

# Integrating Emerging Entrants on Airports



Presented to: National Consultant Workshop (Airport Safety & Standards)

By: Keri Lyons, Manager, Airports Emerging Entrants Division

Date: August 27, 2024



**Federal Aviation  
Administration**

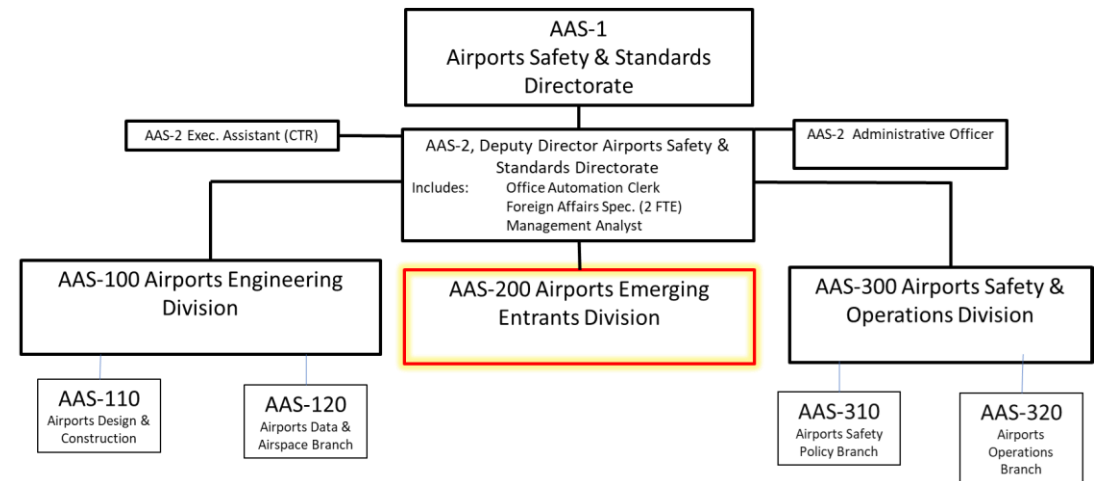
# Agenda

- About the Airports Emerging Entrants Division
- What's on the Horizon
- Portfolio Highlights
- Best Practices and Lessons Learned
- Where to Find More Information



# About the Emerging Entrants Division

- Established in 2022 and allocated one manager and 6 staff.
- Facilitates the evaluation and development of policy for new technologies, infrastructure, and aircraft positioned to operate on airports, heliports, or vertiports.



# What's on the Horizon

- Advanced Air Mobility (AAM)
- Unmanned Aircraft Systems (UAS) on Airports
- UAS Detection and Response on Airports
- Commercial Space on Airports
- Autonomous Ground Vehicle Systems (AGVS)



# Advanced Air Mobility (AAM) - Overview

- First AAM aircraft expected to be certified in late 2025.
- AAM operators intend to use existing infrastructure and some new purpose-built infrastructure for initial operations.
- Innovate28 is a joint FAA and industry initiative to address AAM operations at one or more key site locations by 2028.
- More than 20 government agencies participated in DOT's AAM Interagency Working Group to develop a national strategy.



# Advanced Air Mobility (AAM) - Vertiports

- Engineering Brief 105, Vertiport Design, released in September 2022.
  - Intended as interim guidance and purposely limited in scope.
  - To be updated this year, then sunset as Advisory Circular is published in 2025.
  - Virtual Industry Day – September 30
- Vertiports (and support facilities) on grant obligated airports require an updated Airport Layout Plan.
- New vertiports require Form 7480 (14 CFR Part 157).



# Advanced Air Mobility (AAM) - Fuels

- Most AAM manufacturers plan to use electric or hydrogen.
- Airports across the country are being approached to host electric charging stations and hydrogen storage on the airfield.
- Research is underway to support guidance for on-airport facilities.

