



KAREN BASS
MAYOR

MEMORANDUM

To: The Honorable Members of the City Council
c/o City Clerk

From: Karen Bass, Mayor *Karen Bass*

Subject: EXEMPTION REQUEST – LOS ANGELES WORLD AIRPORTS (LAWA),
(1) DEPUTY GENERAL MANAGER AIRPORTS I (0162)

Date: August 3, 2026

The Los Angeles World Airports (LAWA) requested the approval of one (1) position of Deputy General Manager Airports I, Class Code 0162, be exempted in accordance with Charter Section 1001(b), from civil service as management, professional, scientific, or expert services exemptions. Charter Section 1001(b) allows up to 150 persons to be exempt, of which 127 are approved and 2 are pending the City Council's approval. Approval of this request will increase the count. As of the date of this letter, this request will be the 130th position of the 150 exemptions. There are an additional 50 exempt positions added by the City Council pursuant to Charter Section 1001(b)(4), of which 18 are filled.

This Deputy General Manager Airports I position will serve as the Chief of Airports Finance and will be tasked with the oversight of LAWAs day to day financial operations and responsible for formulating LAWAs long-term financial strategies. The position's responsibilities include oversight of: Accounting Operations, Financial Reporting, Payroll, Financial Systems functions; the operating budget process, debt and treasury management, aeronautical rates and fees, grants and special charges; and the negotiations over amounts and types of fees generated under tenant leases or airport-wide rate agreements.

This position requires a bachelor's degree or master's degree in accounting, finance or economics from an accredited college or university; and five (5) years of full-time paid senior management-level experience overseeing complex or large-scale financial operations and knowledge and understanding of capital markets. Professional licenses or designations such as a Certified Public Accountant (CPA) or Chartered Financial

Analyst (CFA); and ten years (10) of full-time paid experience working in the financial department of a public or private entity with preferably five (5) years in an aviation finance environment are desired but not required.

The exemption of this position will allow LAWA the flexibility to recruit and select the best qualified candidate who possesses the necessary specialized experience, talent, and expertise for the position. The duties and requirements as described are appropriate to the class of Deputy General Manager Airports I.

Based on my review of LAWAs request, as well as the review of the Personnel Department, I hereby approve the request for the exemption of one (1) Deputy General Manager Airports I and transmit my action to the City Council, pursuant to City Charter Section 1001(b)(1). If the exempt position is not filled within six months, my approval for the department to fill the position may expire.

cc: Mitch Kamin, Chief of Staff, Office of the Mayor
Rachel Freeman, Deputy Mayor, Office of the Mayor
Justin Yoshimaru, Office of the Mayor
Thomas Arechiga, Office of the Mayor
John Ackerman, CEO LAWA
Robert Lowe, LAWA
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Marla Bleavins, LAWA
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