

# INNOVATION & AVIATION

2022 welcomed many new and impactful capital investments to the Detroit Region Aerotropolis. The Corporation Board's focus on building an innovation ecosystem by targeting advanced manufacturing and mobility industries led to multiple announcements including Aerostar Manufacturing, Romulus Trade Center, Our Next Energy (ONE) and multiple new partnership announcements at the American Center for Mobility.

The daily work of supporting greenfield expansion by actively marketing 6,000 acres of development-ready land centered in a world-class network of transportation infrastructure remains. However, the pathway to drive corporate expansion and new investment in our region has also moved into supporting mobility in the new aerospace economy.

Since 2020, the Aerotropolis communities joined efforts to build highways in the sky for advanced air mobility. This new infrastructure, grounded in authoritative municipal data, brought new advanced manufacturing prospects to the region. It also expanded on the multi-modal mobility network that is often a deciding factor when considering corporate expansion.

Our target industries, which include logistics, advanced manufacturing, and next-generation mobility are growing. Aerotropolis communities found a strong partner in the Michigan Economic Development Corporation (MEDC), the Office of Future Mobility and Electrification (OFME) and others.

Whether you are an Aerotropolis partner or a company looking to expand in Southeast Michigan, we invite you to explore this report to gain a better understanding of our region and join us in celebrating the successes of 2022.



## DAVID GLAAB



# THE AEROTROPOLIS ADVANTAGE

The Detroit Region Aerotropolis Development Corporation is a four-community, two-county public-private economic development partnership driving corporate expansion and new investments around Detroit Metro and Willow Run Airports.

### TRANSPORTATION & LOGISTICS NETWORK



### **DETROIT METROPOLITAN AIRPORT**

- » 18th busiest airport in North America
- » 35 million passengers per year
- » 1,100 flights per day
- » 140 non-stop destinations on four continents
- » 464 million pounds of cargo per year

#### WILLOW RUN AIRPORT

- » Leading "all cargo" airport in the USA
- » 200 million pounds of cargo per year
- » U.S. Customs operation on site
- » Corporate and charter flight hub
- » 24-hour service

### PORT OF DETROIT

» 29 terminals handle 17 million tons of cargo every year

### INTERNATIONAL GATEWAY

» 2<sup>nd</sup> busiest border crossing in North America, providing 2 bridges and a rail tunnel to Canada

### AMERICAN CENTER FOR MOBILITY

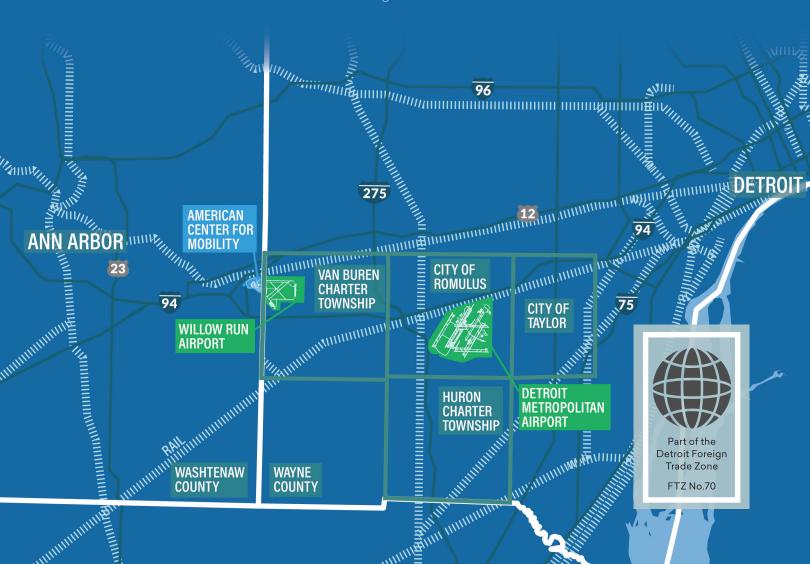
- » 335-acre test facility for connected and autonomous vehicles
- » 2.5-mile highway loop, entrance/exit ramps, reconfigurable intersection, four-seasons testing











# MARKETING & ADVERTISING

In 2022, the Aerotropolis team worked closely with the Wayne County Airport Authority to promote economic development. It helped facilitate business attraction and site selection efforts at DTW and Willow Run: https://www.metroairport.com/.

