



# The State of Maryland

## Executive Department

EXECUTIVE ORDER

01.01.2025.05

### Maryland Advanced Air Mobility Council

WHEREAS, The State of Maryland is committed to the safe research, development, testing, and operation of advanced air mobility systems for the betterment of its residents;

WHEREAS Maryland, with its rich aerospace history and collection of higher education institutions, federal facilities, airports, aerospace professionals, and aerospace companies, is uniquely positioned to lead the nation in the innovation and growth of the advanced air mobility industry;

WHEREAS, The burgeoning advanced air mobility industry presents opportunities for Marylanders, including employment, business investment, strengthened public safety services, and equitable access to services in urban and rural communities; and

WHEREAS, Maryland must ensure that the safety, privacy, accessibility, and comfort of residents remains a priority as advanced air mobility systems are developed, tested, and operated in the State.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, WES MOORE, GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF MARYLAND, BY VIRTUE OF THE AUTHORITY VESTED IN ME BY THE CONSTITUTION AND LAWS OF MARYLAND, HEREBY PROCLAIM THE FOLLOWING EXECUTIVE ORDER, EFFECTIVE IMMEDIATELY:

#### **A. Definitions.**

- (1) "Advanced Air Mobility" means a sector of the aerospace industry which aims to safely and efficiently integrate highly automated aircrafts into the National Airspace, often operating at low altitudes. It is a collection of new and emerging technologies that are being applied to the aviation transportation system, particularly in new aircraft types.
- (2) "Unmanned Aircraft Systems" ("UAS") means aircraft, such as drones, that can be operated without a human pilot.

**B. Establishment.** There is hereby established a Maryland Advanced Air Mobility Council ("Council"), a collaborative effort between State and private partners to make recommendations on how Maryland can best leverage and regulate Advanced Air Mobility Systems.

**C. Membership.** The Council shall consist of the following members:

- (1) The Executive Director of the Maryland Aviation Administration, or the Executive Director's designee;
- (2) The Secretary of the Maryland Department of Commerce, or the Secretary's designee;
- (3) The Secretary of the Maryland Department of Planning, or the Secretary's designee;
- (4) The Secretary of the Maryland Department of Labor, or the Secretary's designee;
- (5) The Superintendent of the Maryland State Police, or the Superintendent's designee;
- (6) The Attorney General, or the Attorney General's designee;
- (7) The Director of the University of Maryland UAS Research and Operation Center;
- (8) One (1) representative of local governments in the State;
- (9) Four (4) members, appointed by the Governor, with training, knowledge, or experience in the aerospace industry, airport or heliport administration, Maryland local government, public safety, or privacy policy; and
- (10) Such other officials of executive departments and agencies as the Governor may from time to time designate.

**D. Chair.** The Governor shall appoint the Chair from among the members of the Council. The Chair shall serve at the pleasure of the Governor.

**E. Duties.** The Council shall:

- (1) Catalog existing state assets related to the advanced air mobility industry;
- (2) Engage with the advanced air mobility industry, regulators, local governments, and other relevant parties regarding the operation of advanced air mobility technologies in the State;

- (3) Study and identify opportunities to attract, develop, and grow the State's advanced air mobility industry;
- (4) Identify potential use cases for advanced air mobility systems in the State and provide an assessment of cost and necessary considerations for implementation; and
- (5) Develop and submit initial recommendations to the Governor, on or before June 1, 2025, and final recommendations on or before November 1, 2025, outlining:
  - a. Policies and regulatory operations that are necessary for advanced air mobility technologies to operate and excel in the State, covering the following topics:
    - i. Public safety and cybersecurity;
    - ii. Privacy;
    - iii. Legal liability;
    - iv. Workforce;
    - v. Infrastructure establishment and usage; and
    - vi. Aerospace regulation;
  - b. An initial phase-in timeline that balances industry potential with public safety, privacy, and comfort;
  - c. Public communication campaigns and educational opportunities that will bolster public trust and promote the benefits of deploying these technologies in State airspace; and
  - d. Regulatory models that the State should consider as advanced air mobility technologies are deployed.

**F. Administration.**

- (1) The Council shall be staffed by the Maryland Aviation Administration.
- (2) The Council may function through established or ad hoc committees or working groups.
- (3) Members appointed by the Governor shall serve at the pleasure of the Governor.

- (4) Members of the Council may not receive any compensation for their services, but may be reimbursed for their reasonable expenses incurred in the performance of duties in accordance with the State Standard Travel Regulations and as provided in the State budget.
- (5) To the extent permitted by law, all Executive Branch departments and agencies shall cooperate with the Council and provide such assistance, information, and advice to the Council as the Council may request.

**G. Procedures.**

- (1) The Council Chair shall:
  - a. Oversee and lead the implementation of this Executive Order and the work of the Council;
  - b. Determine the Council's agenda; and
  - c. Identify additional support as needed.
- (2) The Council Chair may adopt bylaws, rules, and other procedures necessary to ensure the orderly transaction of business.
- (3) A majority of the members present shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of any business of the Council.
- (4) The Council shall submit an annual report to the Governor on or before July 1, 2025, and by July 1st, the following year, outlining the status of the advanced air mobility industry in the State and any progress, challenges, and recommendations.

**H. Meetings of the Council.**

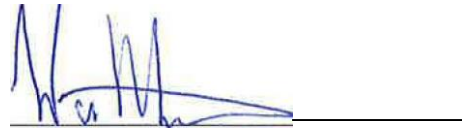
- (1) The Council shall meet as often as its duties require, but no less than quarterly.
- (2) The Council Chair may convene meetings of the Council and shall preside over the meetings.
- (3) The Council may establish ad hoc committees or working groups that meet in between the Council's official quarterly meetings.

- I. Duration.** This Executive Order shall remain in effect until December 31, 2026, unless earlier modified or rescinded.

**J. General Provisions.**

- (1) This Executive Order shall be implemented in a manner that is consistent with all applicable statutes and regulations. Nothing in this Executive Order shall operate to contravene any State or federal law or to affect the State's receipt of federal funding.
- (2) If any provision of this Executive Order or its application to any person, entity, or circumstance is held invalid by any court of competent jurisdiction, all other provisions or applications of the Executive Order shall remain in effect to the extent possible without the invalid provision or application. To achieve this purpose, the provisions of this Executive Order are severable.

GIVEN Under My Hand and the Great Seal of the State of Maryland, in the City of Annapolis, this 7th day of January, 2025.



Wes Moore  
Governor

ATTEST:



Susan C. Lee  
Secretary of State

