

RESOLUTION NO. 2023-76

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF MARINA
SUPPORTING THE SALINAS VALLEY TECH HUB GRANT SUBMISSION BY
THE GREATER SALINAS VALLEY ADVANCED AIR MOBILITY COALITION

WHEREAS, the City of Marina is a member of the newly designated Greater Salinas Valley Advance Air Mobility Coalition through the City's efforts to support retention and growth of Joby Aviation as a key employer; and,

WHEREAS, the Greater Salinas Valley Advanced Air Mobility Coalition is pursuing an Economic Development Agency (EDA) Tech Hub Grant for Advanced Air Mobility (AAM) workforce training.

WHEREAS, the Tech Hubs Program is an economic development initiative designed to drive regional technology-and innovation-centric growth by strengthening a region's capacity to manufacture, commercialize, and deploy critical technologies. The Tech Hubs Program was enacted as a part of Creating Helpful Incentives to Produce Semiconductors (CHIPS) and Science Act of 2022 (as the Regional Technology and Innovation Hubs Program). The statute authorized \$10 billion for the program over five years. Congress appropriated EDA \$500 million to launch the program; and,

WHEREAS, on May 12, 2023, EDA published the Tech Hubs Phase 1 Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) - the first of two phases. EDA will designate at least 20 Tech Hubs across the country and will separately award approximately \$15 million in strategy development grants to accelerate the development of future Tech Hubs. The Tech Hubs designation will be a widely recognized indicator of a region's potential for rapid technology - led economic growth.

WHEREAS, the proposed Greater Salinas Advanced Air Mobility Coalition EDA grant proposal and additional background is included as "**Exhibit A**"; and,

WHEREAS, support for this grant application and proposal will require minimal City staff time and no monetary commitment at this time.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that this Resolution shows the support the City of Marina has for the Salinas Valley Tech Hub Grant Submission by the Greater Salinas Valley Advanced Air Mobility Coalition.

PASSED AND ADOPTED by the City Council of the City of Marina at a special meeting duly held on this 18TH day of July 2023 by the following vote:

AYES, COUNCIL MEMBERS: Visscher, McCarthy, Biala, Medina Dirksen, Delgado

NOES, COUNCIL MEMBERS: None

ABSENT, COUNCIL MEMBERS: None

ABSTAIN, COUNCIL MEMBERS: None

ATTEST:

Bruce C. Delgado, Mayor

Anita Sharp, Deputy City Clerk



CITY OF MARINA
211 Hillcrest Avenue
Marina, Ca 93933
831- 884-1278

July 18, 2023

U.S. Economic Development Administration
U.S. Department of Commerce
1401 Constitution Avenue, NW, Suite 71014
Washington, DC 20230

RE: Salinas Valley Tech Hub Grant Submission

To Whom it May Concern:

On July 18, 2023, the City Council of the City of Marina, California passed the following Statement of Support for the Greater Salinas Valley Advance Air Mobility Coalition.

Marina is a picturesque, rural municipality with a diverse community of just over 22,500 residents. Marina is strategically located on the Pacific coast, roughly 100 miles from Silicon Valley. The city's economy is largely built on agriculture, which continues to see workforce evolution as new technology changes modern farming.

Marina is a member of the Greater Salinas Valley Advance Air Mobility Coalition and supports the coalition's effort to secure an Economic Development Agency (EDA) Tech Hub Grant for Advanced Air Mobility (AAM) workforce training.

The city's terrain provides a unique topography for the emerging AAM industry to develop and test aircraft and support systems. The Tech Hub Grant will greatly benefit Marina's economic development efforts by creating well-paying jobs that will diversify the city's employment landscape, all while supporting a burgeoning industry that is set to rewrite the future of aviation.

Marina has worked hard to expand its economic footprint, since the closure of the US Army's Fort Ord in 1994. The Tech Hub grant would boost those efforts and open new opportunities for our thriving workforce.

Thank you for your consideration.
Sincerely,

Layne Long
City Manager
City of Marina

EXHIBIT A

Greater Salinas Valley Advanced Air Mobility Coalition efforts to secure an Economic Development Agency (EDA) Tech Hub Grant for Advanced Air Mobility (AAM) workforce training.

SUMMARY/DISCUSSION:

Economic Development Administration (EDA) Tech Hubs Overview:

The Tech Hubs Program is an economic development initiative designed to drive regional technology-and innovation-centric growth by strengthening a region's capacity to manufacture, commercialize, and deploy critical technologies. This program will invest directly in regions with the assets, resources, capacity, and potential to transform into globally competitive innovation centers in approximately 10 years while catalyzing the creation of good jobs for workers at all skill levels.

