



CITY OF MOUNTAIN VIEW

MEMORANDUM

Police Department

DATE: August 27, 2019

TO: Council Procedures Committee

FROM: Saul Jaeger, Police Lieutenant

VIA: Daniel H. Rich, City Manager

SUBJECT: Review of Unmanned Aircraft Systems City Council Policy

BACKGROUND

The Committee is being requested to review the attached draft City Council Policy, Use of Unmanned Aircraft Systems, based on direction from the City Council at their April 9, 2019 meeting.

ANALYSIS

Staff presented the use of Unmanned Aircraft Systems (UAS) in support of City operations during the April 9, 2019 City Council meeting. Staff was directed by the City Council to draft an overarching City Council Policy for the use of UAS to address privacy concerns and the responsible use of the technology. The policy is scheduled to be reviewed at the September 3, 2019 City Council meeting.

Several Mountain View departments – Public Works, Fire, and Police – are interested in UAS technologies to enhance operations, work safer, and provide better and more efficient service within their respective areas of responsibility. Each department has developed, or is in the process of developing, department-specific policies and procedures to be followed in conjunction with the City Council Policy.

UAS technologies have been successfully used for a variety of purposes by municipal governments throughout the country. From building inspections to disaster recovery and mitigation, UAS technologies can allow for better situational awareness and decision making. Additionally, as cities seek to implement “smart city” strategies, the use of UAS technology can play a part.

In addition to presenting to the City Council on April 9, 2019, staff conducted a public online informational campaign seeking concerns and questions from the community, produced and published a podcast with a Federal Aviation Administration representative as a guest, posted a public service announcement raising awareness of a public information session scheduled for August 15, 2019, and successfully conducted the public information session, which was also live-casted. Staff received minimal feedback, questions, and/or concerns throughout all the outreach efforts.

RECOMMENDATION

Staff recommends the Committee consider and discuss the draft UAS policy as written and recommend/approve the policy for City Council consideration at the September 3, 2019 City Council meeting.

SJ/KB/5/POL
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Attachment: 1. Draft City Council Policy – Use of Unmanned Aircraft Systems