UC Berkeley

FAA CAAT PROPOSAL

CENTER FOR ADVANCED AVIATION TECHNOLOGIES

STRATEGIC PROPOSAL

FAA CAAT: The Future of Advanced Air Mobility

The University of California, Berkeley, in partnership with UC Santa Cruz, Monterey Bay DART, ATAC, and multiple Original Equipment Manufacturers, present this proposal to establish the FAA Center for Advanced Aviation Technologies (CAAT).

This initiative leverages existing infrastructure, strategic partnerships, and proven research leadership to accelerate the safe integration of Advanced Air Mobility (AAM) into the National Airspace System (NAS).

- **Lead Institutions:** UC Berkeley, UC Santa Cruz, Monterey Bay DART, ATAC
- **AAM Ecosystem:** OEM actively testing eVTOL, autonomy, and hydrogen-electric aviation including Joby Aviation, Archer, Wisk, Reliable Robotics, ZeroAvia
- **State-of-the-Art Research Infrastructure:** ATAC AAM Lab (San Jose); Berkeley Space Center (NASA Ames); UCMBEST (Marina Airport)
- **Flight Demonstration Zones & Test Corridors:** Palo Alto-Hollister, Salinas-Monterey, Moffett-Hollister
- **Regulatory & FAA Alignment:** Supported by Caltrans, GoBiz, NASA Ames

UC Berkeley · ITS Berkeley Institute of Transportation Studies · Berkeley Space Center at NASA Research Park · CITRIS and the Banatao Institute · UC Santa Cruz · ATAC · DART · Caltrans

Joby · Archer · Reliable Robotics · skyway · wisk · ZeroAvia · TruWeather Solutions · California Business and Economic Development

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Why the Monterey Bay-South Bay Region?

The Monterey Bay-South Bay region is uniquely positioned as a leader in AAM research and deployment, with significant private investment, existing flight test operations, and partnerships with NASA Ames and Caltrans. The region has hosted over 1,000 eVTOL/AAM flights, with OEMs like Joby, Archer, and Wisk actively conducting tests. Additionally, public sector support from Caltrans and the Governor's Office of Business and Economic Development (GoBiz) ensures a favorable regulatory environment.

- **Infrastructure Ready**: Existing AAM labs, test corridors, and flight zones
- **OEM Presence:** Joby Aviation, Archer, Wisk, Reliable Robotics, ZeroAvia
- **Regional Investments:** $1B+ in private AAM investment in the region

CAAT Facilities & Testing Infrastructure

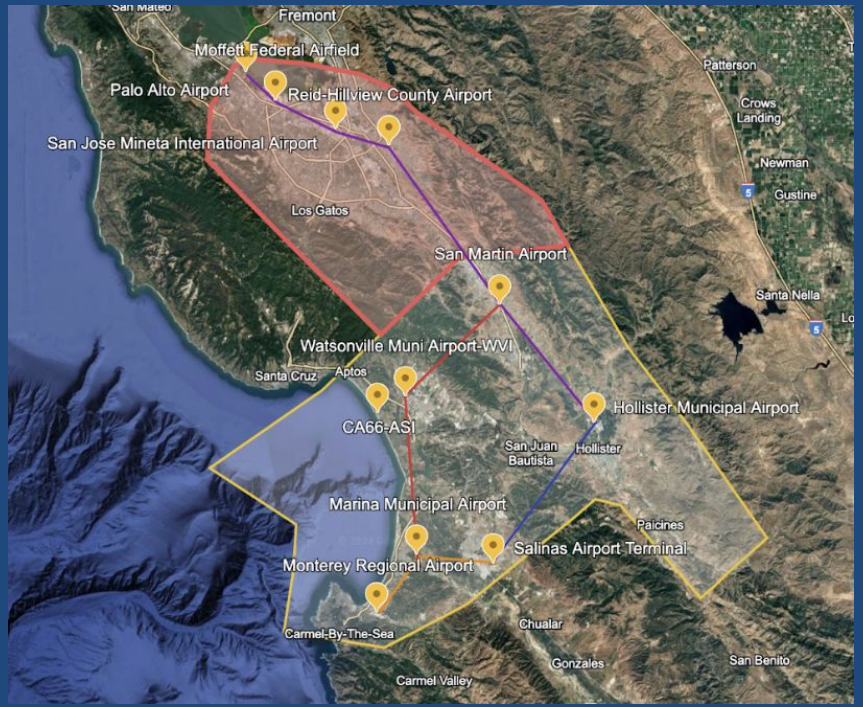
The proposed CAAT will operate out of state-of-the-art airspace laboratories including ATAC's AAM Laboratory, UC Santa Cruz's MBEST Research Park, and the Berkeley Space Center at NASA Ames, which are fully equipped for AAM simulation, flight testing, and data analysis.

