Florida's Advanced Air Mobility (AAM)

February 26, 2026

Jamie Driggers, P.E.

What is Advanced Air Mobility (AAM)?

Rapidly-emerging new sector of the aviation industry that aims to safely and efficiently integrate highly automated aircraft into U.S. airspace. AAM is not a single technology but rather a collection of new and emerging technologies applied to aviation, particularly in new aircraft types. AAM is designed to deliver agile, affordable, and accessible flights to move people and goods and drive infrastructure development, employment, and innovation

- Electric, hydrogen, and hybrid propulsion
- More piloting automation

Leverages cutting-edge aircraft technology to create new modal solutions.

What is AAM?

UAS
VTOL
STOL
CTOL
Intracity
Intercity
Suburban
Commuter
Airport-Shuttle

Type of Operations

Passenger

Goal: Save People Time!

Cargo

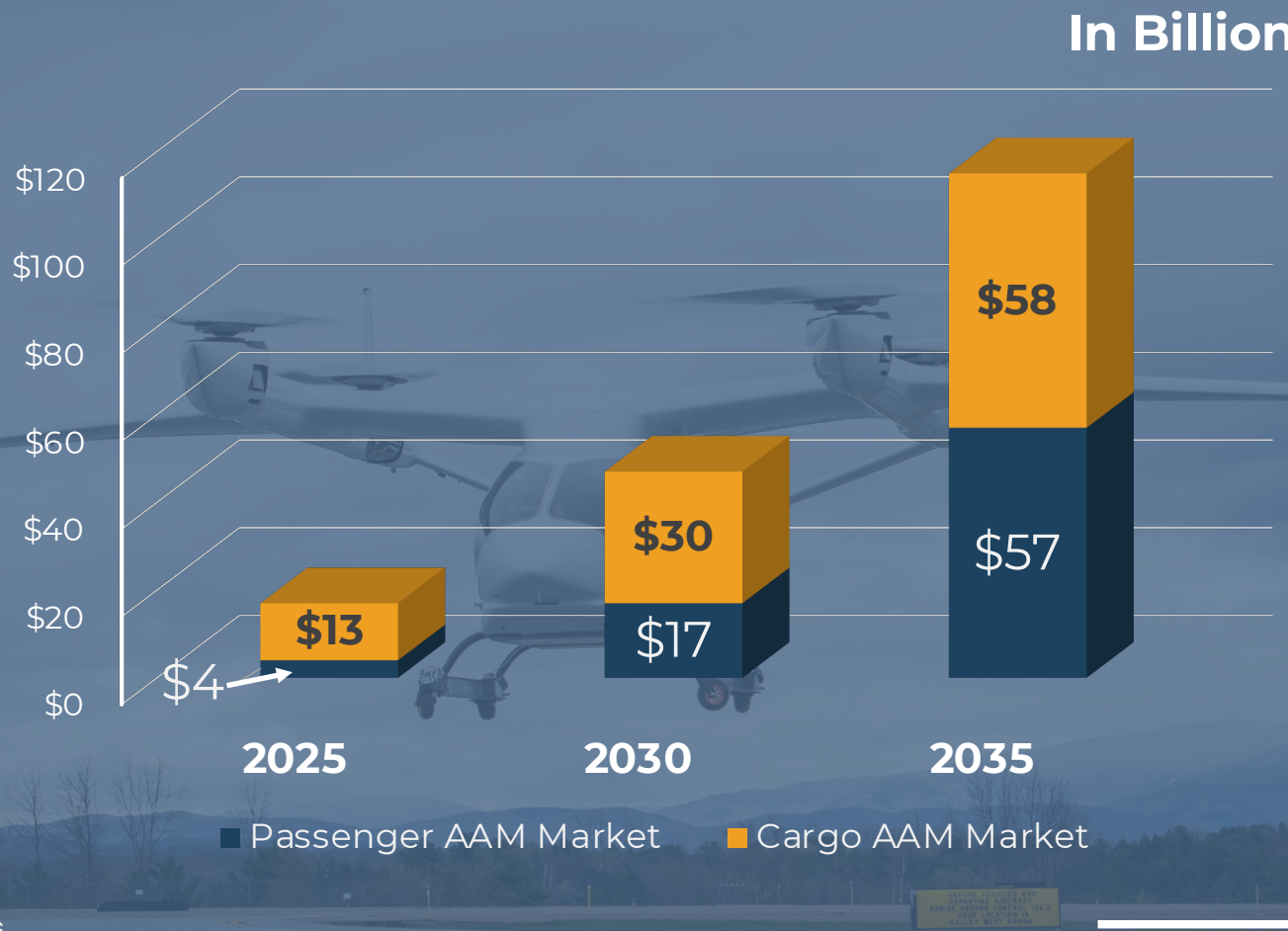
Goal: Transport Time Sensitive Cargo

Emergency Response

Goal: Transport People, Organs, and Medical Supplies

FDOT

AAM Market Size



Source Deloitte and AIA analysis

What Drives AAM?

- Rapid technology maturation is enabling new aircraft types and models
- Strong capital investment and policy alignment are accelerating change
- Expanded accessibility and more infrastructure unlock new mobility value
- Demand is being driven by consumer behavior, data, and market expectations

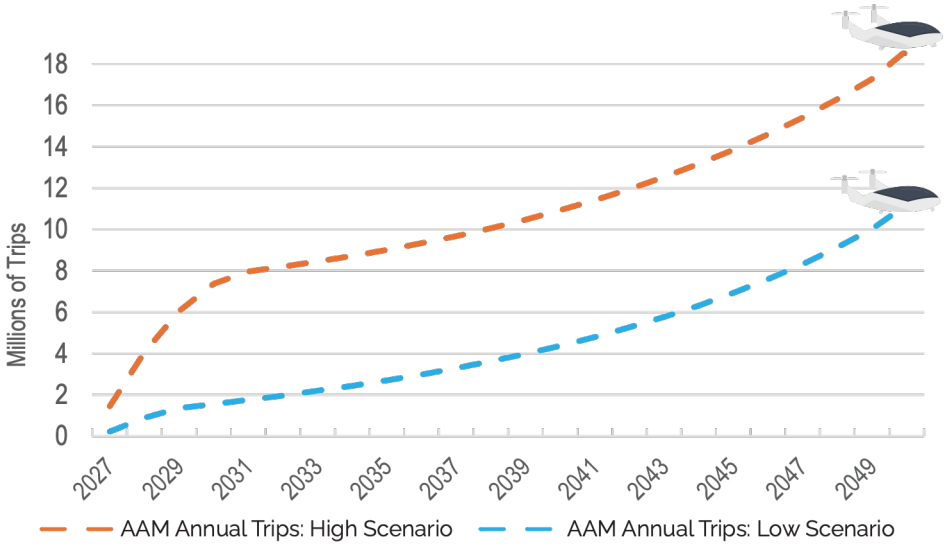
FDOT
Why AAM?

Passenger Travel Market
AAM Ridership Potential
Freight Travel Market
AAM Freight Tonnage Potential
FDOT
BUSINESS CASE
TO ENSURE PROFITABLE ADVANCED AIR MOBILITY SERVICES

