




City of Dublin

Office of the City Manager

5200 Emerald Parkway • Dublin, OH 43017-1090
Phone: 614-410-4400 • Fax: 614-410-4490

Memo

To: Members of Dublin City Council
From: Dana L. McDaniel, City Manager 
Date: May 3, 2018
Re: Resolution 25-18 – In Support of Naming Transportation Research Center a Federal Proving Ground

Background

The U.S. Department of Transportation (DOT) announced a pilot program in November 2016 to designate 10 autonomous vehicle proving grounds across the United States. Transportation Research Center (TRC) in East Liberty, Ohio, submitted a proposal to be included in the pilot program. U.S. DOT announced its list of the 10 designated proving ground pilot sites in January 2017 and TRC was not among the sites selected.

In the recently approved federal spending bill, \$60 million was set aside for grants and cooperative agreements to fund autonomous vehicle testing. Those designated proving grounds previously named by U.S. DOT would be eligible to apply for these grants.

The 33 Smart Mobility Corridor leadership is working with TRC, Columbus 2020, DriveOhio and JobsOhio to support the addition of TRC and other facilities to the list. Resolution 25-18 is in support of this initiative.

Recommendation

Staff recommends adoption of Resolution 25-18 at the May 7, 2018 Council meeting.

RECORD OF RESOLUTIONS

Dayton Legal Blank, Inc., Form No. 30045

Resolution No. 25-18 Passed _____, 20____

A RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF NAMING THE TRANSPORTATION RESEARCH CENTER A FEDERAL PROVING GROUND

WHEREAS, the City of Dublin has partnered with the City of Marysville and Union County to form a Council of Governments to advance Ohio's 33 Smart Mobility Corridor, which is intended to become the primary test-bed of connected and autonomous vehicle (CAV) technology in the Midwest and beyond; and

WHEREAS, the recent fiscal year 2018 Omnibus allocates \$100 million for a United States Department of Transportation highly automated vehicle research development program, with \$60 million to be used for grants and cooperative agreements to fund demonstration projects that test the feasibility and safety of highly automated vehicles and advanced driver assist systems deployments; and

WHEREAS, eligible entities that may compete for this grant include those that have been designated as autonomous proving grounds; and

WHEREAS, USDOT has designated 10 facilities across the United States as federal proving grounds for autonomous vehicles; and

WHEREAS, the Transportation Research Center, Inc. (TRC) in East Liberty, Ohio, has been conducting safe testing, demonstration and deployment of automated vehicle technology for more than 40 years; and

WHEREAS, with 4,500 acres, TRC is the largest, independent vehicle test facility and proving grounds in the United States; and

WHEREAS, TRC will begin a \$45-million public-private partnership to expand its facilities, including urban center simulations, a high-speed intersection and an indoor winter conditions facility, to allow comprehensive testing of autonomous vehicles; and

WHEREAS, the investments at TRC to support off-the-road testing of connected and autonomous vehicles are further enhanced by the smart infrastructure investments being made by Smart Columbus and the 33 Smart Mobility Corridor; and

WHEREAS, these public improvements to highways and streets will provide on-the-road CAV testing connecting TRC to more than 35 miles of rural and suburban highway and urban streets with dedicated short-range communications; in total, more than \$500 million of public and private funds are being invested in the Columbus Region's smart infrastructure; and

WHEREAS, the future of automotive driverless vehicles is moving at a rapid pace, which means a safe and reliable U.S. infrastructure is vital to the advancement of our industry and safe deployment of autonomous vehicles; and

WHEREAS, having TRC as a world-class mobility proving ground to test autonomous vehicles is paramount to the future of our region.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Council of the City of Dublin, State of Ohio, _____ of the elected members concurring, that:

Section 1. Council believes having TRC as a world-class mobility proving ground to test autonomous vehicles is paramount to the future of our region, and supports USDOT expanding its program to include Transportation Research Center, Inc., in East Liberty, Ohio.

RECORD OF RESOLUTIONS

Resolution No. 25-18

Passed Page 2 of 2, 20

Section 2. This Resolution shall take effect upon passage in accordance with Section 4.04(a) of the Revised Charter.

Passed this _____ day of _____, 2018.

Mayor - Presiding Officer

ATTEST:

Clerk of Council