



# AGENDA ITEM REPORT

## Forsyth County

**MEETING DATE:** May 6, 2021

**CONTRACT  
NUMBER:**

**STAFF  
CONTACT:**

**DEPARTMENT:**

**SUBJECT:** RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING AN APPROPRIATION OF FUNDS TO GREATER WINSTON-SALEM INC. FOR CONTINUED DEVELOPMENT AND REFINEMENT OF THE ADVANCED AIR MOBILITY STRATEGIES FOR AN UNMANNED AIRCRAFT SYSTEM INDUSTRY IN FORSYTH COUNTY (AIRPORT DEPARTMENT)

**ATTACHMENTS:** [Resolution-2021-100 - unmanned aircraft system funds- Chamber - Pdf](#)

### EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

#### BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

This item is necessary to approve another agreement with Greater Winston-Salem Inc. to continue development of the UAS industry and to appropriate \$150,000 of unreserved Airport fund balance for this purpose. Specific deliverables are the continued development of an Unmanned Traffic Management Concept of Operations building on and refining the preliminary recommendations from the Federal Aviation Administration and North Carolina Department of Transportation; development of a proposal to submit to NASA's National Campaign to include Winston-Salem and Forsyth County as a partner location for Advanced Air Mobility focused research and testing, and preparation of Requests for Proposals for specific capital infrastructure investment necessary to meet industry requirements including radar and weather sensing equipment.

**RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING AN APPROPRIATION OF FUNDS TO GREATER WINSTON-SALEM INC. FOR CONTINUED DEVELOPMENT AND REFINEMENT OF THE ADVANCED AIR MOBILITY STRATEGIES FOR AN UNMANNED AIRCRAFT SYSTEM INDUSTRY IN FORSYTH COUNTY (AIRPORT DEPARTMENT)**

**WHEREAS** the Aerotropolis study regarding the future of aviation in Forsyth County was created with broad community participation and was facilitated by Greater Winston-Salem Inc.;

**WHEREAS** the Aerotropolis study determined that the development of Smith Reynolds Airport and the aviation sector is a key economic development strategy and the study specifically identified the growth of the Unmanned Aircraft Systems (UAS) industry as a major growth area in the aviation sector and an opportunity for Forsyth County;

**WHEREAS** Forsyth County contracted with Greater Winston-Salem Inc. for the development of a UAS strategic plan and a report has been finalized and distributed highlighting further actions necessary to develop the UAS industry in Forsyth County; and

**WHEREAS** Greater Winston-Salem Inc. has requested \$150,000 from Forsyth County to continue intensive engagement with community partners and technical regulators and research and to evaluate specific capital infrastructure investments necessary to develop the UAS industry in Forsyth County, including finalizing development of an Unmanned Traffic Management Concept of Operations, developing a proposal to NASA's National Campaign to include Forsyth County and Winston-Salem as a partner location for Advanced Air Mobility focused research and testing, and preparing Requests for Proposal for specific capital infrastructure investment necessary to meet industry requirements including radar and weather sensing equipment;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, by the Forsyth County Board of Commissioners that the Chairman or County Manager and Clerk to the Board are hereby authorized to execute, on behalf of Forsyth County, an agreement with Greater Winston-Salem Inc. in the amount of \$150,000, over a five-month period, to finalize development of an Unmanned Traffic Management Concept of Operations, develop a proposal to NASA's National Campaign to include Forsyth County and Winston-Salem as a partner location for Advanced Air Mobility focused research and testing, and preparation of Requests for Proposal for specific capital infrastructure investment necessary to meet industry requirements including radar and weather sensing equipment, subject to a pre-audit certificate thereon by the County Chief Financial Officer, where applicable, and approval as to form and legality by the County Attorney.

Adopted this 6th day of May 2021.