COUNTY AGENDA REQUEST

Department:	Commissioners	Presenter(s):	Chairman Steve Brown
Meeting Date:	Thursday, July 24, 2014	Type of Request:	New Business

Wording for the Agenda:

Consideration of Resolution 2014-17 entitled "Resolution Authorizing Fayette County as a Pilot Site in Metropolitan Atlanta for Autonomous Vehicle Design, Development, and Testing."

Background/History/Details:

Chairman Brown has been leading the discussion at the regional government level on the need to bring the development of autonomous vehicle technology to metropolitan Atlanta.

This rapidly developing technology is already being tested in California and other states, and it will create thousands of jobs in research and development; not to mention manufacturing worth billions of dollars.

McKensey and Company has pointed to autonomous and near-autonomous vehicle technology as one of the major disruptive technologies that will transform lives of people around the world.

Fayette County would make an ideal metropolitan Atlanta test site because of its low volume of automotive traffic, condition of the road network, rural and urban driving conditions for testing, well-educated workforce, potential sites for larger research and development testing facilities and proximity to Hartsfield-Jackson International Airport and research institutions such as Georgia Tech.

What action are you seeking from the Board of Commissioners?

Adoption of Resolution 2014-17 entitled "Resolution Authorizing Fayette County as a Pilot Site in Metropolitan Atlanta for Autonomous Vehicle Design, Development, and Testing."

If this item requires funding, please describe:

Not Applicable.

Has this request been considered within the past two years?	No	If so, when?	
Is Audio-Visual Equipment Required for this Request?*	Yes	Backup Provided with Request?	Yes

**** All audio-visual material must be submitted to the County Clerk's Office no later than 48 hours prior to the meeting. It is also your department's responsibility to ensure all third-party audio-visual material is submitted at least 48 hours in advance.***

Approved by Finance	Not Applicable	Reviewed by Legal	
Approved by Purchasing	Not Applicable	County Clerk's Approval	Yes
Administrator's Approval			

Staff Notes:

County of Fayette;
State of Georgia

RESOLUTION 2014-17

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING FAYETTE COUNTY AS A PILOT SITE IN METROPOLITAN ATLANTA FOR AUTONOMOUS VEHICLE DESIGN, DEVELOPMENT AND TESTING

WHEREAS, The Fayette County Board of Commissioners recognizes that autonomous vehicle technology offers the possibility of revolutionizing transportation as we currently know it, expecting to reduce crashes, energy consumption, and pollution, thus, reducing the costs of congestion and saving the state and local governments billions of dollars in future road expansion and transit costs; and

WHEREAS, What seemed unattainable just a short time ago due to the limits of technology is now being tested on roads and highways in the United States by Google and others, identified by McKinsey's Global Institute as a "potential revolution in ground transportation that could, if regulations allow, be well under way by 2025;" and

WHEREAS, The research and development to refine the technology for semi-autonomous and autonomous vehicles as well as the manufacture of the components accounts for a future multi-billion dollar industry; and

WHEREAS, It is essential that Georgia move to the forefront of this new "disruptive" technological movement, becoming early adapters, utilizing our research institutions, creating a responsive and inviting location for the development of this new industry and the jobs created around it; and

WHEREAS, Fayette County would make an ideal metropolitan Atlanta test site because of its low volume of automotive traffic, condition of the road network, rural and urban driving conditions for testing, well-educated workforce, potential sites for larger research and development testing facilities, proximity to Hartsfield-Jackson International Airport and research institutions such as Georgia Tech; and

WHEREAS, Using Fayette County as a pilot site will assist the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA), the Georgia General Assembly and the Georgia Department of Transportation with crafting policy and model legislation necessary to maximize the social benefits that autonomous vehicle technology will enable;

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED THAT the Board of Commissioners of Fayette County does hereby consent to working with State Officials on creating the necessary approvals to authorize Fayette County as a pilot site for research, development and manned-testing of autonomous vehicle technology, and in doing so, encourage the related technology interests to consolidate in Fayette County in order a establish an epicenter for the creation of Federal and State regulation as well as the development of industry standards.

So resolved this 24th day of July 2014, by the

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
FAYETTE COUNTY, GEORGIA

Attest:

_____
Steve Brown, Chairman

_____
Floyd L. Jones, County Clerk