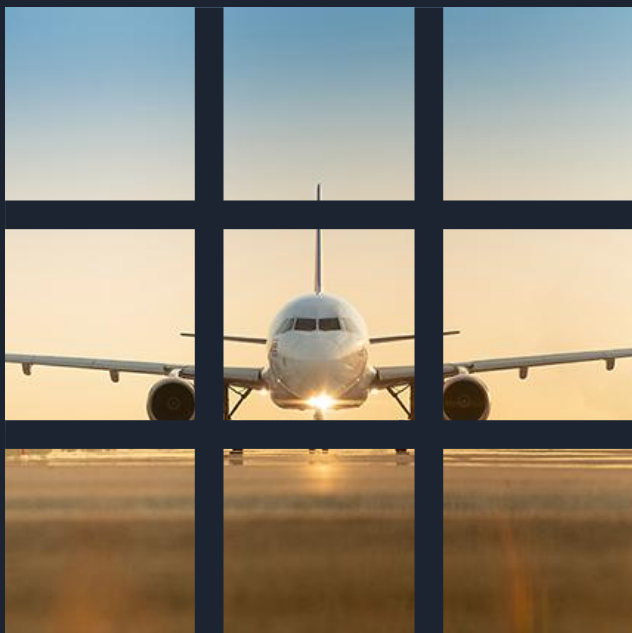


# Position Brief for

Metropolitan Washington Airports Authority  
SVP, Engineering

October 2026



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## The Opportunity

The Metropolitan Washington Airports Authority (MWAA) is seeking an exceptional engineering executive to lead a defining chapter in the evolution of Dulles International and Reagan National airports. With an approximately \$25 billion capital construction program, the Senior Vice President of Engineering will guide the delivery of projects that reshape these vital gateways to the nation's capital. Supported by an experienced engineering team, this leader will turn ambitious plans into enduring improvements in how millions of people travel, connect and experience the region.



MWAA is entering a defining period of capital investment, with an approximately \$25 billion capital construction program across Dulles International and Reagan National airports that combines major expansion, modernization and renewal of essential infrastructure. The program offers the next Senior Vice President of Engineering an exceptional opportunity to shape how millions of people experience the National Capital Region, while strengthening the capacity and reliability of assets that serve it every day.

A centerpiece of this investment is the Global Gateway transformation at Dulles International, which will pair the airport's iconic Saarinen-designed Main Terminal with modern facilities and a more seamless passenger experience. Expanded terminal and passenger-processing facilities, new and renewed concourses, improved pedestrian connections, and extensions to the AeroTrain and baggage systems will create a more connected, efficient airport. Bringing this vision to life will call for strategic leadership and disciplined execution, balancing ambitious development with the demands of a continuously operating international gateway.



In August 2026, MWAA's Board approved an additional \$15.5 billion for Dulles capital construction, increasing the combined program across both airports to approximately \$24.9 billion. Within that broader portfolio, the five major Dulles transformation packages represent approximately \$19.9 billion in planned investment over 15 years, including previously authorized projects. Financed primarily through Airports Authority bonds supported by airline rates and charges and Authority-generated revenues, the Dulles transformation places engineering leadership at the center of MWAA's future.

At Reagan National, MWAA is moving toward a full replacement of the existing 9-gate (Banjo) terminal that will be built immediately to the north of the present terminal. The DCA program also includes realigned roads, utility infrastructure, new parking and rental car facilities. Alongside MWAA's broader capital, renewal and maintenance investments, these projects offer a varied and consequential leadership portfolio. For an executive motivated by complex challenges and visible public impact, this is an opportunity to build exceptional infrastructure, develop talented teams and leave an enduring legacy across two nationally prominent airports.

### ABOUT THE METROPOLITAN WASHINGTON AUTHORITY

The Metropolitan Washington Airports Authority (MWAA) is an independent authority that manages and develops Ronald Reagan Washington National Airport, Washington Dulles International Airport, and the Dulles Toll Road. Serving as a critical gateway to the National Capital Region, MWAA is committed to delivering world-class infrastructure, operational excellence, and an exceptional passenger experience.

In 2025, MWAA's airports served a record 53.9 million passengers, underscoring the scale and strategic importance of its operations. Washington Dulles International Airport welcomed 29.0 million travelers, including a record 10.5 million international passengers, while Reagan National served 24.9 million passengers. These record-setting volumes highlight the continued need for significant investment in capacity, infrastructure, and customer experience across MWAA's transportation network.

### Mission and Core Values

The Airports Authority's primary mission is to develop, promote, and safely operate Reagan National and Dulles International airports, continually striving to improve our efficiency, customer orientation, and the level of air service provided. The core values of the Airports Authority are Integrity, Pride, Collaboration, and Mutual Respect.