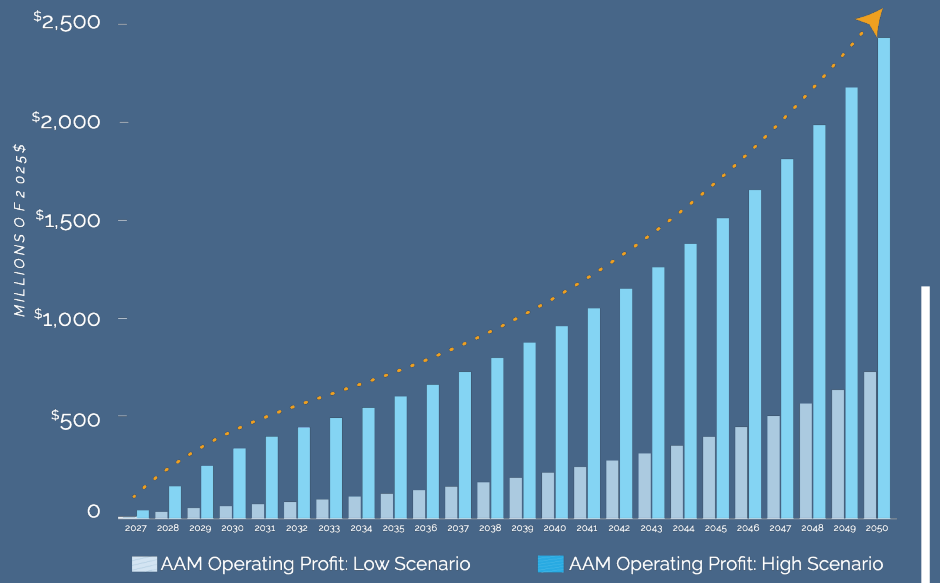
Data Driven Approach

Drive Market Priorities

AAM Passenger Trip Projections



Potential Gross Operating Profit Range



FDOT

FDOT
Why Florida?

Historical Timeline

2025

FEBRUARY
FDOT publishes AAM Toolkit for Local Governments

APRIL
Joby conducts proof of concept demonstrations at MacDill Air Force Base

JUNE
Governor DeSantis signs aerospace and transportation legislation to strengthen Florida's industry

OCTOBER
Governor DeSantis announces SunTrax Air, nation's first AAM aerial test bed

NOVEMBER
FDOT unveiled AAM Business Plan at FAV Summit

2024

MARCH – JUNE
FDOT hosts AAM Tabletop Exercises

APRIL
LIFT Aircraft's "Hexa" conduct flights at Lakeland Airport during SUN 'n FUN

SEPTEMBER
FDOT publishes AAM Land Use Compatibility and Site Approval Guidebook

FDOT participates in commissioning of BETA Technologies' electric aircraft charging infrastructure

BETA installs chargers at Tallahassee, Gainesville, and Bob Sikes airports

2023

AUGUST
FDOT publishes Working Group Report and Recommendations

SEPTEMBER
FDOT publishes Public Outreach Plan

OCTOBER
BETA Technologies' aircraft "ALIA" conducts capabilities demonstration at Eglin Air Force Base

NOVEMBER
Volocopter conducts Florida's first crewed, electric VTOL (eVTOL) demonstration flight with their Volocopter 2X in Tampa

FDOT establishes AAM Advisory Committee

2022

JUNE
FDOT publishes AAM Roadmap and Recommended Standards

SEPTEMBER
FDOT publishes Airport Compatibility Reports for 32 airports

NOVEMBER 2022 - AUGUST 2023
FDOT hosts AAM Working Group meetings

2021

DECEMBER
Florida begins initial strategic planning for AAM

AAM Execution

Florida has assembled the most comprehensive AAM execution framework in the United States, integrating:

- Legislative authority and funding mechanisms
- Planning complete
- A statewide aerial network
- Dedicated AAM research and testing facilities
- Phased operational deployment plans
- A formal workforce development pipeline
- Operational Timeline

Florida's Vision

For Advanced Air Mobility

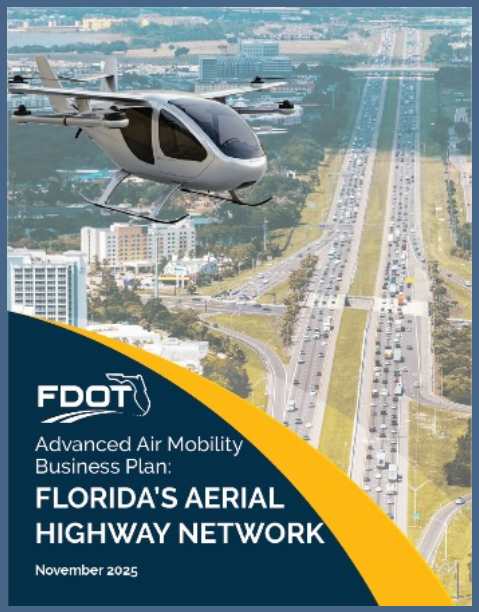
SENATE BILL 1662

Signing of SB 1662 committed Florida to advancing this new mode of transportation

