

Automated Vehicles

(A. Knack)

Recommendation

That the April 3, 2018, Urban Form and Corporate Strategic Development report CR_5426, be received for information.

Previous Council/Committee Action

At the December 5, 2017, City Council meeting, Councillor A. Knack made the following inquiry:

With the recent comments from Minister Mason at Alberta Urban Municipalities Association about reorienting his department to prepare for the rise of automated vehicles, can Administration provide a report on the following:

1. Information that Administration already has regarding Laws (Provincial and Municipal) that would need to change in order to allow testing on Edmonton roads (ex: Research and Technology Park).
2. The results of any engagement that has occurred between the City of Edmonton and Alberta Innovates on automated vehicles.
3. Any conversations that have occurred between the City of Edmonton and the City of Calgary on automated vehicles (ex: shared advocacy).

Executive Summary

The target completion date for the provincial framework for testing of autonomous vehicles is June 2018. It will be followed by updates to the *Traffic Safety Act* or new regulations. In the interim, testing of autonomous vehicles is restricted to private land and public roads that are temporarily closed to the public.

Administration is committed to working with stakeholders and partners in developing a Smart Transportation approach to ensure that the City is able to respond to and take advantage of autonomous vehicle deployment; this includes advocating with the Province of Alberta to allow testing in Edmonton.

Report

Legal changes to allow testing of autonomous vehicles

The Government of Alberta is completing a regulatory framework so that autonomous vehicle testing in Alberta can be done safely and effectively. Administration has verified that the Province's target completion date for this framework is June 2018, with regulation and policy to be updated thereafter.

Until the provincial framework is completed, and subsequent updates to the Traffic Safety Act or new regulations are released, testing must occur on private land, or public roads that are temporarily closed to the public.

The Policy and Planning Support Committee (PPSC) of the Council of Deputy Ministers presented the report *The Future of Automated Vehicles in Canada* to the Council of Ministers of Transportation and Highway Safety on January 29, 2018 (Attachment 1). This report recommends that the municipal role of automated vehicle policy is to "execute the legislative and regulatory framework created by provinces and territories, including AV safety enforcement. They also make land use decisions and operate transit systems; both could be profoundly affected by widespread availability of AVs." This report included Edmonton and Vancouver's joint ACTIVE-AURORA pilots as featured projects for connected technology.

Alberta Innovates & City of Calgary engagement

Administration has engaged Alberta Innovates as a stakeholder in the Smart Transportation Action Plan. Alberta Innovates representatives are currently planning to attend the strategic workshop for the Smart Transportation Action Plan on April 13, 2018.

Administration has also engaged the City of Calgary on an ongoing basis for approximately two years regarding autonomous vehicles. Discussions have included pilot projects, municipal readiness and shared advocacy.

To support the development of the City of Edmonton's Smart Transportation Action Plan, Administration will engage a variety of stakeholders both internal and external to the City. The plan will identify actions that the City of Edmonton should undertake to prepare for and advance emerging transportation technologies - automated, shared, connected and electric mobility - in alignment with City Goals. Administration will return to Urban Planning Committee with an update in September 2018.

The Conference Board of Canada is bringing its Automated Vehicles Conference to Edmonton June 6-7, 2018, in partnership with the Canadian Institute of Transportation Engineers Conference, which will precede it from June 3-6. City staff will have a central role in planning both conferences.

With the City as a key partner and sponsor of the Automated Vehicle Conference, Administration will be contributing to the conference program. Administration and conference organizers are exploring an automated vehicle demonstration as part of the conference program.

Administration understands that the Province is targeting a June completion date of their framework in advance of this conference to highlight the framework.

Administration has met with the Province over the past six months and will continue to engage the Province to advocate for the provincial framework and to provide input to enable the City of Edmonton to continue to be a leader in this technology.

Public Engagement

Public engagement related to automated vehicles will be conducted in association with the Smart Transportation Action Plan.

Corporate Outcomes and Performance Management

Corporate Outcome(s): The City of Edmonton has sustainable and accessible infrastructure			
Outcome(s)	Measure(s)	Result(s)	Target(s)
The lens of new technology is incorporated in all applicable plans and strategies	Estimated Number of City plans and strategies integrating the lens of new transportation technology:	0	4 To be confirmed by Smart Transportation approach.
Edmonton is prepared to adapt to automated vehicle technology to support mode shift to transit and active transportation	Number of City-driven new mobility initiatives Number of externally-led new mobility initiatives with City participation	City Driven - 0 Partnered - 0	City Driven - 22 Partnered - 2 To be confirmed by Smart Transportation approach.

Risk Assessment

Risk Element	Risk Description	Likelihood	Impact	Risk Score (with current mitigations)	Current Mitigations	Potential Future Mitigations
Competition	If the City does not continue to advocate for and advance automated vehicle technology, other municipalities or other sectors will become the leaders, and yield greater planning, and financial benefit from the technology.	3 - possible	2 - moderate	6 - low	Administration is working on a Smart Transportation approach to address and mitigate this risk and will return to Council in Q3 2018.	To be determined by the Smart Transportation approach.

Attachment

1. The Future of Automated Vehicles in Canada

Others Reviewing this Report

- T. Burge, Chief Financial Officer and Deputy City Manager, Financial and Corporate Services
- C. Campbell, Deputy City Manager, Communications and Engagement
- D. Jones, Deputy City Manager, City Operations
- R. G. Klassen, Deputy City Manager, Regional and Economic Development
- A. Laughlin, Deputy City Manager, Integrated Infrastructure Services