passenger and cargo capacity in the international markets.

The successful candidate will be expected to develop a strong collaborative working relationship with elected officials local, state and federal agencies, the U.S. House of Representatives, the U.S. Senate, U.S. Department of Transportation, Federal Aviation Administration, Transportation Security Administration, the airlines, business community, organized labor, public constituencies, the O'Hare and Midway Noise Compatibility Commissions, the press and other stakeholders who are dedicated to ensuring that the airports remain an economic engine for the City of Chicago. This candidate will also be

integral in developing and implementing strategies and polices that ensure O'Hare and Midway's continued leadership position in the global aviation industry.

The position reports directly to the Mayor of Chicago, Mayor Rahm Emanuel. The successful candidate will also be required to seek approval authority on many airport initiatives through City Council and its elected officials.

The successful candidate will:

- Have a minimum of 10 years executive management experience preferably with a major transportation system or a background in and understanding of airport operations, customer service, air service, airline consolidation, public finance, government contracting, FAA rules and regulations.
- Proven experience managing a large, complex organization and marketing that organization on a local, regional, national and international platform.
- Be a strategic leader with personal attributes of having a high level of intelligence, persuasiveness, creativity and vision.
- Demonstrate excellent interpersonal, communication, presentation and writing skills, and should exhibit professional and executive presence to stand on behalf of the organization as a leader.
- Have outstanding business acumen, strategic planning, public relations, community and governmental relations skills.
- Proven experience developing collaborative working relationships with various stakeholders and managing multiple agendas and interests simultaneously
- Be forward thinking in identifying "next" opportunities for the airports and identifying emerging trends in the aviation industry while being able to develop strategies to capitalize on the opportunities.
- Demonstrate ability to develop creative approaches to challenges with a proven track record of implementing innovative initiatives in highly complex organizations.
- Have international business acumen through traveling and working with global companies, organizations and agencies and promoting business with the United States.
- Have a Bachelor's Degree or higher providing a strong foundation for successful performance in this position.

How To Apply

Please send a cover letter and resume to aviationcommissionerapp@cityofchicago.org.