

Funding Working Group

Texas AAM Committee

Meeting #1, February 7, 2024

Agenda

- Opening remarks (Lead)
- Housekeeping (Lead)
 - File sharing
 - Working group operations
 - Committee overarching goal
- Working group goals (Lead)
- Review relevant research (TXST)
- Brainstorm recommendations
 - Working group
 - Public
- Closing remarks (Lead)

File Sharing

- 6 Texas AAM Committee SharePoint folders
 - General (additions reserved for Chair, Vice Chair, and TXST team)
 - Community Integration
 - Economic Impact
 - Funding
 - Infrastructure
 - Public Good and Safety Use-Cases
- Announcement email with a SharePoint link sent for any addition
- Email us at innovate@txstate.edu for questions about file access

Working Group Operations

- You can vote on final working group recommendations if
 - You are a Texas AAM Committee member AND
 - You attend 3 out of 5 working group meetings
- Email group lead Ernest Huffman (Ehuffman@nctcog.org) with research requests and he will forward requests to TxDOT and TXST

Texas AAM Committee Overarching Goal

Enhance Texas' leadership in AAM by developing recommendations for the Texas Legislature to accelerate and support the community integration and use of AAM (i.e., both crewed and uncrewed aircraft) in the State of Texas.

Lead's Goals

- Give Funding Recommendation to the State
 - Benchmark state against other states investments
 - Provide examples of how other states are using FHA funding to fund AAM
 - Recommend state invest in every sector and quantify that investment.
 - Infrastructure:
 - Physical (e.g., airports, vertiports, electricity)
 - Digital (e.g., UTM/PSU)
 - Airspace (i.e., integration)
 - Public good/safety use-cases:
 - Organizations: Law enforcement, fire, medical (emergency and non-emergency)
 - Use-cases: disaster response, accident response, etc.
 - Community integration:
 - Public education, outreach, and acceptance for ground- and air-communities
 - Public entity support (e.g., resource provision to TX public entities on zoning, permitting, coordination with public works and planning groups, etc.)
 - Economic impact:
 - Manufacturing, workforce development, training
 - Also highlight other federal funding mechanisms
 - Identify PPP opportunities
 - Identify Funding Administration agents, I.E. MPOs or COGs

Review Relevant Research

Other states

State	Funding Type	Funding Amount	General Description
Michigan	Federal grant (EDA)	\$52.2 million	Infrastructure, testing sites, and preparing sites for private investment
Oklahoma	Federal grant (EDA)	\$38.2 million	Transition legacy of oil and gas and traditional manufacturing to advanced mobility, automation, and unmanned aerial systems
California	State grants (2)	\$24.8 million	Funded 2 private companies to build/expand aircraft manufacturing facilities
North Carolina	State grant	\$5 million	Design and development of a UAM system
Michigan	State budget	\$17 million (inc. \$10 mil. to MDOT)	AAM infrastructure and setting up a drone program that targets large aviation and defense manufacturers
Ohio	State incentives	“up to” \$325 million	State is “considering” funding incentives for a new Joby Aviation facility

Grant Search

- Searched for AAM funding opportunities with university resources
- Found few results
- One grant, one scholarship program, and one research interest

Document Review

Document	Relevant Pages
<u>NASA AAM Community Integration Considerations Playbook</u>	16
<u>AAM Prepared State Reports</u>	3
<u>NREL Vertiport Electrical Infrastructure Study</u>	
<u>NASA Intermediate State UAM Vision Concept of Operations Overview</u>	
<u>NIA-NASA UAM Electric Infrastructure Study</u>	
<u>FAA Concept of Operations</u>	
<u>FAA AAM Implementation Plan</u>	

Document Review Themes

- Identify **federal grant** opportunities as well as **state funding**
- Use financing mechanisms to stimulate **private and community investment**
 - Municipal bonds, grants, and tax increment financing
- Develop an **innovation investment fund** for emerging technology
- Develop **public/private partnerships**
- Develop a **cost-benefit analysis** that evaluates the benefits of alternative AAM implementation scenarios

Brainstorm Recommendations

Recommendations