

Congress of the United States

Washington, DC 20515

January 23, 2026

The Honorable Bryan Bedford
Administrator
Federal Aviation Administration
800 Independence Avenue, SW
Washington, D.C. 20591

Dear Administrator Bedford,

Thank you for your continued efforts to ensure the United States remains a leader in transportation innovation. We write to urge full and fair consideration for the DriveOhio and Ohio Department of Transportation's (ODOT) application for the Federal Aviation Administration's (FAA) Electric Vertical Take-Off and Landing (eVTOL) Integration Pilot Program (eIPP).

Ohio has a robust aviation and aerospace ecosystem, built on a long history of aviation innovation. With a proven and unique model for cross-sector and state collaboration, Ohio has seen over \$1.2 billion invested over the past decade by industry partners, including the Air Force Research Lab (AFRL), GE Aerospace, Joby Aviation, Beta Technologies, and JobsOhio. In addition, with strong support from states like Indiana, Kentucky, and Michigan, Ohio offers a unique opportunity to test and refine cross-border airspace management, interstate flight operations, and a coordinated regulatory approach.

Commitments from key partners demonstrate that Ohio is a turnkey testbed for airspace modernization. ODOT, in collaboration with AFRL, developed SkyVision, a low-altitude airspace management system that enables real-world beyond line-of-sight operations. The federal government can leverage this ready-made partnership for validation of cooperative airspace operations across defense, civil, and commercial sectors to accelerate FAA goals for autonomous flight integration.

Ohio has a dedicated Advanced Air Mobility (AAM) Division within ODOT, designed to integrate advanced aviation technologies with ground transportation technologies, and has already made the infrastructure, workforce, and financial commitments needed to execute on day one. Ohio boasts seven R1 research institutions and a trained, highly skilled workforce, showing Ohio's AAM readiness, which will allow the FAA to launch faster and deliver results immediately.

We again urge your full and fair consideration of Ohio as one of the sites for the eIPP. This project is a collaborative, regional approach to eVTOL and AAM, and can serve as a model for scaling across the United States.

Sincerely,



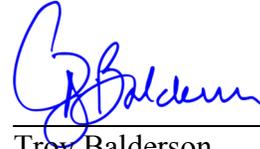
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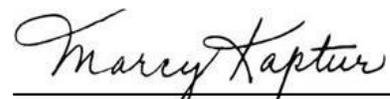
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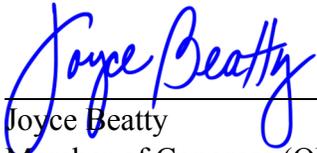
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