TO: BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

FROM: MONICA NINO, County Administrator

DATE: March 1, 2022

SUBJECT: AUTHORIZE the County Administrator, or designee, to negotiate and sign a joint use

agreement, approved as to form by County Counsel, with Contra Costa

Transportation Authority (CCTA) to allow for joint use of County owned or controlled property at the former Concord Naval Weapons Station and the County Airports.

Airport.

SPECIFIC REQUEST(S) OR RECOMMENDATION(S) & BACKGROUND AND JUSTIFICATION

RECOMMENDATION:

AUTHORIZE the County Administrator, or designee, to negotiate and sign a joint use agreement, approved as to form by County Counsel, with Contra Costa Transportation Authority (CCTA) to allow for joint use of County owned or controlled property at the former Concord Naval Weapons Station and the County Airports.

FISCAL IMPACT:

There is no direct fiscal impact from the actions at this time.

BACKGROUND:

The Contra Costa Transportation Authority (CCTA) is currently using land at the former Concord Naval Weapons Station that is scheduled to be transferred to the County in the future. CCTA has established an automated vehicle testing area, known as GoMentum Station, and would like to expand and continue the use of GoMentum Station when the land is transferred to the County. The County intends to use the land for a first responder training area, primarily for training for the Office of the Sheriff and ConFire, as well as a new headquarters for ConFire.

In addition, CCTA and their research partners have also indicated a desire to test other kinds of autonomous vehicles, including drones. CCTA would like to negotiate a use agreement with the County Airports to define the costs and terms of use to allow for expanded testing areas beyond the GoMentum Station area. The airports have an agreement in place already with another entity for testing at the airports and the CCTA agreement would be in addition to that agreement the terms would need to be negotiated to not infringe on the existing agreement.

The joint use agreement is designed to be a master agreement between Contra Costa County CCTA to allow CCTA to use land controlled by CCC for the benefit of research and testing of various vehicles by their partners in GoMentum Station project. The master agreement will set out the basic responsibilities of each party and will included separate attachments with the specific approval, consulting and use requirements and fee schedule if appropriate for each property covered by the agreement. Both parties agree that the use of the airport facilities is ultimately governed by the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) rules and that the parties will negotiate specific procedures, to be codified in separate attachments, that inform how CCTA will propose, and the County will evaluate any future use.



The intent is to establish the master agreement and an attachment specific to the current GoMentum Station area first, with a goal of completing the agreement by June, 2022. Representatives from the Office of the Sheriff and ConFire will work with the County Administrator and County Counsel to negotiate the agreement and attachment. This will allow time for the County to appoint a new airport director to negotiate the attachments to the master agreement specific to each airport with a goal of completing those by the end of 2022.

The attached term sheet shows the basic intent and responsibilities of each party. The County stands to benefit from this arrangement in several ways. GoMentum Station brings multiple technology companies to Contra Costa County for testing of their vehicles. CCTA has indicate that their partners wish to invest in building additional testing facilities at GoMentum Station which has the potential, if properly coordinated, of saving the County significant money by performing work that the County would otherwise have to perform once the land is transferred by the Navy to the County. Including the airports in the partnership would give CCTA the ability to market Contra Costa County as a premier testing area for multiple types of autonomous vehicles and bring additional testing partners to the County. Increased marketing could lead to an increase in airport revenues as additional users would pay the agreed upon costs for using airport facilities.