

Office: City of Naples Airport Authority Seat 1



Rick Ruppert (Unopposed)

Candidate's Statement as taken from CollierVotes.com

Rick Ruppert is a multifaceted and experienced executive with 40 years of business success across small, private companies as well as large public corporations. In addition to a successful career in business aviation, Rick has also worked in manufacturing, consumer products, and retail for companies such as General Motors, Disney, Ulta Beauty, Limited Brands and The Franklin Mint.

In aviation, Rick was recruited to a small, privately held aircraft management company at Teterboro Airport, New Jersey. The business grew rapidly into an industry leader in corporate jet management, brokerage, and charter sales with 50 jets/helicopters under turnkey management. The company was eventually purchased by a larger international aviation company named Jet Aviation, a division of General Dynamics.

Rick initially started the Human Resource department to staff the growing need for pilots, maintenance and support personnel but quickly transitioned into Flight Operations. He was responsible for flight dispatching, crew scheduling, international flight planning, and customer service. He was then promoted to General Manager of their newly acquired Midwestern division. After successfully integrating the Midwest business with the other operations, he was promoted to being the point person with all U.S. corporate clients and ensuring consistent customer satisfaction and revenue maximization.

Rick was a recent Commissioner of the Naples Airport Authority. He was appointed to the Naples Airport Authority in 2020, and served as the Chair, Vice-Chair, Chair of the Consultant Selection Committee, and a member of the Audit Committee. His term expired in December 2024.

He graduated from Drexel University with Highest Honors and a B.S. in Operations Management. Rick then attended Harvard Business School on a Fellowship and graduated with Second Year honors and an MBA.

Rick is a straight-forward, open minded collaborator who is able to make difficult decisions. He cares deeply about the safe and effective operation of Naples Airport. He seriously takes the importance of Naples Airport's role in this community, its employees, tenants, and customers.

Rick and his wife Tricia have lived in Naples year-round since 2014. He was elected and served on his condominium Board, as well as the Board of the Gulf Shore Association of Condominiums.