

Office of Future Mobility and Electrification Advanced Air Mobility (AAM) Statewide Mobility Challenge – MDARD FAQ

February 23, 2026

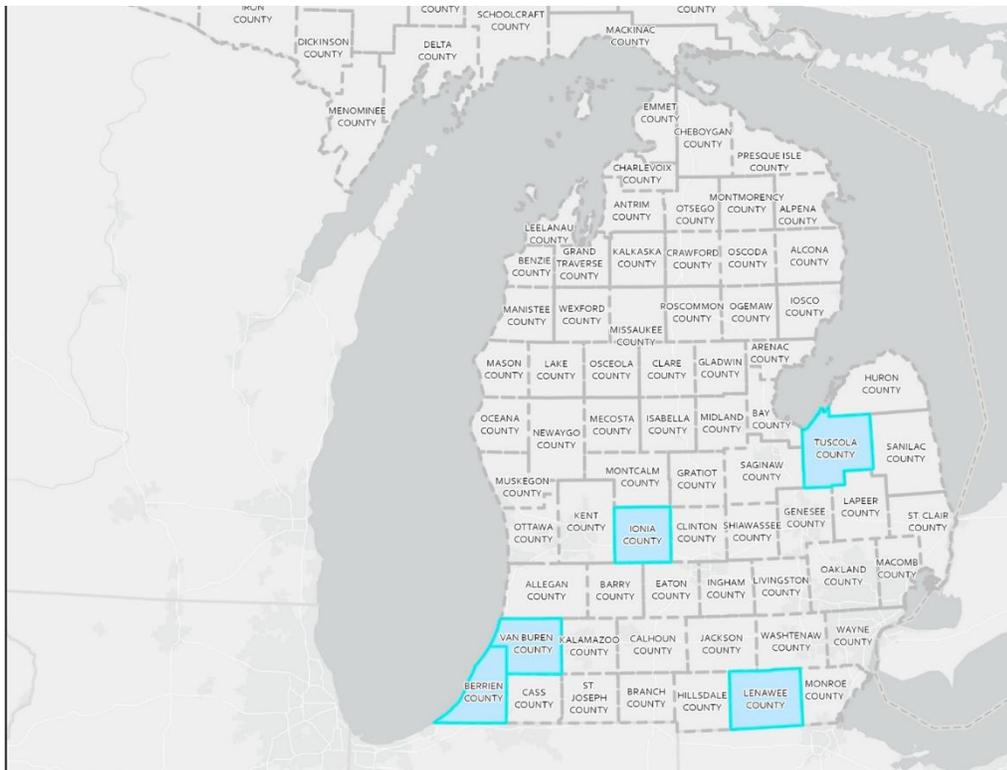
Category

1. How long is the project length?

a. *Two years*

2. Where are the inspection sites located?

a. *No specific areas are defined as pesticide drift areas, but the top five counties (Ionia, Tuscola, Van Buren, Berrien, Lenawee) in the state have been identified and can be viewed here:*



3. Is the Key Objective only visually identify or collect samples of soil and foliage?

a. *Visually for this challenge. There may be a chance to revisit after Year 1 going into Year 2, but that is currently not the goal.*

- b. Goal is visual identification, but if sample collection makes sense, we could work through how to include it later.*
- 4. The scope - Drift detection of less than 50 complaints and in only 3 months seems to be too narrow. Is there additional use cases MDARD will be looking into?
 - a. It's not too narrow but thank you for the input. This will be the scope for this challenge as it relates to MDARD.*
- 5. Thank you for answering my two questions - I understand now, this can be dangerous and time-consuming. Is this just pesticide sprayed or could it be contamination in water and soil?
 - a. Pesticide could contaminate water and soil or be sprayed on plant material. For this challenge, focus on surface contamination.*
- 6. When called to participate, what is the anticipated response time for the company who is joining your team?
 - a. There is some flexibility depending on the nature of the case, but generally 2-3 days. The minimum timeframe would be 24 hours.*
- 7. How can we request technical specifications (sensor details, dimensions, etc)?
 - a. MDARD will supply additional specifications, pictures, dimensions, and technical data. Email : OEMEMobilityChallenges@nextenergy.org for specific requests.*
- 8. What percentage of your investigations are successful in attributing the source? Is that part of the proposal to create the attribution report?
 - a. Analyzing and identifying attribution is not a part of this challenge. MDARD will be analyzing those as part of our case development and we are typically successful in identifying the source.*
- 9. Are you accepting applications for non-aerial solutions? We have a non-aerial based solution for preventing drift in the first place.

- a. The challenge is focused on aerial solutions, but these can be integrated with non-aerial technology for project success. We encourage partnerships to accomplish the scope of the challenge

10. Do you have existing drones or drone pilots?

- a. We have 1 team member focused on communications that is a licensed to pilot drones.

11. With regards to the pesticide mission, do you know what sensors you need to integrate or is that part of the study?

- a. Identifying sensors is a part of this challenge.