## Governance

MWAA is a public body politic and corporate, created with the consent of the Congress of the United States by the District of Columbia Regional Airports Authority Act of 1985, as amended, and Ch. 598, Virginia Acts of Assembly of 1985, as amended. The purpose of this entity is to plan, provide and actively manage world class access to the global aviation system in a way that anticipates and serves the needs of the National Capital area.

A 17-member Board of Directors governs the Metropolitan Washington Airports Authority. The Board establishes policy and provides direction to management, and its authority is plenary. Members of the Board are appointed by the Governors of Virginia and Maryland, the Mayor of Washington, D.C., and the President of the United States.

## Operations and Funding

MWAA is self-supporting, using aircraft landing fees, rents and revenues from concessions and parking to fund operating expenses. The Authority is responsible for capital improvements at the airports, which are funded in part by passenger facility charges collected through airline tickets, Federal Airport Improvement Program funds and the proceeds of bonds issued by the Airports Authority.

In 2008, the Airports Authority's responsibilities were expanded to include the operation of the Dulles Toll Road and management of the construction project to extend the metropolitan Washington region's Metrorail mass transit system for 23 miles from the existing East Falls Church station in Virginia to Dulles International Airport and beyond into Loudoun County, Virginia.

Tolls collected on the Dulles Toll Road are used to operate and improve the Toll Road and fund a portion of the construction of the Metrorail extension project. Additional funding for the Metrorail project is supplied by federal grants and loans and by contributions from the Commonwealth of Virginia, and Loudoun and Fairfax counties in the commonwealth.

**For more information, please visit:**

[MWAA Website](#)

[2026 Budget Book](#)

[Capital Construction Program](#)



# The Position

Reporting to the Executive Vice President and Chief Operations Officer, the Senior Vice President, Engineering provides strategic and tactical leadership for planning, design, construction, capital development, construction safety, quality assurance and environmental engineering. The role leads the Office of Engineering, with offices at Reagan National and Dulles International, and encompasses both airports, the Dulles International Airport Access Highway, the Dulles Toll Road and other Authority-controlled real property.

## NATURE OF WORK

Working through engineering leaders, staff and principal management consultants, this executive establishes priorities, aligns resources and ensures that projects meet standards for safety, quality, cost and timely delivery.

Success requires close coordination with each airport, as well as other Authority functions and external agencies. The Senior Vice President must combine long-term perspective with sound judgment on immediate project needs, maintaining transparency, ethical conduct and a strong customer-service orientation throughout the portfolio.

## KEY RESPONSIBILITIES

- Provides visible, enterprise-level leadership for the Office of Engineering, establishing clear direction and aligning people, resources and activities with the Airports Authority's strategic and operational objectives.
- Demonstrates senior-level program execution by translating strategic priorities into coordinated plans, governance structures and measurable outcomes; effectively managing scope, schedule, budget, quality, safety and risk across a complex portfolio of concurrent capital programs and projects.
- Builds, develops and unifies a high-performing team, fostering collaboration, clear accountability, open communication and effective coordination across engineering functions and operating offices.



- Provides strategic vision and recommends priorities for engineering, capital development and construction investments and projects, including repairs and rehabilitation of Airports Authority real properties, and development and construction of new properties.
- Directly and through subordinate staff, ensures all functional responsibilities are transparent, ethical, customer service-oriented, meet project specifications, and are within budget.
- Seeks integrated systems that are technically excellent, practical and cost-effective in response to current and future engineering and construction needs of the Airports Authority.
- Conceives, recommends, or approves Capital Construction Program (CCP), Capital Operating and Maintenance Investment Program (COMIP), Capital Improvement Program (CIP), Renewal and Replacement (R&R) Program, and Operations and Maintenance (O&M) Program. strategies.
- Ensures cost-effective expansion of runways/facilities/infrastructure at IAD and DCA.
- Reviews, recommends or approves runway, facility and infrastructure solutions that enhance mission-critical operations and modernization.
- Directs cost-benefit analyses for engineering, capital development and construction spending, including total cost of ownership and return on investment analyses.
- Provides direction and oversight to the principal management consultants for the Aviation Enterprise CCP, and other major projects.
- Ensures effective coordination with both airports and other operating Offices.
- Benchmarks, analyzes, reports on, and makes recommendations for the improvement of construction management processes. Establishes key performance indicators (KPIs).
- Ensures that all work complies with legal and regulatory requirements (building and safety codes, environmental regulations); professional requirements/standards; and Airports Authority policies.
- Establishes broad policy guidance that is comprehensive, integrated, and forward-looking for subordinate units.
- Keeps the COO, and other parties, informed on 'big picture' issues, as well as routine and non-routine matters that are important as informational items, through formal reports and informal discussions, as necessary. Seeks guidance on extremely sensitive issues.
- Stays abreast of developments in engineering, capital development and construction management and technology.
- Performs other duties as assigned or on own initiative.