The Aerotropolis team placed 23 advertisements in 13 publications, reaching millions of readers worldwide in print and digital formats. The target audience of these increased efforts are C-suite decision makers, site consultants, and corporate real estate professionals.

### MEDIA COVERAGE

- Ann Arbor News
- CBS 62 Michigan Matters
- City of Taylor Sportsplex
- Crain's Detroit Business
- Crain's Chicago Business
- Crain's New York Business
- DBusiness Magazine
- Detroit Driven
- Detroit Free Press
- Detroit News
- FOX 2 News
- GovLoop
- Livability.com
- Michigan.com
- MI Tech News
- MLIVE
- WDIV Click on Detroit
- WDIV Live in the D
- WhereNext Magazine

# **Together**

WITH DETROIT REGION AEROTROPOLIS, WE DRIVE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT IN OUR REGION.

### The WAYNE COUNTY

**AIRPORT AUTHORITY** drives

economic activity. Its airports are not only responsible for creating jobs, but also the state. The world-class Detroit Metro Airport is one of the world's leading air transportation hubs with more than 1,100 flights per day to and



#### **WILLOW RUN AIRPORT**

is an international cargo and general aviation facility. This premier location is surrounded by 6,000 acres of development-ready land, centered with access to secure, timely, and reliable supply chain and logistics infrastructure.

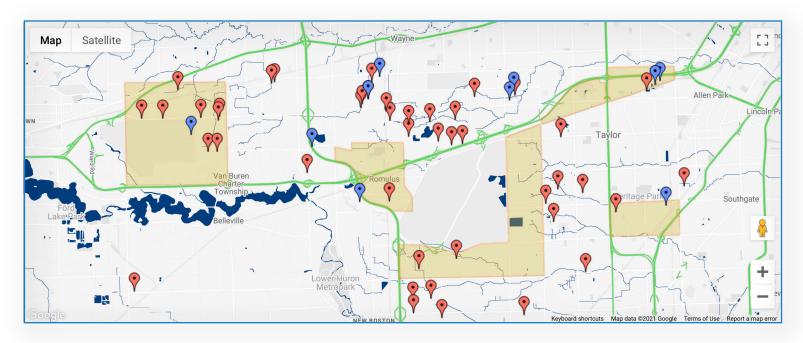




# BUSINESS ATTRACTION AND EXPANSION

One of the pillars of the Aerotropolis' business development strategy is connecting with our target audience. In 2022, the Aerotropolis submitted over 228 sites (10+ acre sites noted in red below) to compete for high quality jobs in the region. The blue marks below indicate vacant industrial properties that the Aerotropolis team markets daily.

Working with the Michigan Economic Development Corporation, Detroit Regional Partnership, Wayne County and the Aerotropolis communities we have built a strong team approach to economic development.



VISIT **DETROITAERO.ORG/PROPERTIES/** TO ACCESS INDIVIDUAL PROPERTY DATA SHEETS.





# BUILDING HIGHWAYS IN THE SKY

Since January 2020, Detroit Aerotropolis licensed the Airspace Link AirHub platform to establish and test a new low altitude drone infrastructure in the region. The complete AirHub platform including AirHub for Pilots and AirHub for Government was developed and implemented for all four Aerotropolis communities.

Data from the communities, county, state, local and commercial sources were collected, processed, and analyzed to identify relevant hazards and risks associated with UAS operations occurring within Aerotropolis used for building safe "Highways in the Sky" that are in harmony with Aerotropolis community interests.