The Tech Hubs Program will bring together a wide array of public, private, and academic partners into a collaborative consortium focused on regional economic development needs and unique growth opportunities.

The Tech Hubs Program was enacted as a part of Creating Helpful Incentives to Produce Semiconductors (CHIPS) and Science Act of 2022 (as the Regional Technology and Innovation Hubs Program). The statute authorized \$10 billion for the program over five years. As part of the FY 2023 Consolidated Appropriations Act, Congress appropriated EDA \$500 million to launch the program.

The Tech Hubs Program seeks to ensure that the industries of the future start to grow and remain in the United States. This program will invest in U.S. regions that are focused on technologies within or across key technology focus areas.

On May 12, 2023, the Economic Development Administration (EDA) published the Tech Hubs Phase 1 Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) - the first of two phases. EDA will designate at least 20 Tech Hubs across the country and will separately award approximately \$15 million in strategy development grants to accelerate the development of future Tech Hubs. The Tech Hubs designation will be a widely recognized indicator of a region's potential for rapid technology - led economic growth.

Greater Salinas Advanced Air Mobility Coalition Proposal:

The emerging industry of advanced air mobility (AAM) and Electric Vertical Takeoff and Landing Aircraft (EVTOLs) is changing the world at a rapid pace, with varying form factors of aircraft enabling myriad new applications and industries. The form factors of aircraft range from consumer drones designed as children's toys to multi passenger all-electric aircraft and hydrogen powered commercial airliners, all designed to revolutionize air transportation.

For a variety of reasons, the greater Salinas Metropolitan Service Area (MSA) has become the nascent hub for several AAM manufacturers in the United States, leading to the highest concentration of AAM & EVTOL testing and manufacturing in the US, all within a 30-mile radius of downtown Salinas. An advantage of this region is the number of small under-utilized municipal airports within a two-hour drive of San Francisco and Silicon Valley and the fact that airspace over largely agricultural land and former military installations are less regulated. The region also has a

diverse topography, with immediately proximate deep ocean and near shore marine environments, coastal wetlands, arid and warm-temperate mountain ranges, and extensive diversity in agriculture crops, all serving as testing grounds for the development of vertical industries utilizing AAM technologies. Underlying all these environmental factors is the 100+/- mile distance from Silicon Valley and the SF Bay area, which makes this region ideal for the merger of human talent, a safe environment to iterate with new airborne technologies, and proximity to elite research universities such as UC Santa Cruz, UC Berkeley, and Stanford.

But that ~100-mile distance between the SF Bay area and Salinas is also vast in terms of commute time, culture, educational typologies, and culture. The Salinas Valley is a largely Latino region, comprised of smaller municipalities that orbit the city of Salinas, population ~160,000. Until 1994, the only public higher education institutions in Monterey and San Benito Counties were California Community Colleges (CCCs). With the closure of Fort Ord in 1994, \$2B in economic impact disappeared from Monterey County, the loss of which is still felt deeply in the communities that served and abutted Fort Ord. One of the municipal airports involved in the coalition and two of the universities are proximate to former military lands still designated as EPA Superfund sites; and the poverty rates in the three counties surrounding Salinas are amongst the highest in California.

The Salinas Valley Advanced Air Mobility Coalition (SVAAMC) proposes to overcome these challenges and advance the region by coalescing the collective energy of three of the U.S.'s leading transportation based AAM manufacturers, the largest concentration of marine science research facilities in the world, six of the world's leading research universities, a diverse coalition of largely Latinx workforce initiatives, the US military, several of the world's leading agricultural companies and all regional California Community Colleges (CCCs) in transforming this loose confederation of collaborators and competitors into a next generation Tech Hub centered in the greater Salinas MSA region.

The foundation of this vision is underway, with Joby Aviation, Archer Aviation and Wisk Aviation all testing and prototyping passenger AAMs at Salinas, Marina, and Hollister municipal airports, with smaller scale AAM piloting programs at CCCs, extensive marine science mapping and climate research initiatives within the Monterey Bay region (less than 20 miles from Salinas), and large-scale application of a variety of AAMs in various agricultural applications, utility infrastructure inspection, marine and coastal wetlands research and public safety initiatives.

