

RESPONSE TO COUNCILLOR INQUIRY

COUNCILLOR SANDS

Councillor Sands provided information that driverless vehicles are being tested in urban settings, such as downtown Calgary, during the night, and suggested Administration contact the City of Calgary / Google to offer Okotoks as a venue for autonomous vehicle testing.

Estimated Administrative Time to Respond

☒ Under 4 hours (no motion required)

☐ Over 4 hours (motion required) Estimated Hours: n/a

Motion

n/a

Response

The City of Calgary is looking into several future technologies to better understand the integration of autonomous vehicles and vehicle electrification into Calgary's future development and infrastructure planning. These research projects are in collaboration with the University of Alberta (U of A), Alberta Transportation, Fairmont Hotels, and the City of Edmonton, as part of an Albertan autonomous technology cluster initiative. The specific pilot project that Councillor Sands is referring to is a partnership between the U of A and the City of Calgary.

This specific pilot project is looking into the feasibility of a compact (capacity of 10 people) driverless shuttle that would transport guests to the Calgary Zoo LRT station and Telus Spark, and within the urban street environment of downtown Calgary.

While Okotoks' downtown does not offer additional benefit to the current urban downtown pilot, there may be potential opportunity for Okotoks' involvement in the broader aforementioned autonomous technology cluster.

The Town is currently part of a Stantec driven North American Feasibility Study and Concept Plan to examine the potential for Self-Driver Shuttle implementation, and to evaluate the potential implementation quantitatively and qualitatively in relation to other mobility solutions (e.g. streetcar, bus rapid transit, traditional bus/shuttle service, on-demand transportation network companies, etc.) and their impact on land use. This study will focus on Okotoks' specific context as well as being replicated in select communities across North America.

The results of this study and concept plan in tandem with the Town's Local Transit Feasibility Study could result in an on the ground operational pilot project that implements form(s) of technology in 2019. Administration will be in contact with the

City of Calgary to discuss how the Town's current projects could be integrated into the Albertan autonomous technology cluster initiative to both gain and provide additional learning from the collaborative

Attachment(s)

1. n/a

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