Florida AAM Publications

JUN 2025

NOV 2025



JAN 2026

LATE 2026 Commercial AAM Services **Take Flight**

FDOT

FLORIDA'S AERIAL HIGHWAY NETWORK

PHASE ONE

PHASE 1A - CENTRAL FLORIDA I-4 CORRIDOR

City Centers: Sarasota, St. Petersburg/Clearwater, Tampa, Lakeland, Auburndale, Sebring, Kissimmee, Orlando, Cocoa/Melbourne, Daytona Beach

Airports: Sarasota Bradenton Intl Airport, St. Pete–Clearwater Intl Airport, Tampa Intl Airport, Tampa Executive Airport, Lakeland Linder Intl Airport, SunTrax, Sebring Regional Airport, Kissimmee Gateway Airport, Orlando Intl Airport, Orlando Executive Airport, Orlando Sanford Intl Airport, Space Coast Regional Airport, Melbourne Orlando Intl Airport, Daytona Beach Intl Airport

PHASE 1B - PORT ST. LUCIE TO MIAMI

City Centers: Port St. Lucie, Stuart, West Palm Beach, Fort Lauderdale, Miami-Opalocka, Miami

Airports: Treasure Coast Intl Airport, Witham Field Airport, Palm Beach Intl Airport, Fort Lauderdale–Hollywood Intl Airport, Miami–Opa locka Executive Airport, Miami Intl Airport, Miami Executive Airport

PHASE 1C - TAMPA TO NAPLES / MIAMI TO KEY WEST

City Centers: Fort Myers, Naples, Homestead, Marathon, Key West

Airports: Southwest Florida Intl Airport, Naples Municipal Airport, Homestead ARB, Florida Keys Marathon Intl Airport, Key West Intl Airport

