April 7, 2021

Dear Administrator Dickson:

The American Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials (AASHTO) and the National Association of State Aviation Officials (NASAO) commend you on the establishment of an Advanced Air Mobility (AAM) Integration Executive Council at the Federal Aviation Administration. It is important to provide additional support for this new generation aviation sector to ensure its long-term success and the scalability of Advanced Air Mobility for states and local communities.

As you stated, “Advanced Air Mobility is a rapidly emerging sector of the aerospace industry, and the FAA must bring together all of its expertise across the agency to facilitate the safe, scalable, and timely integration of these operations into the National Airspace System.” As you mentioned, to effectively facilitate this emerging sector, many aspects in addition to safety will need to be managed, including air traffic, airports, operations, licensing, domestic policy as well as international coordination. You will be aware that state and local governments will play an important role in the successful governance of the AAM sector. Land use, connections to local transportation networks, adaptation of existing infrastructure and development of new facilities, and integration into existing airspaces will all require close cooperation and planning at the state and local levels.

We ask that you form an advisory panel to include state departments of transportation and state aviation officials to work with the Advanced Air Mobility (AAM) Integration Executive Council to address policy and integration of this essential transportation service to both rural and urban communities. We look forward to helping you identify state transportation and aviation leaders who will be prepared to assist you and your team in this critical task.

Respectfully,

Jim Tymon
Executive Director
American Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials

Gregory Pecoraro
President and CEO
National Association of State Aviation Officials