

## U.S. DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION FEDERAL AVIATION ADMINISTRATION



06/09/2025

**SUBJ:** Research, Engineering, and Development Advisory Committee

- 1. **Advisory Committee's Official Designation (Title):** Research, Engineering and Development (R,E&D) Advisory Committee.
- 2. **Authority:** This order revises the Research, Engineering and Development Advisory Committee charter, as required under 49 U.S.C. 44508 and the provisions of the Federal Advisory Committee Act (FACA), as amended, 5 U.S.C. ch. 10.
- 3. **Objective and Scope of Activities:** The objective of the committee is to provide advice to the Administrator regarding the needs, objectives, plans, approaches, content, and accomplishments with respect to the aviation research program.
- 4. **Description of Duties:** The committee shall consider aviation research, future technology, and the National Airspace System-present and future. The committee shall also assist in ensuring that such research is coordinated with similar research being conducted outside of the FAA. In addition, the committee shall review and comment on the aviation research grants program and on the research and training to be carried out by air transportation centers of excellence.
- 5. Agency or Federal Officer Receiving the Advisory Committee's Advice/Recommendations: In accordance with P.L. 100-591, the Advisory Committee will submit advice to the Administrator of the Federal Aviation Administration.
- 6. **Support:** The Federal Aviation Administration, Office of NextGen and Operations Planning will provide support to the committee.

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7. **Estimated Annual Operating Costs and Staff Years:** The direct annual operating cost of the committee and subcommittees, which includes travel costs of members and miscellaneous cost, shall not exceed one-tenth of one percent of the annual research and development appropriation. No other limitations of funds available for obligation by or for the advisory committee shall be applicable. The estimated annual U.S. Government staff support by the FAA is 1.5 full-time equivalents (FTE).

- 8. **Designated Federal Officer:** The Office of NextGen and Operations Planning, Research and Technology Development will designate an Executive Director (an FAA Federal Official) who will serve as the Designated Federal Officer (DFO). The DFO must perform the following duties: ensure advisory committee activities comply with FACA, the FACA Final Rule, agency administrative procedures, and any other applicable laws and regulations; approve or call all meetings of the advisory committee or subcommittee; approve the agenda; attend all advisory committee and subcommittee meetings for their duration; fulfill the requirements under § 10(b) of the Act (codified at 5 U.S.C. 1009(b)); adjourn any meeting when the DFO determines it to be in the public interest; chair any meeting when so directed by the agency head; maintain information on advisory committee activities and provide such information to the public, as applicable; and ensure advisory committee members and subcommittee members, as applicable, receive the appropriate training (e.g., FACA overview, ethics training) for efficient operation and compliance with FACA and the FACA Final Rule.
- 9. **Estimated Number and Frequency of Meetings:** The R,E&D Advisory Committee expects to meet approximately twice a year. Meetings may occur approximately every 6 months or as needed and approved by the DFO. Unless otherwise required by law or approved by the Secretary, all meetings will be held virtually.
- 10. **Duration:** This charter will be in effect from the date it is filed with Congress and will continue until further directed. This charter may be renewed as authorized in accordance with Section 14 of FACA.
- 11. **Membership and Designation:** The R,E&D Advisory Committee will be composed of approximately 30 members appointed by the Administrator. The membership of the committee shall serve in a representative capacity and shall be fairly balanced in points of view representative of the aviation community, including representatives from research centers of air transportation excellence, universities, corporations, user groups, associations, consumers, and other Government agencies. The R,E&D Advisory Committee membership does not allow for alternates or substitutes to participate in the place of the appointed members at its official meetings. The FAA employees may not serve as members of the advisory committee, but may participate in the management of the advisory committee's affairs in an ex officio capacity. The Chair of the committee shall be designated by the Administrator. At the discretion of the Administrator, members and the Chair may be asked to continue their service or retire. Members and the Chair will have a review of service to determine eligibility after 2 years.

Members of the committee who are full-time employees of the U.S. Government, academia, and consultants shall serve without compensation, but may be allowed transportation and per diem in lieu of subsistence and other expenses, in accordance with the U.S. Department of Transportation Civilian Travel Regulations.

12. **Subcommittees:** The FAA Administrator has the authority to create subcommittees and/or working groups. The subcommittee must report back to the parent committee, and must not provide advice or work products directly to the Agency. The Chair of a subcommittee will be a

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member of the R,E&D Advisory Committee. The Subcommittee on Environment and Energy is abolished as of May 1, 2025.

- 13. **Recordkeeping:** The records of the committee, formally and informally established subcommittees, or other subgroups of the committee, shall be handled in accordance with the General Records Schedule 6, Item 2 or other approved agency records disposition schedule. The records shall be available for public inspection and copying, subject to the Freedom of Information Act, 5 U.S.C. 522.
- 14. **Filing Date:** This charter is effective  $\underline{5/7/2010}$ , which is the date it was filed with Congress. This amended charter is effective on June 9, 2025.