

Funding Subcommittee Meeting Summary

Texas Advanced Air Mobility (AAM) Advisory Committee

Virtual Meeting // February 7, 2024, 10:00 am – 12:00 noon (Meeting No.: 1)

Chair: Ernest Huffman

Committee Attendance: Angel Newhart, Ben Ivers, Brent Klavon, Dan Dalton, Ernest Huffman, George Kivork, Michael Sanders

Summary:

The meeting agenda included opening remarks, housekeeping, working group goals, relevant research review, brainstorming recommendations and closing remarks.

The lack of funding from the state of Texas regarding AAM was a major point, and it was decided that funding recommendations will depend on the findings of other subcommittees. The lead's goals included finding other state's funding mechanisms, getting a funding recommendation from each subcommittee, and identifying use cases to attract private sector investments.

The subcommittee showed a desire to quantify investment costs based on use cases and tailor funding reports based off them. It was also noted that some airports are already stretched thin and a focus on AAM specific federal funding may help serve those entities, though all funding sources should be considered. Many federal grants including the FAA, NSF, DoD, DoT, NASA, etc., and public entities and surface transportation funds were suggested as potential sources of funding for AAM. Volunteers to attend other subcommittee meetings representing the funding subcommittee were noted.

The subcommittee showed interest in getting a list of Texas corporations that are members of AUVSI to build a database of companies associated with AAM. They also requested to add the next meeting dates to the slide deck. Other contacts from the Texas Economic Development Corporation and Texas Association of Business who could be present in the meetings and potentially benefit the subcommittee were suggested.

Next Meeting: March 6, 2024, 10:00 am – 12:00 noon (Virtual)