

Board Report:

President Biden Arrives at Nantucket Memorial Airport, UMass Aviation & Research Center, Taunton Municipal Airport Administration Building Update and MassDOT Drone Program Highlighted at the 2021 AUVSI New England Conference

January 19, 2022

Presented to:

■ Board of Directors

Presented by:

■ Aeronautics Division

➤ Dr. Jeff DeCarlo

President Biden Arrives at Nantucket Memorial Airport

- Over the Thanksgiving break President Biden and First Lady Jill Biden vacationed on Nantucket
- The Nantucket Memorial Airport had three (3) weeks of advanced planning prior to the President's visit
- The airport dedicated one (1) full-time staff person to the coordination, planning, and safe execution of this event
- All airport staff were required to be at the airport to support operations during the arrival and departure of the President
- There were seven (7) assigned C-17 support aircraft arrivals and departures before and after the President's visit
- A Temporary Flight Restriction (TRF) was placed over Nantucket and portions of Martha's Vineyard and Cape Cod's airspace during the aircraft's arrival and departure



Air Force One taxiing into the airport

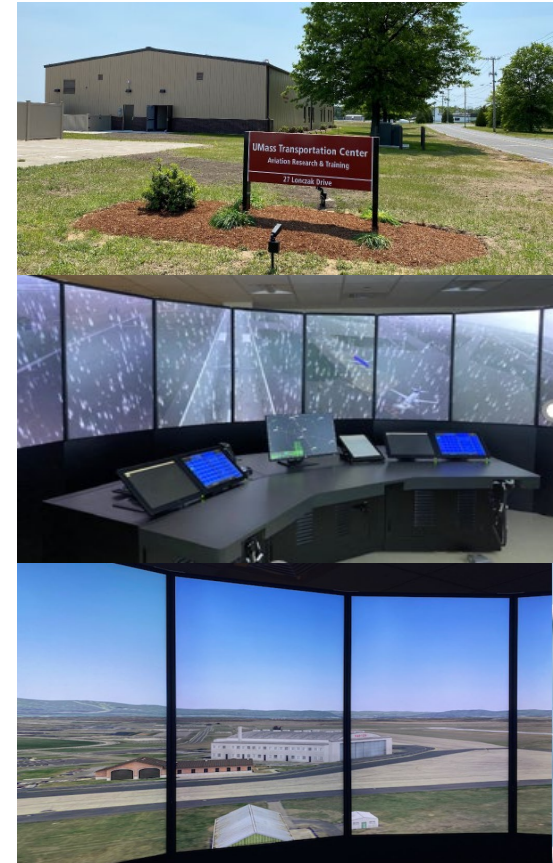


Air Force One taking off in the background with US Coast Guard Aircraft in foreground

UMass Aviation and Research Center



- The UMass Aviation and Research Center is an 8,000 Sq Ft facility (with the capacity to expand to 15,000 Sq Ft) located on a 1.5-acre parcel at the Westover Air Reserve Base
- The facility will provide Air Traffic Control (ATC) training to contract tower controllers, FAA customers and aviation students
- ATC simulator is up and running and UMass development team is working on creating terrain and maps for various airports
- The display simulates pilot/radar stations with a 360-degree view of the airfield
- Simulator can replicate weather and emergency situations, from both an aircraft operator and airfield driving point of view
- The facility is also being used as a research platform for unmanned aerial systems (UAS) air traffic management activity



Taunton Municipal Airport Administration Building Update

- The administration building is the sixth building in the on-going statewide airport administration program (SAAB). The cost of the new construction is approximately \$5M
- The new 5,500 Sq ft facility replaces an outdated building that has reached the end of its useful service life
- This project provides the airport and the City of Taunton with critical office space for the airport manager and staff. The layout includes shell space for a future restaurant buildout
- The majority of the building's structural steel frame has been erected and additional materials are scheduled for delivery
- The remaining steel will be installed in conjunction with the composite wood roof structure and the materials are anticipated to arrive on site in late January
- New water and sewer lines were completed as part of the project and the new gas line is approximately 25% complete



A crane transports a horizontal beam into place



Internal steel of the new administration building

MassDOT Drone Program Highlighted at the Association of Unmanned Vehicle Systems International (AUVSI) New England Conference



- The 2021 Annual AUVSI UAS Summit took place at Northeastern University's Burlington Innovation Campus, November 17, 2021, with both in-person and virtual attendees and speakers
- Event was co-hosted by AUVSI New England, National Defense Industrial Association (NDIA) and MassAutonomy, with strong participation from the MassDOT Drone Program team
- MassDOT led panels on Advanced Air Mobility (AAM), Counter-UAS (CUAS) and the regulatory challenges of conducting beyond visual line of sight (BVLOS) drone operations
- National and International exhibitors took part in the summit facilitating a high regional turnout for the event

