



## **Proclamation Encouraging Autonomous Vehicle Testing as a Public Safety and Economic Development Initiative**

- WHEREAS,** the introduction of passenger and freight automobiles operating with autonomous functionality is imminent and likely to profoundly affect our lives and our communities; and
- WHEREAS,** these vehicles have the potential to greatly reduce or eliminate traffic fatalities caused by human error and distraction. Furthermore, intelligent vehicles will reduce congestion, emissions and the need for costly additions of lanes to busy roadways; and
- WHEREAS,** the Contra Costa Transportation Authority and its partners at GoMentum Station – the largest secure connected and autonomous vehicle proving grounds in the nation, located in Contra Costa County – are at the forefront of advancing innovations in vehicle-to-vehicle communications, sensor technology, human factors, artificial intelligence, clean air, safety, and public policy issues critical to the success of this transformational change; and
- WHEREAS,** many companies in our region have been successfully pioneering similar vehicle systems in the passenger, freight and transit fields, and there exists a robust community of software and technology companies whose development can be encouraged by supportive cities; and
- WHEREAS,** it is our stated goal to engage in strategic economic development initiatives that will create high-paying employment opportunities to strengthen our overall economy and provide benefit to all citizens. We realize that those communities and states that are first to embrace this life-saving and transformational technological advancement will stand to gain the most potential economic benefit.

**NOW, THEREFORE,** be it resolved that I, Kevin Romick, Mayor of the City of Oakley on behalf of the City Council, do hereby proclaim that Contra Costa County and the City of Oakley welcome the testing and operation of intelligent vehicles on the streets and roads over which we have jurisdiction in accordance with applicable law, as a means to encourage the advancement of this technology and to create economic benefit, and will, if necessary, work collaboratively with other jurisdictions in Contra Costa County to address any issues that arise in order to best protect the safety of our citizens.

September 13, 2016

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Kevin Romick, Mayor