

# County of Monterey



## COUNTY ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE  
168 W. ALISAL ST, 3<sup>RD</sup> FLOOR  
SALINAS, CA 93901

May 23, 2023

Dear U.S., Economic Development Administration (EDA) Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math (STEM) Challenge Review Committee,

We are writing to express our enthusiastic support for the Monterey Bay Drone, Automation, and Robotic Technology's (DART) advanced manufacturing focused EDA STEM Challenge grant application in partnership with Joby Aviation, Farm N-G, and the Salinas Inclusive Economic Development Initiative. As the Economic Development Committee, we recognize the importance of investing in initiatives that promote economic growth and create opportunities for our community.

The Monterey Bay DART has established itself as a leader in advanced manufacturing and STEM education, providing crucial resources and training for the next generation of skilled workers. Through its expanding partnership with Joby Aviation, Farm N-G, and the Salinas Inclusive Economic Development Initiative; The Monterey Bay DART will build a more effective and impactful coalition and improve economic and environmental resiliency in Monterey County.

We are particularly excited about the potential for this grant to support job growth and workforce development in our region. By providing training and resources for high-demand jobs such as advanced manufacturing, the grant will help to create well-paying and sustainable careers that can support families and drive economic growth.

We fully endorse the Monterey Bay DART grant application and encourage you to give it the strongest possible consideration. We believe that this initiative has the potential to make a significant positive impact on the future economy and the quality of life of the residents of Monterey County and the entire Central Coast region.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Supervisor Luis A. Alejo  
Board Chair  
First District Supervisor

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