In all these domains the greatest needs are workforce education and the creation of cross-sector standards for manufacturing, piloting, servicing, and charging these AAMs. Some of this work has begun via philanthropic funding, with an Irvine Foundation funded effort to upskill Salinas Valley workers into aerospace workers. The DART/Joby Advanced Manufacturing Apprenticeship Program (AMAP) has already demonstrated a 90% success rate in converting apprentices to full-time aerospace manufacturing workers. The program is on track for a second funding round and expansion in 2023-2025. An obvious need to meet the AAM workforce needs within the region, is the expansion of private workforce initiatives into large scale career development programs within public education. To this end, in the greater Salinas MSA, all four CCCs, Hartnell, Gavilan, Cabrillo and Monterey Peninsula College have committed to working with these leading AAM manufacturers to build specific curricular components into their degree and certificate programs.

The initial focus of this workforce coalition is the construction of a next-generation workforce training facility focused upon AAM manufacturing and infrastructure needs. The University of California, Santa Cruz, has a 170-acre site (UC MBEST) that directly abuts FAA regulated land at Marina Airport, making this an ideal site to develop the advanced manufacturing and service training required by this new industry. This site is located less than 10 miles from downtown Salinas

and Highway 101, less than 3 miles from the shoreline of Monterey Bay and is surrounded by agricultural land ideal for testing aircraft. The proposed use of grant funds for the Salinas Valley AAM Tech Hub application has five primary components:

- Building a next generation workforce training center at UC MBEST, focused on the needs of the AAM industry, that can accelerate learning of the new skills needed for this industry by a larger number of workers.
- Convening and collaborating with AAM companies and California Community
- Colleges to create a common curriculum to be delivered at regional CCCs, further accelerating the growth of the AAM workforce.
- Working with emerging commercial sectors utilizing AAMs to facilitate dialogue, provide management training, and assist in securing financing for promising companies through access to early stage and mainstream venture funding.
- Development of a series of apprentice and internship programs paid and unpaid, to integrate and accelerate on the job training with AAM companies.

July 13, 2023

Item No: **10f(2)**

Honorable Mayor and Members
of the Marina City Council

City Council Meeting
of July 18, 2023

**CITY COUNCIL TO CONSIDER ADOPTING RESOLUTION NO. 2023-,
SUPPORTING THE SALINAS VALLEY TECH HUB GRANT SUBMISSION
BY THE GREATER SALINAS VALLEY ADVANCED AIR MOBILITY
COALITION**

REQUEST:

It is requested that the City Council consider:

1. Adopting Resolution No. 2023-, supporting the Salinas Valley Tech Hub grant submission by the Greater Salinas Valley Advanced Air Mobility Coalition.

DISCUSSION:

Through the City's efforts to support retention and growth of Joby Aviation' as a key employer in the City of Marina, the City is a member of the newly designated Greater Salinas Valley Advance Air Mobility Coalition. This coalition has formed from the working group that has been focused on efforts to keep Joby's longer term large manufacturing efforts here. From this collaboration and focus of the many stakeholders (including CSUMB, UCMBEST, the City of Marina, MBEP, Go-BIZ , DART and more) has come the realization that there is a beginnings of a tech hub in the Advanced Air Mobility industry in Marina, Salinas, and Hollister and it is in the region's best interest to assist this industry to grow through workforce investment and training.

The Greater Salinas Valley Advanced Air Mobility Coalition is pursuing an Economic Development Agency (EDA) Tech Hub Grant for Advanced Air Mobility (AAM) workforce training. The Tech Hubs Program is an economic development initiative designed to drive regional technology-and innovation-centric growth by strengthening a region's capacity to manufacture, commercialize, and deploy critical technologies. The program, if a grant is awarded, will invest directly in regions with the assets, resources, capacity, and potential to transform into globally competitive innovation centers in approximately 10 years while catalyzing the creation of good jobs for workers at all skill levels.

The Tech Hubs Program was enacted as a part of Creating Helpful Incentives to Produce Semiconductors (CHIPS) and Science Act of 2022 (as the Regional Technology and Innovation Hubs Program). The statute authorized \$10 billion for the program over five years. As part of the FY 2023 Consolidated Appropriations Act, Congress appropriated EDA \$500 million to launch the program.

On May 12, 2023, the Economic Development Administration (EDA) published the Tech Hubs Phase 1 Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) - the first of two phases. EDA will designate at least 20 Tech Hubs across the country and will separately award approximately \$15 million in strategy development grants to accelerate the development of future Tech Hubs. The Tech Hubs designation will be a widely recognized indicator of a region's potential for rapid technology - led economic growth.

The proposed Greater Salinas Advanced Air Mobility Coalition EDA grant proposal and additional background is included as "EXHIBIT A." Support for this grant application and proposal will require minimal City staff time and no monetary commitment at this time.

Respectfully submitted,

Matt Mogensen
Assistant City Manager
City of Marina

REVIEWED/CONCUR:

Layne P. Long
City Manager
City of Marina