Objectives:

1) Identify the trends and technologies driving innovation in unmanned aerial vehicles as well as early use cases
2) Discover outcomes and successes of past Task Force activities and how they have shaped TxDOT internal initiatives
3) Plan future activities of the Task Force including opportunities to collaborate with other TxDOT innovation initiatives

9:00 AM | Welcome & Opening Remarks – Darran Anderson, TxDOT & C. Michael Walton, UT Austin
9:15 AM | Progress Update – UT Austin Research Team

9:30 AM | Roundtable Discussion: Unmanned Aerial Systems (UAS)
Moderator: TBD
Important figures in research, public agencies, and private industry come together to discuss the opportunity and next steps for implementation, further deployment, and opportunities offered by UAS. Included in this discussion are the policy implications and hurdles faced in the future of UAV technology. Benefits of UAV technology can be shown in cases of package delivery, monitoring and inspection, and emergency response. Additionally, these benefits can be supplied to rural areas as well, often left out of the discussion of emerging technologies. For instance, package delivery is a use case greatly impacted as it offers improved speed of delivery and alternative last mile delivery options. Monitoring and inspection improves as crowds of people can be safely monitored in large events. Lastly, opportunity exists in emergency response including fire safety to scan for safe citizens or in wildfires to track the progress and concerns. Through this discussion the Task Force will learn about the opportunities and existing hurdles for the future development of UAS technology.

9:45 AM | Topic 1: TBD
10:30 AM | Topic 2: TBD
11:15 AM | Topic 3: TBD
Amazon, Last Mile Urban Delivery
Matternet, Rural Delivery
Intel, Public Safety, Inspection, Infrastructure Monitoring
Edge Computing, TBD
Telecommunications, TBD
Austin Energy, Utility Monitoring & Inspection
Austin Transportation, Autonomous Corridor
Ernest Huffman, NCTCOG, Unmanned Aerial Systems Program
Federal Aviation Administration, National Policy & Regulations
Lone Star UAS Center of Excellence & Innovation, Testing & Research
Texas Department of Public Safety, Public Safety Use Cases
TxDOT Aviation, Regulations and Programs
Texas Public Utilities Commissions, Easements and Rights-of-Way
Bell Helicopter, TBD
12:00 PM | Lunch

1:00 PM | TxDOT Innovation Programs – TxDOT Strategic Planning
TxDOT presentation on outcomes and programs that have stemmed from Task Force meetings. A discussion will follow providing insight on how the Task Force can collaborate with other innovation programs such as the Texas Innovation Alliance, the Governors’ CAV Task Force, and the State Transportation Innovation Council (STIC)

1:30 PM | Task Force Executive Session – Task Force Members
A planning session among Task Force members to discuss priority topics, collaboration with other TxDOT programs, and future activities.

2:30 PM | Closing Remarks and Next Steps – Darran Anderson, TxDOT & C. Michael Walton, UT Austin

3:00 PM | Adjourn