

2026 AUVSI Advanced Air Mobility Exposition

Hampton Roads in Motion: Uncrewed Air, Maritime Autonomy, and Regional Mobility Innovation Day 1, Wednesday, September 23, 2026 (CNU)

7:00 AM – 8:00 AM	Registration / Coffee and Continental Breakfast
8:00 AM – 8:30 AM	Opening Remarks: Building the Region's Uncrewed Systems and Advanced Mobility Ecosystem Daniel Wolfe , President, AUVSI Hampton Roads, Chapter Welcome President William G. Kelly , President, Christopher Newport University, Host Welcome Sen. Tim Kaine (D-VA) , Member, Senate Armed Services Committee, Federal Welcome via Prerecorded Video Message
8:30 AM – 8:50 AM	Keynote: Federal Priorities for Uncrewed Defense, Aviation, and Maritime Security • Rep. Rob Wittman (VA-01) , Vice Chairman of the House Armed Services Committee - Invited
8:50 AM – 9:10 AM	Keynote: Virginia's Advanced Air Mobility Strategy • Scott Denny , Senior Program Manager, AAM, DOAV
9:10 AM – 10:10 AM	Panel 1: Hampton Roads Drone Operations: Infrastructure, Inspection, and Use Cases Moderator: Dave Hinton , Senior Fellow, Cardinal Center for Autonomy and Energy CCALS • Justin Jones , Systems Manager & Lead Pilot for UAVs, W.M. Jordan • Zach Long , GIS Specialist-sUAS Pilot, GIS Department, City of Newport News • Tom Butler , UAS Manager, Dominion Energy
10:10 AM – 10:30 AM	Coffee Break
10:30 AM – 10:50 AM	Keynote: Protecting Airspace: From Legal Authority to Operational Counter-UAS Readiness • TBD
10:50 AM – 11:10 AM	Keynote: Regional Airspace Readiness: From Drone Operations to Scalable BVLOS • Pamela Gomez , Director, UAS Safety and Integration Division, Office of Advanced Aviation Technologies, FAA
11:10 AM – 12:10 PM	Panel 2: BVLOS, UTM, and Commonwealth Airspace Readiness Moderator: Hon. Karen Jackson , President and CEO, Apogee Strategic Partners, LLC; CCALS Senior Fellow • Peter Bale , Co-Founder & COO, Sentinel Robotic Solutions (SRS) • Brent Klavon , Chief Strategy Officer, ANRA Technologies (ANRA) • Keith R. Paquin , UAS Section Manager, Virginia Department of Transportation(awaiting leadership approval)
12:10 PM – 1:10 PM	Networking, Catered Lunch
1:10 PM – 1:30 PM	Keynote: Building Virginia's Public Safety DFR Network • Chris Sadler , Director, VIPC Public Safety Innovation Center (PSIC)
1:30 PM – 2:30 PM	Panel 3: From Detection to Response: Regional DFR Coordination (Military and Civil) Moderator: Sgt. Tiara Suggs , Specialized Response Team Commander, James City County PD • TBD • Lt. Michael Sinclair , Cdr., Real-Time Crime Center, PM DFR, Newport News Police Department • Detective Bruce Pugh , UAS Coordinator, Norfolk Police Department
2:30 PM – 2:50 PM	Break
2:50 PM – 3:50 PM	Panel 4: cUAS: Solving the Inter Agency Problem Moderator: TBD • DJ Smith , Deputy Director, Drone Responders • Hon. Daniel J. Tamburello , Senior Advisor, S&T Lead for cUAS collaboration, DHS • Dominique Evans , Special Agent in Charge, UAS & cUAS Coordination, FBI Norfolk Field Office
3:50 PM – 4:15 PM	Closing Comments (Day 1) • Daniel Wolfe , President, AUVSI Hampton Roads
4:15 PM – 6:00 PM	Evening Reception (Room: Torggler Center) • Network with Regional Representatives, Business leaders, & learn who's who in HR

