



## CALIFORNIA PILOTS ASSOCIATION

### **CalPilots announces its support for the Reid Hillview Airport White Paper 'FLYING INTO THE FUTURE'**

**Press Release** - Friday, March 26, 2021  
Douglas Rice - CalPilots Region 3 Vice-President

This foundational document, intended to assist policy makers with the difficult decision of balancing future air transportation needs with community interests, provides an educational background into the Urban Air Mobility (UAM) transportation system currently under development. These vehicles utilize technology developed right here in Silicon Valley and will provide autonomous electrified flight in an urban environment co-existing with and supported by current aviation facilities.

“The rapid growth of these new aviation systems underscores our continuing efforts to preserve and protect General Aviation airports and assets for the future. Once these facilities are lost, there is no way to recreate them in today’s congested urban environment” said Carol Ford, President of CalPilots.

According to the latest study, the Advanced Air Mobility market will generate sales of \$115 Billion annually by 2035 and provide over 280,000 jobs, or about 8 percent of the Aerospace and Defense workforce concluded consulting firm Deloitte and the Aerospace Industry Association.

Stifling these opportunities for future employment by closing airports, negatively impacting educational institutions, and limiting training activities is the wrong message to send. Cooperation with businesses in the field, development of STEM curriculums and cooperative programs, and creating public/private partnerships that enhance public awareness of the future benefits of aviation are crucial and creation of a positive culture of prosperity through this development is critical.

Sixty years ago, we could not comprehend how the creation of the silicon chip and the quantum leap in computing power it created would impact our valley. The advent of overnight delivery less than fifty years ago demonstrated how a viable air transportation system would affect our lifestyle into the 21st Century. Today, we accept both of these as the everyday norm.

Now we have the opportunity to preserve the assets necessary to create a next generation transportation system once only dreamt of in the minds of cartoon artists. Collaborative efforts need to begin now to utilize the facilities we have for the benefit of both the aviation community and the community at large. Our local airports are the backbone of the national aviation infrastructure and aviation transportation systems. Protect them so that they can provide significant dividends for generations to come.