

Mid-Year Report from Oklahoma City Economic Development Foundation

FY 2025-2026 Oklahoma County

Timeframe Covered: July 1, 2025 – December 31, 2025

Performance Metric	Progress Indicators
<p>Tinker AFB/FAA Strategic Support & Sector Programming</p> <p>Provide staff support to optimize Tinker Air Force Base operations. Staff effort will give particular attention to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Protecting existing base operations and missions • Supporting the growth of base missions • Supporting physical infrastructure investments to protect and secure base operations. <p>Provide staff support to ensure the continued success of the FAA Mike Monroney Aeronautical Center (MMAC) and other local Federal government employers. Staff will provide:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Activity report of key efforts to support tinker Air Force Base operations during the fiscal year. • Updates on key efforts to support the Oklahoma 	<p>Tinker AFB Update:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Staff attended the Change of Command ceremony when Brig. Gen. Lindsay Droz succeeded Brig. Gen. Brian Moore as commander of the OKC Air Logistics Complex (OC-ALC). Lt. Gen. Stacey Hawkins, Air Force Sustainment Center (AFSC) commander, presided. The OL-ALC is one of the largest units in the Air Force Material Command (AMFC) with a team of over 9,000 military and civilian professionals. The complex performs programmed depot maintenance and modifications on KC-46, KC-135, B-1B, B-52, E-3 and Navy E-6 aircraft maintenance and repair and overhaul for several engines and a wide variety of commodities for the Air Force, Navy, Marine Corps, and foreign military sales. • Staff participated in the three-day Tinker and the Primes event. The conference provided an opportunity for defense contractors to connect with DOD leaders and understand the needs of the Air Force in sustaining an aging fleet. This year’s attendees included more than 1,200 representatives from multiple prime and secondary contractors, government agencies, academic institutions, and small businesses. • A staff member participated with members of the OK Strategic Military Planning Commission visit and tour of TAFB hosted by the 72nd Air Base Wing Commander, Col. Fencisco Harris. The purpose for this event was to inform Commissioners regarding projects partially funded through the OSMPC at the base including the Hruskocy Gate, the OG&E Peak Plant, and additional lands for the new bomber campus. There was also discussion regarding the efforts to ensure the acquisition funding for the E-7 aircraft. • A staff member provided training on TAFB organizations, current and future missions, and relationships across multiple functions to CODEL staff members, aerospace and defense OEMs and small companies, and a staff member of the Alliance for Economic Development of OKC.

<p>City FAA operation during the fiscal year.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Updates on efforts to expand or maintain other Federal government operations in the Oklahoma City 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lt. Gen. Jennifer Hammerstedt assumed command of the Air Force Sustainment Center from Lt. Gen. Stacey Hawkins during a change of command ceremony, November 13, 2025, at Tinker Air Force Base. Air Force Materiel Command Interim Commander Lt. Gen. Linda Hurry presided over the ceremony. Lt. Gen. Hammerstedt served as the senior logistician within the lead major command for Combat Air Forces during her previous assignment. She received her commission from the U.S. Air Force Academy in 1996 and has held various staff and command positions. Lt. Gen. Hawkins is retiring after more than 34 years of active Air Force service. (Nov) • The Chamber worked with the Oklahoma Strategic Military Planning Commission and the Alliance to receive \$313,000 to support continued expansion of Tinker AFB on the east side of Douglas Boulevard. The Commission approved the grant request on November 20. <p>MMAC Update:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Three LA28 Committee staff members, personnel from FAA’s Advanced Air Mobility (AAM) Integrations office, and the Oklahoma Dept of Aerospace and Aeronautics met on Sept. 30 to discuss possible AAM and electrical Vertical Take Off and Landing (eVTOL) aircraft activities. Conducting these efforts in Los Angeles would be difficult given the level of aircraft activity in the area, whereas it would be “refreshingly simple” in OKC. More conversations will happen in October to include Mike Monroney Aeronautical Center staff. <p>Boeing Update:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Participated in the Boeing Industry Day. In partnership with the State of Oklahoma, Boeing Oklahoma City hosted an Industry Day at Rose State College to outline its programs and engineering needs. The event connected Boeing with Oklahoma companies that can fulfill these requirements, ultimately expanding Boeing’s diverse supplier base. Attendees learned about Boeing, supplier prerequisites and their capabilities. • Staff attended the South OKC Chamber Membership Luncheon featuring Jeff Anderson, Sr. Director of Engineering/Boeing Defense, Space & Security, OKC for an update on Boeing’s community impact, the future of defense technology, and how local businesses can engage with developments.
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Existing Business Support

Engage targeted aerospace/defense employers in Central Oklahoma as part of broader existing business support efforts. Staff will provide:

- Connections to local, State, or Federal resources to support business sustainment or expansion
- Business-to-business partnership opportunities between existing aerospace companies and/or Federal workload
- Other support as required to support company growth

Staff will provide reports on:

- Outreach conducted
- Types of support provided
- Any insights on business/industry growth or decline

In total, approximately 18-20 outreach visits will be conducted annually with existing aerospace employers.

