

Funding Subcommittee Meeting Summary

Texas Advanced Air Mobility (AAM) Advisory Committee

Virtual Meeting // May 1, 2024, 10:00 am – 12:00 noon CST (Meeting No.: 4)

Chair: Ernest Huffman

Committee Attendance: Angel Newhart, Brent Klavon, Brent Skorup, Ernest Huffman

Summary:

The agenda included opening remarks, an overview of the TxDOT budget, and a review of recommendations with timeline considerations and refinement of funding amounts. The subcommittee began by looking at the Appropriations Act for the 2024-25 biennium, looking broadly into the base budget, the exceptional items, and a writer request.

During the meeting, the subcommittee focused on the high-level overview of the recommendations. One critical topic was the economic impact study. They discussed two possible approaches: either hiring a consulting firm or partnering with a university to conduct the study. Regardless of the method chosen, the subcommittee agreed that prioritizing this study was essential to establish the industry's credibility.

Considering the legislative budget timeline, the subcommittee decided to conduct a smaller economic impact study by January 2025. This study would highlight workforce and economic development data. Additionally, they expressed interest in securing funding for a statewide study to provide a comprehensive picture of infrastructure needs.

Lastly, the subcommittee endorsed TxDOT's request for additional full-time employees (FTEs) for the AAM Office. They also estimated timeframes for each recommendation based on priority levels.

Next Meeting: June 5, 2024, 10:00 am – 12:00 noon CST (Virtual)