



Office of the City Attorney

August 6, 2024

Federal Aviation Administration  
Attn: Air Traffic Manager  
Unmanned Aircraft Tactical Operations, AJV-115  
800 Independence Avenue, SW  
Washington, DC 20591

**RE: Public Declaration Letter in Support of Request for  
Certification of Waiver/Authorization for the  
City of Kingsport**

Dear: Sir or Madam:

As the City Attorney for the City of Kingsport I hereby submit this public declaration letter in support of the City of Kingsport's request for a Certification of Waiver/Authorization to become a public unmanned aircraft operator.

The City of Kingsport, Tennessee is a municipal corporation chartered by a Private Act of the Tennessee General Assembly, specifically Chapter 76 of the Private Acts of 1917. As such the City of Kingsport is a political subdivision of the State of Tennessee as defined in 49 U.S.C. § 40102(a)(41)(C). As a governmental entity, the City desires to implement unmanned aircraft systems as a public aircraft to fulfill governmental functions as defined in 49 U.S.C. 40125(a)(2). Particularly, activities will include inspection and maintenance of public infrastructure, inspection and maintenance of City fiber network and communication towers, firefighting efforts, search and rescue operations, law enforcement purposes to the extent permitted by Tennessee law, as well as mandatory code inspections of construction projects.

All UAS used for governmental functions will be owned by City and operated by City employees acting in the scope and course of their employment. No UAS owned by City will be used for a "commercial purpose" as defined by 49 U.S.C. § 40125(a)(1).

The City of Kingsport appreciates your consideration of this declaration. Should any additional information be necessary, such as a copy of the Private Act referenced herein, do not hesitate to contact my office.

Sincerely,

Rodney B. Rowlett, III