In partnership with Michigan's Office of Future Mobility and Electrification (OFME) Aerotropolis supported an aerial demonstration titled, Operation Miracle Mile! As the state looks to become a leader in this emerging industry, the event helped attendees better understand and prepare for the logistical complexities, rigorous safety requirements, and how to leverage the state's manufacturing know-how to build the advanced air mobility industry.

In June, the Aerotropolis communities came together for a demonstration of advanced air mobility at the City of Taylor Beaumont Hospital. The demonstration included Airspace Link, Mission GO, MEDC, Michigan Office of Future Mobility and Electrification, Taylor Beaumont Hospital, Detroit Region Aerotropolis, Wayne County, City of Taylor and others.

- The drone operator, Mission GO (https://www.missiongo.io/), provided an unmanned aircraft system (UAS) solution for critical medical and commercial cargo to the team.
- Airspace Link identified the City of Taylor Beaumont Hospital as a UAS station/nest for base operations through their AirHub platform.
- Taylor Beaumont provided helipad access to Mission GO and the City of Taylor published an advisory of drone operations in advance of operation through the AirHub Connect platform.
- The Taylor Beaumont clinical staff member loaded a medical box onto the aircraft. Mission GO then flew the aircraft from helipad, in a repeated closed-circuit route, over open grounds east of helipad, for approximately 1 mile, and then landed back on helipad.



### **PRESS HIGHLIGHTS**

CBS62 NEWS: KROGER DELIVERY ARRIVES IN GREATER DETROIT REGION

DBUSINESS MAGAZINE: WORK BEGINS ON 171-ACRE ROMULUS TRADE CENTER, 1,100 JOBS PLANNED

CRAIN'S DETROIT BUSINESS: WARREN EVANS, WAYNE COUNTY'S GAME CHANGER



# BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT SUCCESS

In July 2022, Our Next Energy, a Michigan-based energy storage company, is investing \$1.6 billion to build a battery manufacturing plant in Wayne County. The battery cell manufacturing campus, named ONE Circle, is expected to create more than 2,000 jobs. Production is expected to begin at the newly constructed 659,589 square foot building in 2024.

"We are excited to have a site that is being considered for this transformative clean energy manufacturing project. We are well positioned in a region that is widely known as the birthplace of automotive innovation," said Van Buren Township Supervisor Kevin McNamara. "Our talented residents, our proximity to the Willow Run and Detroit Metropolitan Airports, and our strong community amenities make Van Buren Township a terrific place to do this kind of business."

"Wayne County is the center of the nation's automotive industry and the development of electric vehicles. This iconic investment in the new battery plant demonstrates why we're also the preferred location for companies who wish to drive the automotive supply chain of the future." said Warren C. Evans, Wayne County Executive.







# COMMUNITIES & PARTNERS

Regional economic development is only as strong as the individual parties that comprise "the region" and the Detroit Region Aerotropolis Development Corporation is no exception.

Our success in 2022 and beyond would not be possible without the continued collaboration with and commitment of our communities and partners. Each of the following communities, counties, and organizations — both public and private are critical to the success of our business attraction efforts. To each, we say thank you!

"2022 BROUGHT LARGE SCALE MANUFACTURING OPERATIONS TO AEROTROPOLIS, INCLUDING OUR NEXT ENERGY (ONE) AND AEROSTAR MANUFACTURING. IT IS BECAUSE OF STRONG PUBLIC-PRIVATE PARTNERSHIPS LIKE THE DETROIT REGION AEROTROPOLIS THAT WE ARE ABLE TO CELEBRATE THESE SUCCESS IN 2022 AND BEYOND."

### - DAVID GLAAB, CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD



**CITY OF ROMULUS** 



**CITY OF TAYLOR** 



HURON CHARTER TOWNSHIP



MICHIGAN ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION



VAN BUREN TOWNSHIP



WASHTENAW COUNTY



**WAYNE COUNTY** 



WAYNE COUNTY AIRPORT AUTHORITY



**DTE ENERGY** 

