



NASA Langley Research Center, Hampton

VEDP AEROSPACE UPDATE

January 29, 2026

VEDP

Virginia
Economic
Development
Partnership
VEDP.org

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT: POLICIES AND PROGRAMS DESIGNED TO ENCOURAGE GROWTH IN JOBS, WAGES, AND INVESTMENT

VEDP accomplishes this through:



Encouraging **coordination** of economic development efforts among local, regional, and state partners



Collaborating with localities to develop **project-ready sites** for manufacturing and supply chain projects



Administering **performance-based incentives** that encourage job creation and capital investment



Providing **grants or custom workforce solutions** to address recruitment and training needs, and **analysis and insight** on education and labor market alignment



Developing recommended **economic development policies and strategies** to position Virginia and its regions for growth



Encouraging and assisting the **retention and expansion** of existing Virginia firms



Assisting Virginia companies to establish and/or expand international sales (i.e., **trade development**)



Conducting **research** to understand and effectively present Virginia's competitive advantages



Marketing Virginia to raise awareness of the Commonwealth's advantages for business and cultivate new leads



Recruiting out-of-state firms to select Virginia for new job-creating projects

FY25-29 TRANSFORMATIONAL GOALS FOR THE COMMONWEALTH

1 Robust State Growth

Position Virginia to achieve a growth rate among that of the top 10 states in the U.S.

2 Every Region Wins

Ensure that every region participates in the growth of the Commonwealth

3 Best State Business Climate

Cultivating a leading business climate and sector-specific ecosystems

4 Top State for Talent

Establish Virginia as a top state for talent retention, attraction, development, and alignment

5 Most Innovative, Collaborative, and Effective State EDO

Solidify VEDP's position as one of America's top state EDOs through an innovative strategy, collaborative approach, and effective outcomes

Virginia's compelling business case

- The aerospace sector is a cornerstone of Virginia's economy, supporting thousands of high-paying jobs and driving innovation across industries
- Home to private and public industry leaders, research institutions, a distinctive spaceport, and innovative talent, Virginia is positioned to be a national leader in the high-growth emerging market centered on the commercialization of space
- Emerging technologies such as Advanced Air Mobility (AAM) and Uncrewed Aircraft Systems (UAS) promise to revolutionize transportation, logistics, and defense while opening new markets for economic expansion
- Innovation is outpacing policy, creating challenges in areas like airspace awareness and management, privacy, and safety standards
- Aerospace is a fiercely competitive global industry, with other states and countries vying for investment, talent, and market share



Aurora Flight Sciences

VEDP ALIGNMENT TO THE AVIATION AND AEROSPACE SECTORS

A&D Innovation

- Development, outreach, and relationships with top A&D Innovation target and anchor companies
- Strengthening Virginia's leading business environment by maintaining strategic partnerships across private sector, public institutions, and academia to foster industry innovation

A&D Manufacturing

- Development, periodic updates and outreach to top A&D Manufacturing target list
- Maintenance of strategic partnerships with DOAV, VSA, VAAMA, etc.
- Participation with and sponsorship of events hosted by AUVSI, AUSA, VABA, etc.

Maintenance, Repair, Overhaul (MRO)

- Development, periodic updates and outreach to top MRO target list
- Maintenance of strategic partnerships with industry leaders including Boeing, Dynamic Aviation, Rolls Royce, etc.



A DEDICATED TEAM FOCUSED ON AEROSPACE AND AVIATION



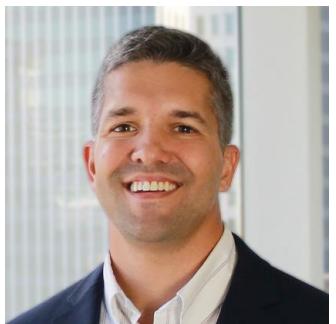
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Virginia has announced over 40 aerospace wins over the past five years

NOT COMPREHENSIVE



Global satellite communications company expands headquarters in Fairfax County



Global leader in launch services and space systems establishes new operations facilities



Full-service commercial and government services provider expands global headquarters



Global provider of defense and aerospace systems creates more than 180 new jobs



Integrated designer and manufacturer of unmanned aircrafts sets up in Manassas



Leading global avionics manufacturer establishes new R&D facility in Reston

CHALLENGES AND RISKS

**Workforce
Shortages and
Skills Gaps**

**Infrastructure
Limitations**

**Regulatory
Uncertainty**

**Global Competition
and Supply Chain
Vulnerabilities**

**Funding and
Investment Risk**

**Economic and
Market Volatility**

**Sustainability
Trends**

**Public Perception
and Community
Impact**

OPPORTUNITIES TO SUPPORT GROWTH

- Continue investing to boost inventory of project-ready sites (especially sites adjacent to distinctive aerospace assets)
- Support efforts to expand Virginia's aerospace talent pipeline through workforce initiatives and partnerships
- Continue supporting efforts to strengthen Virginia's aerospace infrastructure and business climate



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THANK YOU!

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