PHASE 1D - PENSACOLA TO TALLAHASSEE

City Centers: Pensacola, Tallahassee

Airports: Pensacola Intl Airport, Tallahassee Intl Airport

PHASE TWO

PHASE 2A - DAYTONA BEACH TO JACKSONVILLE

City Centers: St. Augustine, Jacksonville

Airports: Northeast Florida Regional Airport, Jacksonville Intl Airport

PHASE 2B - SEBRING OUT EAST AND WEST

PHASE 2C - ORLANDO TO LAKE CITY / TAMPA TO TALLAHASSEE

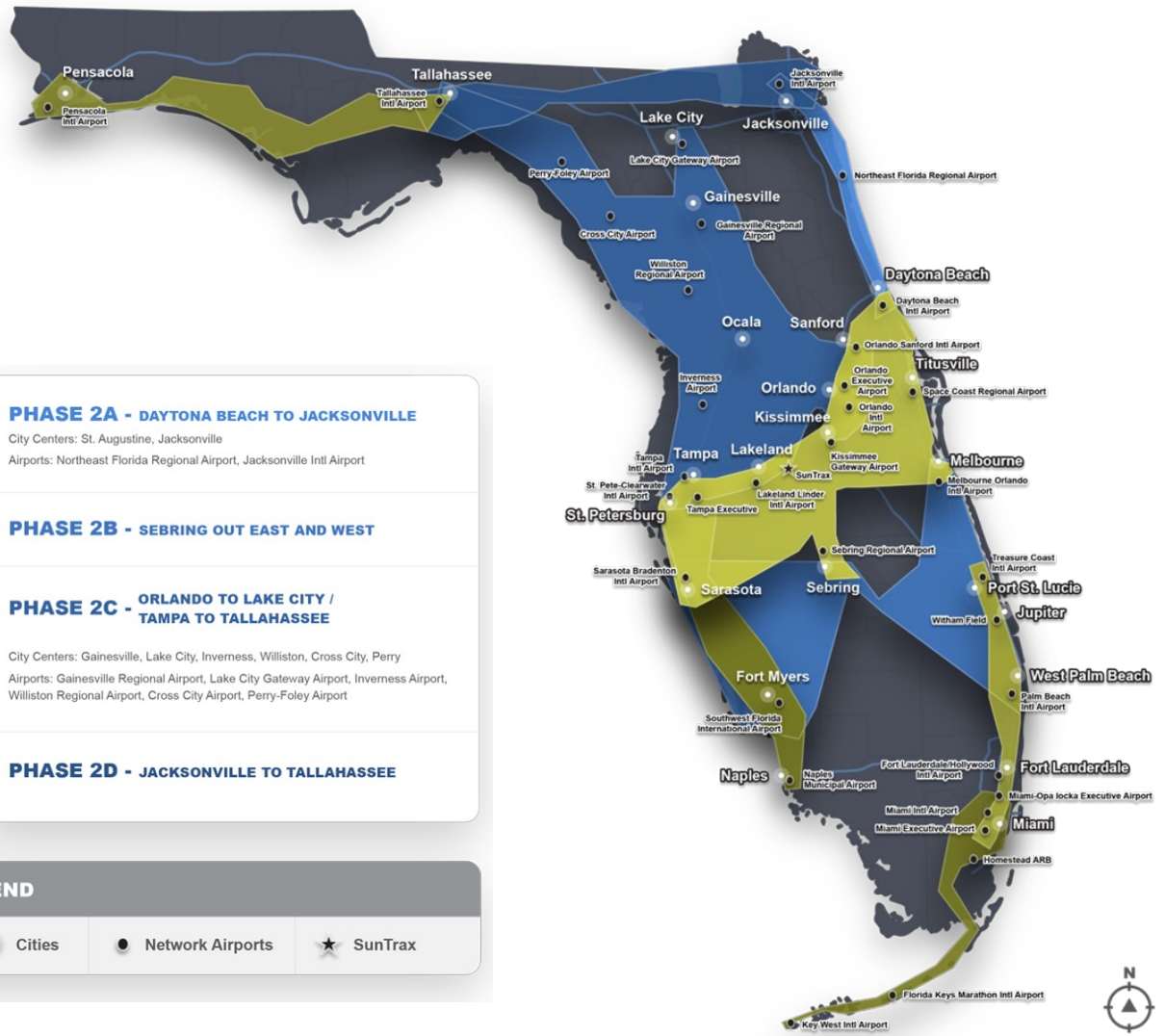
City Centers: Gainesville, Lake City, Inverness, Williston, Cross City, Perry

Airports: Gainesville Regional Airport, Lake City Gateway Airport, Inverness Airport, Williston Regional Airport, Cross City Airport, Perry-Foley Airport

