TO ALL TO WHOM THESE PRESENTS COME – GREETINGS:

EXECUTIVE ORDER TO ESTABLISH THE ARKANSAS COUNCIL ON FUTURE MOBILITY

WHEREAS: The mobility sector is undergoing a period of revolutionary advancements that will lead to the utilization of more sustainable, reliable, and cost-efficient modes of transportation; and

WHEREAS: To remain competitive, the State of Arkansas must keep pace with this change by accelerating operational readiness through necessary infrastructure investments and an effective framework to bolster economic opportunities; and

WHEREAS: A concerted effort is necessary to create an environment to safely integrate electrification, autonomous vehicles, and advanced air mobility into existing land and airspace, to streamline vehicle testing and certification policies, and to eliminate regulatory barriers;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, ASA HUTCHINSON, acting under the authority vested in me as the Governor of the State of Arkansas, do hereby order the following:

(1) There is hereby created the Arkansas Council on Future Mobility, which shall serve as an advisory body of the Governor.

(2) The Council shall be composed of members appointed by the Governor and shall serve at the pleasure of the Governor. Cyrus Sigari shall serve as Chairman of the Council. The Council shall be composed of the following members or their individual designees:

a) Cyrus Sigari, Co-Founder/Managing Partner, UP Partners;
b) Dean Banks, former President and Chief Executive Officer, Tyson Foods, former Leadership Team Member and Project Lead, Google X;
c) Tom Ward, Executive Vice-President/Chief eCommerce Officer, Walmart;
d) Craig Harper, Executive Vice-President/Chief Sustainability Officer, J.B. Hunt;
e) Alan Mantooth Ph.D., Distinguished Professor, University of Arkansas;
f) Tony Aquila, Chief Executive Officer and Executive Chairman of Canoo;
g) Chad Causey, Executive Director, Arkansas Aerospace and Defense Alliance;
h) John Bethel, Director of Public Affairs, Entergy Arkansas;
i) Daryl Brown, Executive Director, External Affairs South Region, MISO;
j) Becky Keogh, Secretary of the Arkansas Department of Energy and Environment;
k) Lorie Tudor, Director of the Arkansas Department of Transportation;
l) Jami Cook, Secretary of the Arkansas Department of Public Safety;
m) Mike Preston, Secretary of the Arkansas Department of Commerce;
n) Ted Thomas, Chairman of the Arkansas Public Service Commission;
o) Jason Morrison, Ed. D., Chancellor, Southern Arkansas University Tech;
p) Shannon Newton, President, Arkansas Trucking Association;
q) Hunter Bale, Past Chairman and Member of the Arkansas Auto Dealers Association, Vice President of Bele Chevrolet;
r) A representative of a ground transportation company with a significant presence in Arkansas;
s) A representative of the Railroad Industry with a significant presence in Arkansas; and
t) Additional members as the Governor deems necessary.

(3) The Council shall have the following duties:
a) Identify state laws and administrative rules that create barriers to the development and enhancement of electrification and advanced air mobility in Arkansas;
b) Make policy and program recommendations to support and facilitate the development of electrification and advanced air mobility in Arkansas;
c) Develop priorities and recommendations for the allocation of federal resources and grant programs in order to invest in critical components of an ecosystem that will enable the maturation and growth of advanced air mobility, autonomous vehicles, and electrification in Arkansas, including energy, infrastructure, security, and transportation;
d) Identify future tasks and goals including, but not limited to, strategic goals in education, workforce training, and economic development;
e) Create incentives to develop opportunities, amplify economic activity, and create jobs; and
f) Submit a final report of the Council’s findings and recommendations to the Governor no later than November 30, 2022.
g) The work of the Council shall be concluded upon submission of the final report.

(4) Upon request, the Arkansas Economic Development Commission or the Governor’s Office may provide staff to support the work of the Council.

(5) The Council is encouraged to engage private sector representatives when appropriate.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and cause the Great Seal of the State of Arkansas to be affixed this 22nd day of February, in the year of our Lord 2022.

Asa Hutchinson, Governor

John Thurston, Secretary of State