

MOTION

10. Preparing Vancouver for Autonomous and Driverless Cars

At the Regular Council meeting on February 23, 2016, Vancouver City Council referred this matter to the Standing Committee on Policy and Strategic Priorities on February 24, 2016, to hear from speakers.

MOVER: Councillor Meggs

SECONDER: Mayor Robertson

WHEREAS

1. The City of Vancouver's Transportation 2040 plan, adopted in 2012 and now only four years old, is already showing important progress in supporting the City's planning and transportation goals, particularly in shifting the share of trips made by automobile to transit and active transportation, especially walking and cycling;
2. Technology for autonomous or driverless vehicles was then virtually unknown and in its early development stages, with only a single jurisdiction in the world with legislation to permit the use of such technology;
3. Driverless or autonomous vehicle technology is now progressing so rapidly that Ontario has permitted testing of such vehicles in 2016 and may allow regular use in the near future;
4. This new technology poses new challenges to protection of privacy in its collection of data, and offers new margins of safety, dramatic improvements in efficiency and the potential to free large areas of urban land for better use;
5. The widespread implementation of this technology, which several manufacturers have indicated that they expect to have fully automated vehicles available by 2020-2025, is forecast to reach as much as 75 percent of sales by 2040.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council direct staff to report back on:

- the implications, both positive and negative, of this technology on the City's transportation, land use, economic and sustainability plans, as well as the steps necessary to update those plans; and
- the views of the City's planning, transportation and technology experts on the best ways to maximize the benefits of this technology for the city and its economy while mitigating potential negative impacts.

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