PHASE 2D - JACKSONVILLE TO TALLAHASSEE

LEGEND

Cities | Network Airports | SunTrax



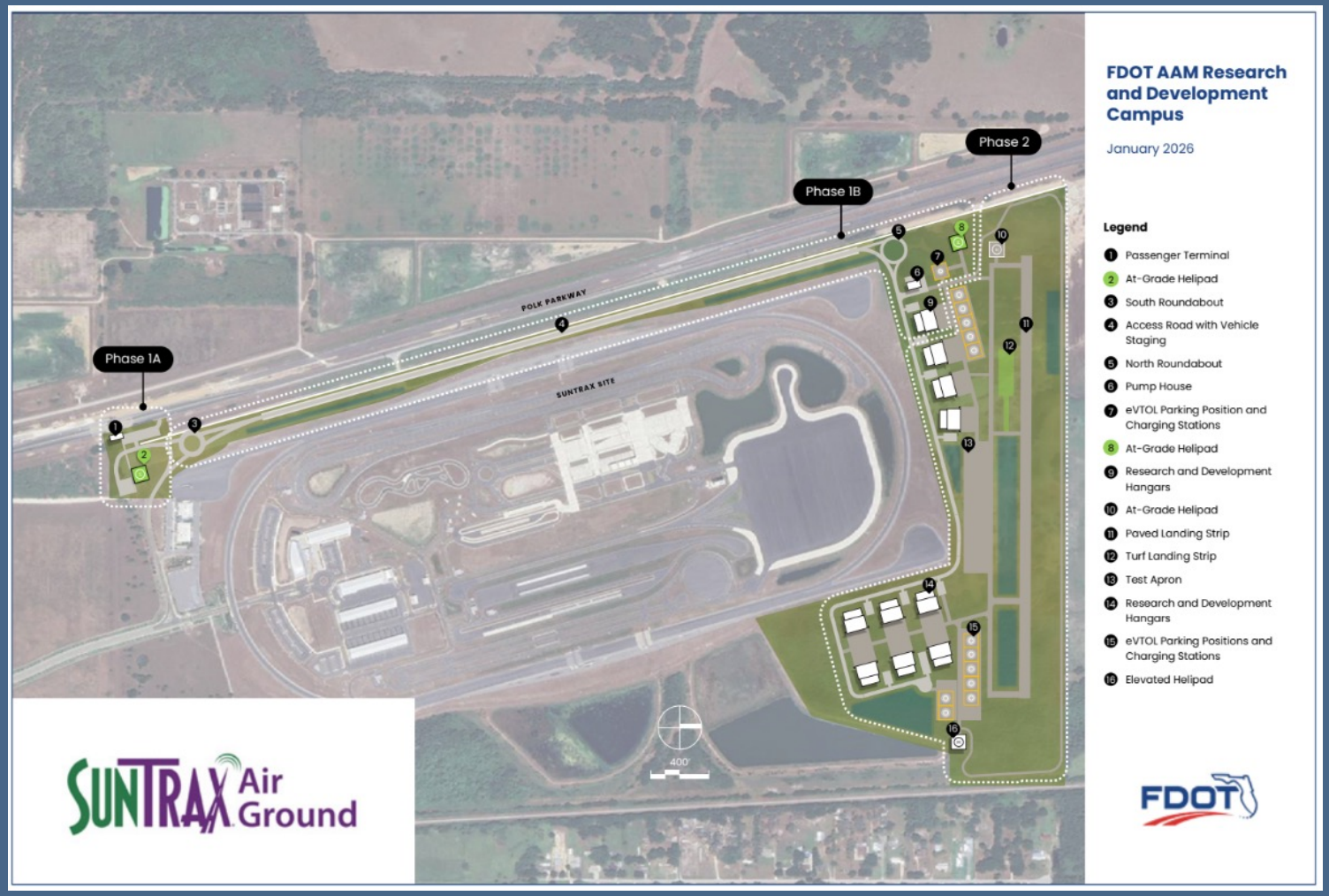
SunTrax Ground Air UAS

SUNTRAX Air Ground

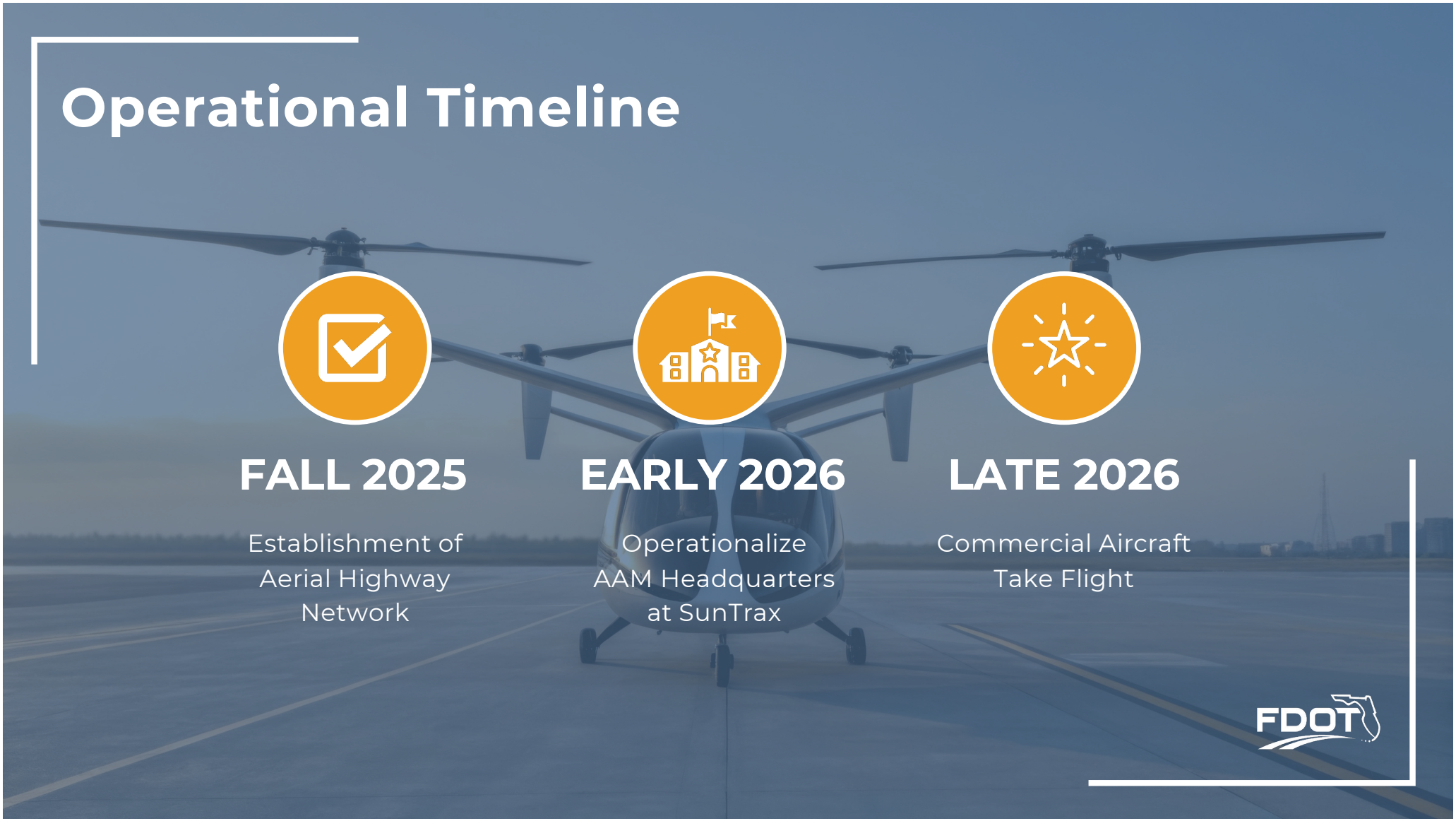
- Serves as a premier testing ground for Advanced Air Mobility and autonomous, connected and electric vehicles
- Designed to centralize research, development, and testing of cutting-edge transportation technologies in a real-world environment

First Research & Development Facility in the U.S. for Both Surface & Air Technology

SunTrax Air


Phase 1A
Phase 1B
Phase 2
POLK PARKWAY
SUNTRAX SITE
400'
SUNTRAX Air Ground
FDOT AAM Research and Development Campus
January 2026
Legend
1 Passenger Terminal
2 At-Grade Helipad
3 South Roundabout
4 Access Road with Vehicle Staging
5 North Roundabout
6 Pump House
7 eVTOL Parking Position and Charging Stations
8 At-Grade Helipad
9 Research and Development Hangars
10 At-Grade Helipad
11 Paved Landing Strip
12 Turf Landing Strip
13 Test Apron
14 Research and Development Hangars
15 eVTOL Parking Positions and Charging Stations
16 Elevated Helipad
FDOT

Operational Timeline



FALL 2025

Establishment of Aerial Highway Network

EARLY 2026

Operationalize AAM Headquarters at SunTrax

LATE 2026

Commercial Aircraft Take Flight

THANK YOU
QUESTIONS?
FDOT