2026 AUVSI Advanced Air Mobility Exposition

Hampton Roads in Motion: Uncrewed Air, Maritime Autonomy, and Regional Mobility Innovation Day 2, September 24, 2026 (CNU)

7:00 AM – 8:00 AM	Registration / Coffee and continental breakfast
8:00 AM – 8:30 AM	Opening Remarks: Hampton Roads in Motion: Building the Region's Advanced Mobility Future • Chuck Wittges, Vice President, AUVSI Hampton Roads Chapter
8:30 AM – 8:50 AM	Keynote: Commonwealth Leadership in Advanced Mobility, Maritime Innovation, Defense, and Workforce Growth • Governor Abigail Spanberger — Invited
8:50 AM – 9:10 AM	Keynote: The Mobility Innovation Center: Expanding Hampton Roads' Test, Training, & Innovation • Phillip Jones, Mayor of Newport News
9:10 AM – 10:10 AM	Panel 5: BVLOS Operations: Airspace, Communications, Sensors, Aircraft, and Training Moderator: Chris Morello , Executive Director, Peninsula Airport Commission (PAC) • Lisa Peterson, VP, Business Development, AURA Network Systems (AURA) • Kyle Ellis, Deputy Director of Projects, Aeronautics Research, NASA Langley Research Center • Colin Fischer, Founder & CEO, NX Aviation
10:10 AM – 10:30 AM	Coffee Break
10:30 AM – 10:50 AM	Keynote: Hampton Roads Playbook - Positioning HR for National Excellence in Uncrewed Systems • Nancy Grden, President & CEO, Hampton Roads Executive Roundtable (HRER)
10:50 AM – 11:10 AM	Keynote: Regional Air Mobility in Practice: Future Flight Global and the Hampton Roads Opportunity • Toni Drummond, Co-Founder & CEO, Future Flight Global (FFG)
11:10 AM – 12:10 PM	Panel 6: NASA Langley Public - Private Partnerships and Air Domain Awareness Moderator: Lena Pascale , Regional Partnership Lead, Strategic Partnership Office, NASA Langley Research Center • Joseph Gasbarre, Director, Strategic Partnerships Office, NASA Langley Research Center • Kyle Ellis, Deputy Director of Projects, Aeronautics Research, NASA Langley Research Center • Jay Ely, Smart Center Technical Lead, NASA Langley Research Center
12:10 PM – 1:10 PM	Networking, Catered Lunch
1:10 PM – 1:30 PM	Keynote Speaker: Uncrewed Applications and the Virginia Port Authority • Sarah McCoy, CEO and Executive Director, The Port of Virginia
1:30 PM – 2:30 PM	Panel 7: Coastal Mobility and Maritime Transportation Moderator: Matt Smith , Director, Energy and Emerging Tech, Hampton Roads Alliance (HRA) • Jude Augustine, Co-Founder & CEO, Tidal Flight • Sam Riggs, Founder & CEO, Coastal Seaplanes • Will Fediw, Senior VP, Virginia Maritime Association
2:30 PM – 2:50 PM	Break
2:50 PM – 3:50 PM	Panel 8: UAS, AAM Workforce, and University Research Applications Moderator: Shawn Avery , President & CEO, Hampton Roads Workforce Council (HRWC) • Julie Young, Director, eAviation & Drone Academy (eADA) • Dr. Anton Riedl, Associate Dean, School of Engineering & Computing, Christopher Newport University • Dr. Yiannis Papelis, Director, Virginia Modeling, Analysis & Simulation Center (VMASC), ODU • Orestes "OG" Gooden, Chair, Aviation Department, Hampton University
3:50 PM – 4:15 PM	Closing Comments (Day 2) • Daniel Wolfe, President, AUVSI Hampton Roads
6:00 PM – 7:00 PM	Cocktail Reception (requires Gala ticket) • The Nick Kepics Jazz Band
7:00 PM – 10:00 PM	VASBA GALA Dinner (DSU Ballroom - Christopher Newport University) • Keynote: TBD • Master of Ceremonies: TBD • Entertainment: TBD