



Resolution
Of the Virginia Aviation Board
In Recognition of Virginia's Selection as a

National Unmanned Aircraft Systems Integration Pilot Program Site

Whereas, Unmanned Aircraft Systems (UAS) offer the next great innovation opportunity for the United States of America, and

Whereas, the potential economic benefit of integrating UAS in the nation's airspace is estimated at \$82 Billion and could create 100,000 jobs in the next 10 years, and

Whereas, the UAS Integration Pilot Program was established by the U.S. Department of Transportation (USDOT) and the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) to tackle the most significant challenges to integrating drones into the national airspace and will reduce risks to public safety and security, and

Whereas, the Commonwealth of Virginia established the Mid-Atlantic Aviation Partnership (MAAP) in conjunction with Virginia Tech to promote the safe use and development of drones in Virginia, and

Whereas, a successful bid for the UAS Integration Pilot Program was submitted by the Commonwealth of Virginia in partnership with the Virginia Innovation and Entrepreneurship Investment Authority, the Center for Innovative Technology, the Virginia Autonomous Systems Center of Excellence, the Virginia Department of Aviation, the Virginia Commercial Spaceflight Authority, the Virginia State Police, the Virginia Department of Transportation and the Virginia Department of Emergency Management, and

Whereas, the bid's corporate sponsors include Project Wing, Intel, AT&T, Airbus Aerial, State Farm, Dominion Energy, Sinclair Broadcast Group and HAZON Solutions, and

Whereas, the counties of Buckingham, Cumberland, Loudoun, Montgomery, Prince Edward and Wise participated in the proposal and are poised to become future hubs of innovation for drone technology, and

Whereas, the above-named partners, sponsors and localities will spend the next 30 months collecting drone data involving night operations, flights over people and beyond the pilot's line of sight, package delivery, detect-and-avoid technologies and the reliability and security of data links between pilot and aircraft, and

Whereas, this data will help USDOT and FAA craft new rules that allow more complex low-altitude operations, identify ways to balance local and national interests related to UAS integration, improve communications with local, state and tribal jurisdictions, address security and privacy risks, and accelerate the approval of operations that currently require special authorizations, therefore, be it

Resolved, that the Virginia Aviation Board does hereby recognize, commend and congratulate the Virginia team for being a leader in the rapidly growing field of Unmanned Aircraft Systems and the team's selection as one of only 10 UAS Integration Pilot Program sites in the nation.

May 17, 2018

Date



Roderick D. Hall
Chairman, Virginia Aviation Board