

TO: Mayor and Members of City Council

FROM: John McDonough, City Manager

DATE: April 26, 2017 for submission on the May 16, 2017 City Council Meeting agenda

ITEM: RESOLUTION TO AUTHORIZE ACCEPTANCE BY THE CITY OF A DRONE TO BE USED BY THE CITY'S POLICE DEPARTMENT FOR PUBLIC SAFETY PURPOSES, AND TO TAKE ANY AND ALL ACTION REQUIRED TO BE TAKEN TO EFFECTUATE THE TRANSFER OF SAID GIFT.

Background and Discussion:

Interdev, the City's IT contractor, has offered to donate a drone to the City for use by the Sandy Springs Police Department ("PD") for public safety. The drone is a DJI Mavic Pro, which is small and lightweight, and Interdev feels the drone will be a valuable, possibly life-saving tool for the City.

PD expects to use the drone for many purposes, including:

1. Obtaining aerial surveys of serious injury and fatal crash scenes to assist in diagramming such scenes;
2. Photographing and video recording crime scenes;
3. Assisting in reconnaissance for high risk warrant service;
4. Searching for lost people;
5. Following suspects on the run;
6. Providing general surveillance of special events.

The drone may also be used to assist the Fire Department with aerial surveys of fire scenes to allocate manpower to fight fires. In addition, the drone may also be used to help other agencies under mutual aid agreements.

The retail cost of the drone is \$999.00. It requires little maintenance, operates on rechargeable batteries, and is monitored with a smartphone, which PD already has. The only additional cost will be batteries and a protective carry case.

PD will train several operators across its different units before allowing them to deploy the drone in real world operations. All police officers will be trained in the laws pertaining to drone operation by private and commercial operators so they are better equipped to handle calls relating to drone operation in the City.

Recommendation:

The City Manager recommends approval of the attached Resolution accepting the generous gift of the drone from Interdev.

Attachments:

Resolution.

STATE OF GEORGIA
COUNTY OF FULTON

A RESOLUTION TO AUTHORIZE ACCEPTANCE BY THE CITY OF A DRONE TO BE USED BY THE CITY'S POLICE DEPARTMENT FOR PUBLIC SAFETY PURPOSES, AND TO TAKE ANY AND ALL ACTION REQUIRED TO BE TAKEN TO EFFECTUATE THE TRANSFER OF SAID GIFT.

WHEREAS, Interdev, a contractor providing information technology services for the City of Sandy Springs ("City"), desires to donate a drone to the City's Police Department ("PD") to advance the public safety of the City's citizens; and

WHEREAS, the drone selected for donation to the City is a small and light-weight DJI Mavic Pro drone ("Drone") with many cutting-edge features; and

WHEREAS, it is anticipated the Drone will be used by PD for the following purposes, among others: providing aerial surveys of serious injury and fatal crash scenes to assist in diagrams of such scenes; providing photographs and video recordings of crime scenes; assisting in reconnaissance for high risk warrant service; searching for lost people; following suspects on the run; and providing general surveillance of special events in the City; and

WHEREAS, the Drone may be used to assist the City's fire department with aerial surveys of fire scenes to assist them with manpower allocation to better fight fires; and

WHEREAS, the Drone may also assist other agencies for the purposes described above under mutual aid agreements; and

WHEREAS, the retail cost of the Drone is \$999.00; and

WHEREAS, the Drone requires little maintenance, operates on rechargeable batteries and is monitored with a smartphone, which PD currently possesses; and

WHEREAS, the only cost to the City in connection with the Drone is for additional batteries and a protective carry case; and

WHEREAS, PD intends to train several operators regarding Drone usage before allowing them to deploy the Drone in real world operations and all PD officers will be trained in the laws pertaining to Drone operation by private and commercial operators to ensure they are prepared to handle any calls relating to the Drone's operation in the City; and

WHEREAS, PD desires that the City accept the Drone to be used for the public safety purposes described above;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Mayor and City Council of the City of Sandy Springs that:

1. The City does hereby accept the generous gift of Interdev to the City of the Drone, to be used by the Sandy Springs Police Department for public safety purposes; and

2. The City expresses its appreciation to Interdev for its interest in the public safety of the City's citizens; and

3. The Mayor is hereby designated and authorized to execute and deliver, and the City Clerk is hereby designated and authorized to attest, such documents as may be required, and to do all things necessary and proper to effectuate the intent of this resolution.

RESOLVED, this the _____ day of May, 2017.

Approved:

Russell K. Paul, Mayor

Attest:

Michael Casey, City Clerk

(SEAL)