

2013 Roger W. Jones Award for Executive Leadership
Nomination of Catherine M. “Kate” Lang
Biography

Catherine “Kate” M. Lang has served as the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) Deputy Associate Administrator for Airports since August 2003. She has also served numerous times as the Acting Associate Administrator for Airports, most recently between January 2009 and April 2011.

As Deputy Associate Administrator, Kate provides leadership in planning and developing a safe and efficient national airport system – the Airports organization’s core mission. The organization has responsibility for all programs related to airport safety and inspections and standards for airport design, construction, and operation, including international harmonization of airport standards.

Kate guides the employees of the Airports organization each year as they administer over \$3 billion annually in Airport Improvement Program (AIP) grants and collect \$2 billion in Passenger Facility Charges. The organization is also tasked with national airport planning, establishing policies for airport rates and charges, airport compliance, airport privatization, analyzing the environmental and social factors affecting airport development, issuing national guidance and conducting training associated with these programs.

Prior to joining the Airports’ organization in 1997, Kate served for three years as Chief of Staff/Executive Assistant to FAA Deputy Administrator Linda Daschle. She launched her FAA career in August 1992 as the Deputy Manager of the Policy and Systems Analysis Division, Office of Aviation Policy, Planning, and Management Analysis. In this position, she was responsible for managing three FAA branches which provided general economic analysis and evaluations (cost-benefit analysis; transition planning; independent cost estimates of system acquisitions; facility establishment criteria; airport investment criteria; economic and implementation strategies for national noise policy); and management and policy analysis studies.

Before coming to the FAA, Kate worked for the City of Chicago as Assistant Commissioner of the Department of Aviation where she developed the city's first international air service program, including formulation of marketing priorities and strategies.

Throughout her FAA career, Kate has made noteworthy contributions to the aviation community as a team player and an individual contributor. Administrator Jane Garvey appointed her to serve on an FAA committee that worked to set the highest safety priorities for the immediate attention of the National Civil Aviation Review Commission (NCARC). Kate was subsequently recognized for her support to the NCARC through an award in 1997 from FAA Administrator Jane Garvey and Secretary Rodney Slater.

Kate received the 2011 Airport Consultants Council Aviation Award of Excellence for her skillful advocacy of a safe and efficient aviation system during some of the most challenging economic dynamics in history. The award also acknowledged her consistent respect for openness to the opinions of private sector technical experts and her long-term commitment to the aviation industry. Also in 2011, the American Association of Airport Executives (AAAE)

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awarded her their AAAE Leadership Award in recognition of the many significant contributions to AAAE and the airport industry.

Kate currently serves as the FAA’s liaison on the Airport Cooperative Research Program Oversight Committee and to the Aero Club of Washington.

Over her career, she has received numerous other awards, including:

- Secretary of Transportation Tiger Team Award, 2009
- Wendell H. Ford Aviation Award, 2000
- Secretary Rodney Slater’s “Find the Good and Praise It” Award, 1999

Kate Lang received a B.A. from Briar Cliff College and a M.P.S. from Loyola University of Chicago.