

Public Good and Safety Use-Cases Subcommittee Meeting Summary

Texas Advanced Air Mobility (AAM) Advisory Committee

Virtual Meeting // April 18, 2024, 10:00 AM – 12:00 noon CST (Meeting No.: 3)

Chair: Jason Day

Committee Attendance: Ernest Huffman, Jason Day, Jeff Bilyeu

Summary:

The meeting commenced with an overview of the agenda, which included a recap of the full committee meeting, a review of safe operations recommendations, and a discussion on the definition of AAM for Texas. The meeting concluded with closing remarks.

The subcommittee discussed HB 2340, agreeing on the need to update the legislation on electric vertical take-off and landing vehicles. The bill, specific to the state, aims to establish standards for safe airspace. The subcommittee expressed concerns about public safety, particularly the lack of training for first responders regarding existing autonomous electric vehicles. Consequently, they agreed on a recommendation to allocate funding for safety training for first responder personnel.

The chair proposed developing a statewide certification process for robust cybersecurity in the AAM space. He mentioned his plans to contact the DIR to understand how funding could be applied to this industry.

The subcommittee acknowledged the significant role of the DPS in air traffic management and airspace deconfliction. They agreed to include drones and UAS under the Texas AAM definition.

Recognizing the importance of data analysis, the subcommittee recommended establishing a mechanism for the TxDOT to capture and analyze data on airspace integration to enhance air safety.

Next Meeting: May 16, 10:00 am – 12:00 noon CST (Virtual)