



Legislation Text

File #: 21-0189, Version: 1

Resolution Approving a Memorandum of Understanding between Neutron Holdings, Inc. D/B/A “Lime” and the City of Hampton, Virginia Establishing a Motorized Scooter Pilot Program

PURPOSE/BACKGROUND:

In November 2019, the City Council enacted an ordinance (the “Ordinance”) governing shared mobility devices (“SMDs”), including motorized scooters, which requires companies to obtain a license from the City of Hampton (“City”) prior to offering SMDs for rent within City limits. Neutron Holdings, Inc. D/B/A “Lime” submitted a proposal to the City to offer motorized scooters (“Scooters”), as defined by section 46.2-100 of the Code of Virginia, for rent within the City. In accordance with section 46.2-1315 of the Code of Virginia, the Ordinance enables the City to establish a pilot program regulating the operation of scooters for a temporary period of time. The City owns, controls, and maintains its public rights-of-way and other public property, where Lime proposes to operate and park its scooters and desires to allow Lime to offer scooters for rent within the City as part of a limited scooter pilot program (the “Pilot Program”). Negotiations between the City and Lime pertaining to the Pilot Program have culminated in a proposed Memorandum of Understanding (“Agreement”), which is attached hereto as Exhibit 1. The purpose of the Pilot Program and the Agreement is to establish terms governing the temporary operation of scooters within the City; to assess the viability of a motorized scooter operation; and to understand the parameters that will allow scooters to operate effectively and in a manner consistent with the safety and well-being of bicyclists, pedestrians, people with disabilities, and other users.

Recommendation:

Conduct a public hearing and approve the resolution.

WHEREAS, in November 2019, the City Council enacted an ordinance (the “Ordinance”) governing shared mobility devices (“SMDs”), including motorized scooters, which requires companies to obtain a license from the City of Hampton (“City”) prior to offering SMDs for rent within City limits;

WHEREAS, Neutron Holdings, Inc. D/B/A “Lime” submitted a proposal to the City to offer only motorized scooters (“Scooters” or “scooters”), as defined by section 46.2-100 of the Code of Virginia, for rent within the City;

WHEREAS, in accordance with section 46.2-1315 of the Code of Virginia, the Ordinance enables the City to establish a pilot program regulating the operation of motorized scooters for a temporary period of time;

WHEREAS, the City owns, controls, and maintains its public rights-of-way and other public property, where Lime proposes to operate and park its scooters;

WHEREAS, the City desires to allow Lime to offer scooters for rent within the City as part of a

limited scooter pilot program (the "Pilot Program");

WHEREAS, negotiations between the City and Lime pertaining to the Pilot Program have culminated in a proposed Memorandum of Understanding ("Agreement"), which is attached hereto as Exhibit 1;

WHEREAS, the purpose of the Pilot Program and the Agreement is to establish terms governing the temporary operation of scooters within the City; to assess the viability of a motorized scooter operation; and to understand the parameters that will allow scooters to operate effectively and in a manner consistent with the safety and well-being of bicyclists, pedestrians, people with disabilities, and other users;

WHEREAS, the City Council finds that it is in the interests of the citizens of Hampton to enter into this Agreement.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the City Council for the City of Hampton, Virginia, as follows:

1. The City Manager is authorized and directed to execute, on behalf of the City, a Memorandum of Understanding in substantially the same form and content as that which is attached as Exhibit 1, to execute any other related documents, and to perform other such acts as may be necessary and appropriate pursuant to the Agreement, including those not specifically recited.
2. This resolution will take effect immediately upon adoption.