- **ATAC AAM Lab:** (29,000 sqft) near San Jose International Airport
- **Berkeley Space Center:** (Up to 50,000 sqft) at NASA Ames
- **UCMBEST:** (8,000 sqft) adjacent to Marina Airport, OEM research hub

Flight Demo Zones & Test Corridors

The CAAT initiative will leverage two flight demonstration zones and multiple test corridors to evaluate AAM operations under diverse airspace conditions.

- Zone 1 (Red) covers urban, controlled airspace around San Jose International, Moffett Federal Airfield, and Reid-Hillview, focusing on urban integration and ATC interactions.
- Zone 2 (Yellow) includes Monterey, Salinas, and Hollister airports, supporting suburban and rural AAM testing.
- Dedicated test corridors will facilitate long-range eVTOL flights and autonomous operations.

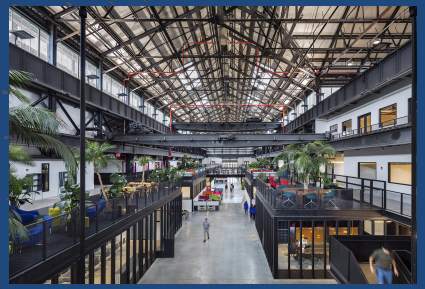


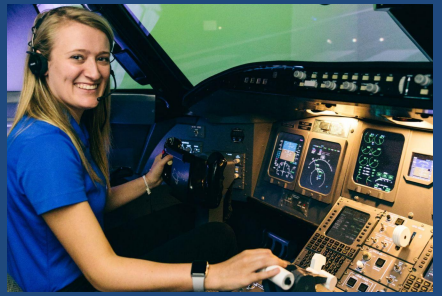
Industry & OEM Partnerships

The CAAT proposal is strengthened by partnerships with major AAM industry leaders. Joby Aviation, Archer, Wisk, and ZeroAvia have active flight test programs in the region, contributing valuable real-world operational data. State support from Caltrans and GoBiz ensures alignment with transportation policy objectives, while academic partners bring expertise in airspace simulation, autonomous systems, and AAM regulatory development.

- Public-Private Collaboration: UC Berkeley, UC Santa Cruz, Monterey Bay DART, ATAC
- Leading AAM Partners: Joby Aviation, Archer, Wisk, Reliable Robotics, ZeroAvia, Skyway
- Caltrans & GoBiz Support for Regional AAM Development

Innovation, Regulation, and Sustainability





Research & Development Capabilities

The CAAT will lead research in airspace management, AI-driven traffic optimization, and FAA-certified testing. Its labs will support simulations, weather and noise modeling, and data-driven policy development.

Regulatory & Policy Support

The CAAT is backed by Caltrans, NASA Ames, and GoBiz to align AAM with state and national airspace policies. These partnerships drive certification pathways, safety standards, and operational guidelines essential for large-scale deployment.

Workforce Development & Public Engagement

The CAAT will invest in AAM workforce training through UC Berkeley and UC Santa Cruz. The CAAT will support technical education and public engagement efforts including annual AAM summits, fostering industry and community collaboration.

Sustainability & Clean Aviation

The CAAT advances zero-emission aviation through hydrogen-electric propulsion. The ARCHES initiative, a $1.2B investment, supports ZeroAvia's hydrogen-powered flight research.

Next Steps & Call to Action

The FAA CAAT initiative represents a major step forward for AAM research, testing, and commercialization. By securing FAA recognition and expanding industry partnerships, CAAT will position California as a global leader in AAM innovation.

- Secure FAA Designation for CAAT in Monterey Bay-South Bay
- Expand OEM & Government Partnerships for Future Research
- Leverage FAA, State, and Industry Funding for Implementation