# The Candidate

MWAA seeks an accomplished engineering executive who is energized by the opportunity to turn a bold infrastructure agenda into enduring public value. The successful candidate will bring the technical credibility to guide complex capital programs, the commercial judgment to steward substantial investment, and the leadership presence to unite diverse teams around a shared vision for delivery.

This leader will combine strategic perspective with a practical understanding of construction and operating realities. Collaborative, decisive and grounded in integrity, the ideal candidate will build trust with technical and nontechnical stakeholders, make complex choices understandable, and create an environment in which teams take ownership of quality, performance and service.

## COMPETENCIES & AREAS OF EXPERTISE

- Strategic vision with delivery discipline: Connects long-term infrastructure priorities to achievable plans, clear milestones and effective execution across multiple concurrent projects.
- Engineering and construction authority: Brings deep knowledge of civil and structural engineering, architecture and commercial-industrial construction, with the judgment to assess alternatives and guide technically complex decisions.
- Financial and commercial acumen: Understands capital funding, project economics and contractor business considerations; weighs whole-life costs, affordability and value when allocating resources.
- Collaborative leadership: Builds productive partnerships across organizational boundaries and aligns engineers, consultants, contractors and operational colleagues around shared objectives.
- Clear communication and sound judgment: Translates technical issues into practical choices for nontechnical audiences, handles sensitive matters with discretion, and escalates issues appropriately.
- People and performance leadership: Provides direction to managers and professional teams, establishes accountability and develops the capabilities needed to deliver a demanding capital agenda.
- Integrity and continuous improvement: Models ethical conduct and public stewardship, using performance measures, benchmarking and appropriate technology to improve results.



## ESSENTIAL QUALIFICATIONS

- Ten years of progressively responsible engineering experience, with an emphasis on civil engineering and construction management.
- Experience as a second-level or higher supervisor of engineers.
- A bachelor's degree in engineering, architecture or a related field.
- Licensure as a Professional Engineer or Registered Architect in the United States or any of its territories, or the ability to obtain licensure within 180 days of hire, promotion or placement into the position. Licensure must be maintained.
- A state driver's license in good standing.
- Comprehensive professional knowledge of engineering principles and practices, particularly civil and structural engineering, together with extensive knowledge of architecture and commercial-industrial construction management.
- Knowledge of applicable federal, state and local legal and regulatory requirements, and the ability to ensure compliance across major engineering and construction projects.
- Knowledge of quality assurance, project controls, construction cost market data and cost management, including change orders and claims.
- Knowledge of budgeting, accounting and finance sufficient to manage office programs and operations, review project estimates and modifications, and report progress against budgets and funding authorizations at an executive level.
- Knowledge of grants, loans, bond issuances and other project-financing instruments, with the ability to manage projects funded through these resources.
- Knowledge of business administration and the technical aspects of procurement, bid analysis, solicitation and contracting for engineering and construction services.
- Knowledge of supervisory principles and the ability to manage teams and programs, perform complex analyses and make well-supported recommendations.
- Strong written and verbal communication skills, including the ability to explain technical matters to nontechnical audiences, and proficiency with modern office software and specialized project management and engineering applications.

## PREFERRED QUALIFICATIONS

- Progressive civil engineering management and leadership experience in a complex, multi-project environment involving a broad range of stakeholders.
- Experience collaborating with technical and nontechnical staff and engaging the public on highly complex, sensitive projects for a public-sector entity.



## LOCATION & REMUNERATION

- The position is based in the National Capital Region, with Offices of Engineering at Reagan National and Dulles International airports.
- A career with the Airports Authority comes with more than just a paycheck; it offers a comprehensive benefits package designed to support you and your family's health, financial security, and professional growth. Benefits include medical, dental, and vision coverage; well-being resources; health savings and flexible spending accounts; pension and retirement plans; and ongoing training and development opportunities. Discover more about MWAA's benefits package [here](#).

## HOW TO APPLY

- In order to apply, please submit a comprehensive CV along with a cover letter which sets out your interest in the role and encapsulates the aspects of your experience relevant to the required criteria.
- The preferred method of application is by email to: [mwaa.svpeng@odgers.com](mailto:mwaa.svpeng@odgers.com).

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## About Odgers

Odgers was founded in 1965. We offer integrated executive search and leadership advisory services through our 59 offices in 33 countries. During our 60-year history we have developed functional and sector expertise and built a global network of relationships. We are deeply rooted in our local markets, which we combine with global perspective and reach, enabling us to serve clients across six continents.

What we do matters; our work impacts peoples' lives and drives our clients' success. It is a privilege to help build the world's best leadership teams, a trusted role we never take for granted.

This ethos underpins our commitment to our clients and candidates and motivates our colleagues to strive for excellence in all we do.



Where Leadership Matters.