

Flagler County Partners with Airspace Link to Deploy Digital Infrastructure to Unlock New Drone Solutions.

Initiative will create a new drone economy that will generate jobs, transport medical supplies and establish first responder emergency operations in the air.

DETROIT, MICHIGAN, USA, October 14, 2020 /EINPresswire.com/ -- Airspace Link, Inc., the leading North American provider of state and local government drone flight authorization and management solutions, partnered with Flagler County in Florida to launch the first-of-its-kind digital drone infrastructure in the sky, which will unlock new advanced, autonomous drone solutions to enhance both public



safety and business operations, such as package delivery, resulting in a better quality of life for the citizens of Flagler.

As a user of Esri ArcGIS online products, Flagler County was able to take advantage of the <u>AirHub</u> for Government solution and this new partnership is a first step for enabling businesses to safely deliver food, medical supplies, cargo and other essentials to communities around Flagler County with drones.

Flagler County will also incorporate the new capabilities into their own internal operations, which range from assessing coastal changes and impacts of major storms and hurricanes to saving lives from search and rescue operations. In addition, Flagler County's drone pilot team and other commercial and recreational drone pilots in Flagler County will now be able to use AirHub for Pilots to get the necessary FAA authorizations to fly in the vicinity of the airport.

Airspace Link is an FAA-approved solution provider for Low Altitude Authorization and Notification Capability (LAANC) and at the end of September added another 133 airports,

including Flagler Executive Airport, that are now included in this program. Flagler County drone pilots no longer need to wait to get approval to fly in controlled airspace, as the AirHub for Pilot application can authorize them in seconds. This enables more access to airspace and safer flights in the community.

"In partnership with Airspace Link, we are in a better position to safely deploy our drone resources," said Matthew Adams, GIS Analyst and UAS Coordinator for Flagler County. "The ground-based risk assessment and the ability to create public advisories allows our pilots to have optimal situational awareness when deploying drones to an incident."

Airspace Link co-founder Ana Healander says drone technologies are rapidly advancing and the regulatory environment is opening up. This combination will drive the growth of drone usage throughout communities for all types of use cases. "In partnership with Flagler County, together we are supporting the drone industry as it grows and facilitating safer flights through our platform, AirHub," said Healander.

"Flagler County is paving the way for the rest of the state of Florida to implement safe drone highways in the sky," said Lisa Peterson, VP of Business Development for Airspace Link. "We are thrilled to see the immediate benefit our technology is providing like helping first responders with search and rescue missions."

Just last month, Flagler County used Airspace Link's solution to create an advisory for the successful search and rescue mission of a missing kayaker, of Flagler Beach. Flagler County issued an advisory during the early hours of the search, and the drone team deployed when search helicopters had to leave the area for refueling. Matthew Adams says for future incidents, his team of drone pilots working in conjunction with Airspace Link will be deployed sooner as even more pilots become certified.

The partnership also implemented a layer of safety and protection measures for Flagler County drone pilots, all of whom are able to operate flights while understanding levels of ground risk related to what potential hazards they are flying over and near through AirHub for Pilots. Specifically, the initiative allows drone pilots the ability to stay compliant with airspace rules and regulations through Airspace Link's Low Altitude Authorization and Notification Capability services.

"Everyone wins with a safety-first mindset," said Michael Healander, president and CEO of Airspace Link. "Putting in the digital infrastructure necessary to enable compliant and safer drone flights provides the safety benefits needed today that are critical to opening up the unlocked potential of drone scalable industry applications that will drive future economic growth."

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About Airspace Link, Inc:

Airspace Link, Inc. is an FAA Approved UAS Service Supplier (USS) of the Low Altitude Authorization & Notification Capability (LAANC). A cloud-based platform founded by Detroit, Michigan based founder Michael Healander. Airspace Link low altitude drone infrastructure is deployed to local communities and airports to support the safe use of recreational and commercial drone use in the region. These capabilities provide a new type of Smart City mobility infrastructure supporting the growth of drone operations, drone service providers, drone manufacturing, package delivery and air taxi in the future. Airspace Link's world headquarters is located at 1250 Library Street, Suite 61, Detroit, MI 48226. Visit https://airspacelink.com/.

About Flagler County, Florida:

Located on the northeast coast of Florida, Flagler County is 31 miles south of St. Augustine and 24 miles north of Daytona Beach. The county is comprised of five municipalities – Beverly Beach, Bunnell, Flagler Beach, Marineland and Palm Coast. The municipalities have incorporated roughly 48 percent of the land area within Flagler County. While the majority of the county's population lives in Palm Coast, the city of Bunnell has the largest land mass. The remaining 52 percent of the land is within the unincorporated area of Flagler County. Flagler County created a drone program in September of 2019 and has since flown nearly 200 missions for GIS mapping, search and rescue, and damage assessment.

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