

5/21/2019

ITEM 14

Genevieve Yip

From: Ken Pyle <ken.pyle@viodi.com>
Sent: Monday, May 20, 2019 6:12 PM
To: Kirk Vartan
Cc: Mayor and Council; Manager; cityclerk@santaclaraca.gov; Teresa O'Neill; Jones, Chappie; Cassidy Kohl; Lisa Gillmor; WinchesterNAC Info
Subject: Re: Item 14 - 19-590 - APPROVE Councilmember O'Neill's request for Innovation Zone participation

Dear Mayor and Council,

Adding to what Kirk said, last week I participated in the 2019 SmartDrivingCar Summit at Princeton. The theme of this conference was using autonomy to improve mobility for the mobility challenged. My summary is here

<https://1drv.ms/v/s!Av4qqTizJmTqgbVDg3pXDNTkj9AB-g>

One of the recurring findings was that the introduction of autonomy needs a grassroots movement and needs to start at the local level.

A mechanism to create a grassroots effort is an AMD - Autonomous Mobility District. The AMD is somewhat analogous to the Innovation Zone and the National Renewables Energy Laboratory has been researching this for a couple of years:

<https://www.nrel.gov/docs/fy18osti/71347.pdf>

The AMDs become a mechanism for funding mobility and associated developments (e.g. by applying for Federal grants, etc.).

Of course, the proposed Innovation Zone goes beyond mobility and even funding mechanisms. It is about innovating processes and knocking down silos. The Innovation Zone presents an opportunity to improve the quality of life for existing and future citizens by doing things like creating common rules across the three cities and finding better ways to deliver services. It will be an example for the rest of the area and will help propel our region forward.

Sincerely,

Ken Pyle

On Mon, May 20, 2019 at 5:32 PM Kirk Vartan <kirk@asliceofny.com> wrote:

Dear Mayor and Council:

ASK: APPROVE Councilmember O'Neill's request for Santa Clara to participate in the Innovation Zone project.

I would like to encourage and ask you to approve Councilmember O'Neill's request for Santa Clara to participate in the Innovation Zone program San Jose is implementing. I have personally been involved with

some of these efforts and it is a great way for the cities of San Jose, Santa Clara, and Cupertino to collaborate. The Innovation Zone will allow both sides of Stevens Creek to fully test new technologies such as autonomous vehicle services, wireless technologies, and who knows what else Silicon Valley can dream up. This is a great place for new technology to be seen and tested.

As a business in Santa Clara and in the middle of this Zone and the President of the Winchester NAC that covers both sides of Steven Creek, I will pledge to you that our worker cooperative business will embrace whatever technologies presented and represent Santa Clara to the best of our abilities.

Both A Slice of New York and the Winchester NAC asks you to please support this request.

Kind regards,

Kirk Vartan

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A Slice of New York
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Ken Pyle
Managing Editor

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