

Application for Appointment to Board, Commission, Committee, Task Force or Position

Applicants appointed by the Board of Supervisors will be required to take an oath of office. All applications will be kept on file for one year from the date of application.

Public Records Act

Applications are public records that are subject to disclosure under the California Public Records Act. Information provided by the applicant is not regarded as confidential except for the addresses and phone numbers of references and the applicant's personal information including home and work addresses, phone numbers and email address.

Form 700 Conflict of Interest Code

[California Fair Political Practices Website](#)

Please note that appointees may be required by state law and county conflict of interest code to file financial disclosure statements.

Which Boards would you like to apply for?

Napa County Airport Advisory Commission: Submitted

Category of Membership for Which You Are Applying

Community member

Profile

Debby _____ Hight _____
First Name Middle Initial Last Name

_____ _____
Email Address

_____ _____
Home Address Suite or Apt

Napa _____ CA _____ 94559
City State Postal Code

Which supervisorial district do you reside in? *

District 4

To find your supervisorial district go to <https://www.countyofnapa.org/1334/About-the-Board>, click on "Look Up My District" and enter your address.

_____ _____
Primary Phone

Debby Hight

Retired

Employer

Deputy Public Works
Director

Job Title

Civil Engineer

Occupation

Education/Experience

1982 BSEE University of California, Los Angeles 1982-89 Hughes Aircraft, design engineer/project engineer/flight test engineer 1989-2010 Triad/Holmes Associates, design engineer/project engineer/branch manager 2010-2014 City of St Helena, Assistant Director of Public Works 2014-2020 Town of Yountville, Deputy Director of Public Works

Name and occupation of spouse within the last 12 months, if married. (For conflict of Interest purposes)

Kevin Twohey, Fire Management, Chappellet Vineyards; retired Napa County Office of Emergency Services Coordinator

Resume

[Hight_2025_Resume_with_ltrs_of_recommendation.pdf](#)

Upload a Resume

[Nelson Letter of Recommendation AAC - Hight Sep 2 2025.pdf](#)

Letter of Recommendation or Supplemental Attachments

Professional or occupational license, date of issue, and expiration including status

California P.E Civil #52751, 1994 - present, exp Dec 31, 2026, current Certifications: Green Building LEED AP, 2008-present, no exp Stormwater Quality QSD, 2013-present, no exp Professional Ski Instructors Association Certification Level 2, 1988 (active 1988-2008), expired Student Pilot Certification BB3415446, 1988 (Private Pilot Certification incomplete)

References: Provide names and phone numbers of 3 individuals who are familiar with your background.

Tom Nelson, Rotary Club of Napa, former Airport Advisory Commissioner [REDACTED]
Shawn Casey-White, Director, Napa Valley Vine Trail Coalition, [REDACTED]
Tagliaboschi, City Manager, City of Trinidad (formerly Town of Yountville Director of Public Works), [REDACTED]

Community Participation

Please explain your reasons for wishing to serve and, in your opinion, how you feel you could contribute.

My father worked for United Airlines as a ground engineer, and I had the unique opportunity to grow up visiting the maintenance base at SFO and flying frequently during the 1960s. I went on to serve four highly rewarding years at Edwards Air Force Base as a flight test engineer. In 1989, after leaving Hughes Aircraft at Edwards, I transitioned from electrical/electromagnetic engineering into the civil engineering field. For the past 30 years, I have maintained a strong desire to reconnect with the aviation environment and the proximity of an airport. I had long intended to apply for this commission, and now, in retirement, I have the time and commitment to fully devote to the role. I believe that my combined experience in flight testing and aviation, along with three decades of civil engineering, allows me to bring a valuable and technically informed perspective to the commission.

Debby Hight

Nature of activity and community location

I currently reside in the Alta Heights neighborhood of Napa and have been retired from municipal government for a little over five years. I serve as a volunteer with the Vine Trail Coalition, where I act as engineering chair and provide consultation as we complete the final 10 miles of the 47-mile bike path through Napa Valley. While my daughter, now 25, was active in school and swimming, I volunteered with the Waves Aquatics Napa Valley Swim Team managing registration and billing. I am currently transitioning that role to a new parent volunteer. I do not anticipate any conflicts of time or resources with my continued participation on the other boards where I serve.

Other County Board/Commission/Committee on Which You Serve/Have Served

None with Napa County Napa Valley Vine Trail Coalition, Engineering Committee Chair, 2022-present State of California Department of Developmental Services North Bay Regional Center Self Determination Committee Chair, 2017-present

Public Actions that may impact Credit Rating (List all court or other public administration actions impacting your credit rating within the past ten (10) years)

None

Electronic Signature Agreement

I meet the criteria required to serve in this position.

Yes No

I declare under penalty of perjury that the foregoing is true and correct.

Yes No

Please Agree with the Following Statement

By checking the "I agree" box below, you agree and acknowledge that 1) your application will not be signed in the sense of a traditional paper document, 2) by signing in this alternate manner, you authorize your electronic signature to be valid and binding upon you to the same force and effect as a handwritten signature, and 3) you may still be required to provide a traditional signature at a later date.

I Agree

Electronic Signature (First M. Last)

Debra E Hight

Date

09/02/2025

Summary

Civil Engineering:

Retired Deputy Public Works Director and City Engineer with extensive government and private sector civil engineering design and firm management experience. 30 years of leading civil and structural engineering project management to include planning, design, surveying and construction for more than 500 projects from bare ground to ribbon cutting and hiring, developing and managing a staff of more than 20; and working collaboratively with city government, external agencies, community organizations and the public.