To Learn More – Plan to attend “Considerations for Supporting Electric and Hydrogen Powered Aircraft” with Jonathan Torres



# Unmanned Aircraft Systems (UAS)

- Growing interest from airport sponsors and tenants to use UAS on and near airports.
- Research underway to support guidance across multiple on-airport applications.
- UAS cannot be used for compliance with 14 CFR Part 139.

To Learn More – Plan to attend “UAS Applications” with Mike Branum and Jim Patterson





# UAS Detection and Response

- As UAS operations continue to grow, airports and law enforcement are interested in UAS detection and mitigation.
- Mitigation authorities currently limited to only 4 Federal agencies – airports are not authorized to use these technologies.
- All Part 139 certificated airports must have a UAS Response Plan.

To Learn More – Plan to attend “Section 383 Update and UAS Detection System Process” with Jim Patterson and Keri Lyons



# Commercial Space on Airports



- Balancing operational safety and the preservation of access to traditional aviation users while supporting airports' interest in offering innovative services to the growing industry.
- We collaborate with the Office of Commercial Space Transportation on licensing activities.

# Commercial Space on Airports – Rocket Engine Testing

- Growing interest in using airports for rocket engine testing – static and dynamic testing.
  - Access to fuels
  - Noise contours
  - Technical expertise
- On Federally-obligated airports, FAA review is needed before construction or testing.



# Autonomous Ground Vehicle Systems (AGVS)

- Testing, deployment, and operation of AGVS or autonomous vehicle (AV) technology for airside use have not been authorized by the FAA at Part 139 or Federally-obligated airports.
- CertAlert 24-02 issued in February 2024.
- Airports interested in using this technology before standards are in place must contact their Regional or Airport District Office.



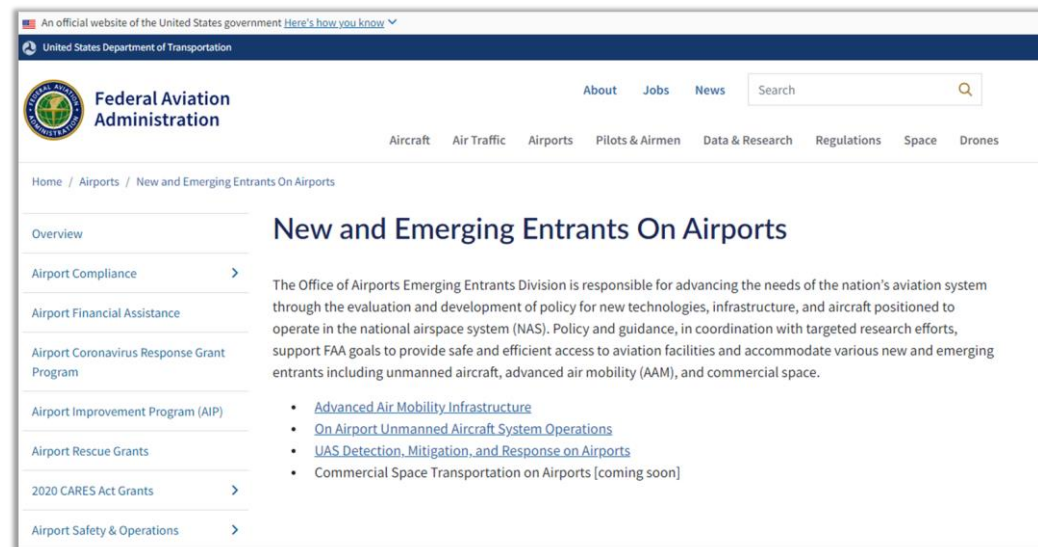
# Best Practices & Lessons Learned

- Communicate early.
- Engage with all appropriate operators, stakeholders, and community.
- Ensure proper planning is completed.
- Submit required documents as soon as possible.



# Where to Find More Information

- [New and Emerging Entrants On Airports | Federal Aviation Administration \(faa.gov\)](https://www.faa.gov/airports/new-emerging-entrants)



# Questions?



Keri Lyons

Manager, Airports Emerging Entrants  
Division

[Keri.Lyons@faa.gov](mailto:Keri.Lyons@faa.gov)

202-267-8972

