

STAFF REPORT

Date: November 15, 2017

To: Mayor and City Council

Thru: Sabra Newby, City Manager

Subject: H.3. Staff Report (For Possible Action): Resolution No. _____ Resolution affirming the City of Reno's application for designation as an Unmanned Aircraft Systems Integration Pilot Program participant.

From: Rick Caldeira, Chief of Staff to the Mayor

Summary: The City of Reno has an opportunity, in a public-private partnership with Flirtey Inc., to potentially be the Drone Delivery Capitol of America. Mayor Hillary Schieve, in consultation with Flirtey Inc., a local leading drone company in the City of Reno, are seeking inclusion in the Application for Designating the City of Reno as an Unmanned Aircraft Systems Integration Pilot Program Participant. The United States Secretary of Transportation and the Federal Aviation Administration has imposed a time constraint, whereby local municipalities must submit their support no later than November 28, 2017. Therefore, due to this timing constraint, Mayor Schieve has requested this item be posed for consideration by the entire City Council.

Financial Implications: None at this time.

Legal Implications: None at this time.

Recommendation: Staff recommends Council adopt Resolution No. _____.

Proposed Motion: I move to adopt Resolution No. _____.

Attachments:

- Flirtey Support Letter (1) (PDF)
- Key Dates FAA Pilot Program (PDF)
- Press Release - Final(PDF)
- Unpublished FAA UAS Integration Pilot Program - Establishment of Program 11_8_17 (PDF)

- FAA - Unmanned Aircraft Systems Integration Pilot Program - Participant Selection - Screening Information Request - 2017-11-02 (PDF)

RESOLUTION NO.

RESOLUTION AFFIRMING THE CITY OF RENO'S APPLICATION FOR DESIGNATION AS AN UNMANNED AIRCRAFT SYSTEMS INTEGRATION PILOT PROGRAM PARTICIPANT.

WHEREAS, a key part of the vision for the City of Reno is to be known for its innovative industries; and,

WHEREAS, the City of Reno was built by pioneers determined to bring a thriving, vibrant, well-managed financially strong, and modern infrastructure, including an innovative international airport to compliment the Nevada's December 30, 2013 selection as one of the nation's UAS Test Sites; and,

WHEREAS, the City of Reno desires to continue the pioneering spirit in aviation by being an applicant to the United States Department of Transportation and the Federal Aviation Administration for designation as one of the Unmanned Aircraft Systems Integration Pilot Program participants in conjunction with the state and tribal governments as relevant; and,

WHEREAS, the City of Reno and the State of Nevada host private unmanned aircraft firm Flirtey Inc., (Flirtey) an internationally proven leader in autonomous aviation, and the leading partner in a Consortium of several Fortune 500 ranked private companies of national retailers and technology firms who are pioneering drone delivery, into the City of Reno, and the State of Nevada, creating new high paying jobs; boosting aviation innovation and economic development, enhancing automated transportation safety, ensuring workplace safety; improving significantly emergency response time and rescue, and creating more efficient and competitive use of radio spectrum in the City of Reno and the State of Nevada; and,

WHEREAS, Flirtey was the first company to conduct an FAA-approved drone delivery in the United States in collaboration with NASA, the first to perform a fully autonomous drone delivery to a residential home in collaboration with the Nevada Institute for Autonomous Systems, and the first to launch a commercial drone delivery service in the United States with deliveries to customer homes having taken place in the City of Reno; and,

WHEREAS, Flirtey has recently partnered with the Regional Emergency Medical Services Authority (REMSA), the exclusive ground emergency medical services provider for Washoe County, Nevada to launch the first automated external defibrillator (AED) drone delivery service in the United States to serve to improve emergency response and rescue functions to save lives; and,

WHEREAS, a proposed public-private partnership of which state-local-tribal government entities, including the City of Reno and known as “Team Nevada Delivers,” will advance flight research, federal policy and regulatory scheme development, federalism, and commercial flight operations for a more perfect, innovative, risk-reduced and operationally safe integration of unmanned aircraft delivery into the national airspace of the City of Reno, the State of Nevada and the United States of America; and,

WHEREAS, the City of Reno shall seek to collaborate with public entities, tribal governments, the Reno-Tahoe International Airport Authority, the nonprofit Nevada Institute for Autonomous Systems and the private-sector Consortium led by Flirtey to make application as “Team Nevada Delivers” to the United States Secretary of Transportation and the FAA prior to the end of November 2017; and,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the City of Reno:

- 1) Finds that the foregoing recitals are true and correct and incorporated by reference;
- 2) Shall apply to the United States Department of Transportation and the Federal Aviation Administration for designation as an Unmanned Aircraft Systems Integration Pilot Program participant, in conjunction with a private-sector Consortium led by Flirtey Inc. and as relevant a coalition of state and tribal governments;
- 3) Shall advise the Reno-Tahoe International Airport Authority, the Nevada Institute of Autonomous Systems, the State of Nevada’s Governor and the Nevada Congressional delegation of the forthcoming application to the United States Department of Transportation and the Federal Aviation Administration for designation as an Unmanned Aircraft Systems Integration Pilot Program participant, in conjunction with the state and tribal governments and a private-sector Consortium led by Flirtey Inc.;
- 4) The City Council shall be represented on the Team Nevada Delivers governing steering committee by the Mayor, or selected designee, and periodic updates being made to City Council by the Mayor, the designee, the private consortium lead, and others as deemed either appropriate or necessary for the proper submission of the application, designation and subsequent operation and reporting of the Unmanned Aircraft Systems Integration Pilot Program of which the City is a participant;
- 5) Shall not be financially bound to any contractual service agreement or expenditure or compensation above and beyond the reasonable performance of the normal duties of its assigned employees to the application or performance of operations. However, the City departments shall cooperate in testing, regulatory scheme development, waiver, exemption, or other affirmative actions that may be required by the Team Nevada Delivers public-private partnership; and

- 6) Authorizes the Mayor, City Manager, members, officers, employees, agents of the City are directly, jointly and severally, to do any and all things as may be required and otherwise to give effect to, carry out, comply and implement the terms and intent of this Resolution, and to take all necessary and appropriate actions to effectuate the intent of this Resolution.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this Resolution shall take effect immediately upon passage.

Upon motion by Councilmember _____, and seconded by Councilmember _____, the foregoing Resolution was passed and adopted this _____ day of _____, 2017, by the following vote of the Council:

AYES: _____

NAYS: _____

ABSTAIN: _____ ABSENT: _____

APPROVED this _____ day of _____, 2017.

HILLARY SCHIEVE
MAYOR

ATTEST:

ASHLEY D. TURNEY
CITY CLERK