Additional OKC Aerospace Company Engagements

- Staff met with 13 local companies in the aerospace industry in Oklahoma City to discuss their current business state and identify potential expansion opportunities or issues impacting potential growth.
 - Northrop Grumman
 - Kratos Unmanned Systems Division
 - KBR
 - Kihomac, Inc
 - Skydweller Aero
 - GE Aerospace
 - AeroCore X
 - Critical Components
 - Mint Turbines
 - Field Aerospace
 - Dow Aero Logistics
 - Qualified Coating Services
 - Boeing

Additional activities supporting the existing OKC aerospace industry

- Chamber staff along with the OK Department of Aerospace and Aeronautics met to discuss OK’s Advanced Air Mobility (AAM) strategy, their action agenda, and how the Chamber can support efforts to strengthen regional and statewide growth in both AAM and the broader aerospace sector.
- A staff member participated in a roundtable discussion hosted by AAR and the Oklahoma Department of Aerospace and Aeronautics. Participants are recognized as Oklahoma’s most accomplished women who are leading the aerospace industry into 21st-century technology and innovations. The landscape for women in aerospace is evolving and driven by ongoing efforts to increase opportunities for the next generation of aerospace professionals. The purpose of the discussion was to identify the needs and strategies required to ensure that the aerospace, aviation, and aeronautical workforces make current and future generations aware that aviation is for everyone.
- A staff member spoke at the Society of American Military Engineers. The presentation focused on Advanced Air Mobility

	<p>(AAM) and electric Vertical Take-Off (eVTOL) and Landing aircraft. The presentation discussed recent activity for the eVTOL manufacturing industry and how state and local government officials, industry representatives, and alliances are working to bring AAM to states across the U.S.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Represented the Chamber along with the Chamber’s Director of Education at ribbon cutting for the Southeast High School Aviation Industry flex space. This is connected to the ongoing input on workforce development from the Chamber. • Chamber staff provided Aerospace and Defense training for staff at the Alliance for Economic Development of OKC. Included in the training was awareness of the aerospace industry, Advanced Air Mobility (AAM), and Mike Monroney Aeronautical Center. In-depth training was provided on Tinker AFB organizations, current and future missions, and relationships across multiple functions. • The Greater OKC Region Aerospace Industry Survey and Economic Impact Assessment report presentation was delivered and presented to the Joint Board of Directors/Board of Advisors meeting. The report details the 338 establishments, 45, 539 workers, and \$8.7 billion-dollar direct output associated with the aerospace sector in our region. • Participated in the Indian Country Business Summit which focused on diversity in government contracting and connected government agencies with many small businesses and 8(a) companies. • Attended the MyDefence Media Event announcing the first U.S.-based production of advanced counter-unmanned aerial systems (C-UAS), manufactured at the OK State University Hamm Institute for American Energy. • Attended the Ninth Annual OK Women in Aviation and Aerospace Day Celebration Luncheon, engaging with key industry leaders and stakeholders during the event. • including advanced air mobility and defense technologies.
<p>New Industry Investment Provide ongoing project support for new aerospace/DoD industry investment and information regarding key industry investments in region.</p>	<p>Site visits (<i>Out-of-Market Aerospace Companies Visiting OKC</i>)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Participated in three separate introductory site visits to present regional and aerospace industry insights to a) a company specializing in refurbishing helicopter and aircraft parts, b) company specializing in tow-launch systems, and c) company specializing in UAS. • Hosted company reps for in-market visit/property tours for a composites manufacturing facility in the aerospace industry.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Participated in site evaluations leading to a visit by corporate leaders from a company specializing in a wide range of comprehensive aerospace solutions. • Hosted second visit for corporate leaders who are considering Oklahoma City for their innovative alternative energy solutions facility for aerospace and defense. • After co-hosting the Southern Economic Development Council’s annual conference, members of the Chamber team hosted seven national/international site consultants who extended their stay to participate in a networking breakfast and hear a fireside chat featuring representatives that included the OK Aerospace and Defense Innovation Institute and the OK Aerospace Institute for Research and Education. • Hosted a second site visit for an aerospace company developing an air-launch platform for rockets. Evaluating regional testing sites and an additional Oklahoma City location for manufacturing operations. • Hosted a prospect lead from a startup manufacturer of cargo delivery rocket systems assessing potential location opportunities. • Hosted a third site visit for an aerospace company evaluating Oklahoma City for an assembly, repair, and light-manufacturing facility for unmanned aircraft. • Participated in state-led site visit, hosting C-suite aerospace executives considering Oklahoma City for a new advanced manufacturing facility that will serve as the launch point for their next-generation technology. • Hosted a dinner meeting with an FDI aerospace company exploring U.S. locations for a phased project, beginning with a testing facility and expanding to manufacturing in phase two. • Hosted consultants and clients for an aerospace and defense manufacturing company of next generation propulsion systems evaluating OKC for their first jet engine module production and testing facility. • Hosted C-Suite client visit for a defense company seeking to build their first radiation effects test facility in Oklahoma City. • Hosted a group of seven FDI C-Suite executives seeking to locate their first U.S.-based manufacturing facility for armed vehicles for the U.S. Army.
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