Aerospace/Electrical/Electromagnetic Engineering:

Fourteen years of experience in design and development of aerospace projects such as the space shuttle tile program, satellite payload systems, F-15/F-14/F16 and B-2 Stealth Bomber radar antenna systems, a space-based kinetic energy weapon system radar antenna, and performed flight test for the B-2 Stealth Bomber radar system.

Experience

Department of Public Works/Deputy Public Works Director, Yountville, CA

Deputy Director of Public Works/Project Manager 2014 to 2019

Department of Public Works/City Engineer, St. Helena, CA

Acting Director of Public Works 2013 to 2014

Assistant Director of Public Works/Project Manager 2010 to 2013

Triad/Holmes Associates, Napa, CA & Mammoth Lakes, CA

Branch Manager/Vice President /Principal Civil Engineer, Napa 2000 to 2010

Project Engineer/Design Engineer, Mammoth Lakes 1989 to 2000

Hughes Aircraft Company, El Segundo & Edwards AFB CA

Flight Test Engineer B2 Stealth Bomber 1986 to 1989

Design Engineer/Project Engineer 1983 to 1986

Air Force Plant Representative, Lockheed, Sunnyvale CA

Quality Assurance Inspector 1976 to 1979

Education, Licensure & Certification

- *Education:* **Bachelor of Science in Engineering**, University of California, Los Angeles, 1982
- *Licensure:* **California P.E Civil #52751**, 1994 – present
- *Certifications:*
 - Green Building LEED AP, 2008-present
 - Stormwater Quality QSD, 2013-present
 - Professional Ski Instructors Association Certification Level 2, 1988 (active 1988-2008)
 - Student Pilot Certification BB3415446, 1988 (Private Pilot Certification incomplete)

Affiliations & Volunteer Service

- *Professional Affiliations:* NVTA (Napa Valley Transportation Authority) TAC Vice Chair, 2011-14, ASCE (American Society of Civil Engineers), 1999-2019; SEAONC (Structural Engineers Association of Northern California), 1996-2019.
- *Personal Affiliations:* **Leadership Napa Valley**, Class 23, 2009-10; **Rotary Club of Napa**, 2000-present.
- *Board/Volunteer Positions:*
 - **Napa Valley Vine Trail** Engineering Committee, Chair, 2022-present
 - **North Bay Regional Center** Self Determination Subcommittee, Chair 2017-present
 - **Waves Aquatics Napa Valley** Swim Team Board Member, Registration/Billing, 2015-present
 - **PGA Tournaments**, Silverado CC/Harding Park, Marshall/Gallery Mgt/Hole Captain #7, 2008-present
 - **Boys & Girls Clubs of Napa Valley**, Board of Directors, 2006-13;
 - **Auction Napa Valley**, volunteer, 2002-15;
 - **Napa County 4-H**, 4-Leaf Clovers, Parent Project Leader, 2009-18
 - **Rotary Club of Napa**, Board of Directors, 2002-04 (2 terms)

Letter of Recommendation

Commissioner – Napa Airport Advisory Commission

Date: Sept 2, 2025

To: Napa Board of Supervisors,

I am writing to express my recommendation on behalf of Debby Hight for the position of commissioner on the Napa Airport Advisory Commission (AAC). I've had the privilege of working with Debby on two boards in the last two decades and can confidently attest to her exceptional capabilities, dedication, and character.

Debby's background in civil engineering and aeronautics will bring a welcomed level of technical expertise to the commission, especially pertaining to airport runway and tarmac projects, hangar development and FBO contract negotiations.

As a previous AAC commissioner (vice-chair from 2008 – 2014), I believe Debby's team approach to solving problems along with her ability to compromise on critical airport issues will be most appreciated by her fellow commissioners and the Napa Board of Supervisors.

In addition to her technical and interpersonal strengths, Debby is a thoughtful and reliable individual. She treats others with respect and is always willing to offer support and guidance when needed. These qualities make Debby an asset to any professional organization.

If you have any further questions, please feel free to contact me at [REDACTED]

Sincerely,



Thomas C. Nelson

Former Vice-Chair

Napa Airport Advisory Commission

Thomas C. Nelson [REDACTED]

September 2, 2025

Joe Tagliaboschi

[REDACTED]
Yountville, CA 94599

To whom it may concern,

I am writing this letter to recommend Debra Hight to be a member of the Napa County Airport Commission. I have known and worked with Debby for over a decade. Debby's work experience, intellect, and high emotional quotient make her an exceptional choice for this commission.

I first met Debby when I was appointed as the Public Works Director for the Town of Yountville. I was instantly impressed with her ability to digest complicated tasks and articulate a solution that was both equitable and elegant.

Debby has a unique breadth of experience in both aviation and civil engineering that I am sure would be a welcome addition to your team.

Debby has a very large peer network that provides a value added essential that I have found essential when different view points or approaches are needed.

Debby also is very personable and affable with a quick sense of humor and an empathy for others that is always welcome when working on a team.

It is for these reasons and so many others that I recommend Debby for your consideration for this position. I am happy to answer additional questions or concerns should you have them

Sincerely yours,

Joe Tagliaboschi

[REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED]