

Put Technology TO WORK

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Alicia Winkelblech

Assistant Director of Strategic Planning



City of Arlington Invites Companies to Test Robotic Sidewalk Delivery Technology

Need some lunch, a package or important papers brought to your home or office? Companies may send an autonomous robot to make that delivery to your door one day soon thanks to the innovation and forward thinking of the City of Arlington.

The Arlington City Council approved a resolution on Tuesday, June 19, 2018, to show support and encouragement for private companies in the growing autonomous technology industry to come to The American Dream City to test and deploy robotic delivery devices in a real-world environment.

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Arlington
Edition

Dog Name game



Buddy, Molly or Coco? Play This Game to Guess the Most Popular Dog Names in Arlington

Have you ever wondered how your dog's name matches up with other pets in Arlington? How many Mavericks, say, compared to Busters or Rockys compared to Rangers? Thanks to a talented team of teen coders who recently participated in the Arlington Public Library's Coding with Robots Program, there's now an online game that lets you guess the most popular dog names in town.

Five teens in grades 8 through 10 helped create the Dog Name Game based on the names listed in Arlington Animal Services' pet licensing database. This fun game not only allowed the teens to apply their knowledge of coding, it is also designed to raise awareness about the City of Arlington's pet licensing requirements and pet adoption opportunities provided by Arlington Animal Services.

The 10-question game, which has an "easy" and a "hard" mode, has a simple interface for anyone to easily access and enjoy. Participants are provided with two dog name choices and are asked to pick the one he or she thinks is more popular in The American Dream City. Once a selection is made, the results show up with the number of pets in Arlington that share the name. For example, you're more likely to find a pooch named Molly than Roxie or Sonia, according to the game.

At the end of the game, participants are invited to learn more about pet licensing. A City license, which is required for all dogs and cats, is \$7 a year for altered animals or \$30 a year for non-altered animals. Proofs of current rabies vaccination and pet alteration is needed to receive the discounted fee.

Updates (Continued from page 1)

"We recognize that transportation technology is changing quickly. We believe by providing an environment where vendors can deploy early technology, we will be able to learn and better prepare for the future," said Alicia Winkelblech, the City's assistant director of strategic planning.

Arlington, which became the first city in the country last year to offer ongoing autonomous shuttle service to the public, has developed a reputation for its interest in exploring technology-based mobility solutions. As a result, the City has been approached by companies interested in deploying robotic delivery technology, which are also known as Personal Delivery Devices, as part of pilot programs.

In the development of the resolution, San Francisco-based, last-mile logistics robotics company Marble provided the City with valuable information related to the technology development, commercial applications, and social benefits of personal delivery devices.

"Arlington's approach to implementing technology is similar to a startup: forward-thinking, innovative, and agile," said Marble CEO Matt Delaney. "The resolution provides Marble with the opportunity to test and explore the capabilities and benefits that our robots can have on society."

The City is not funding any pilot projects related to robotic sidewalk delivery, but it is looking to provide a supportive institutional environment for vendors, Winkelblech said. Companies would be allowed to operate autonomous, electric robotic delivery devices on city sidewalks to deliver packages. These slow-moving devices, which would require the intended recipient to enter a code to access their delivery, typically travel three to four miles an hour and are designed to make shorts trips ranging from a few blocks up to two miles.

In addition to encouraging companies to share their data with the City, the resolution City Council approved discourages the use of Personal Delivery Devices during special events within the Entertainment District and suggests a preferred size of the devices to no more than 26 inches wide.

"This will ensure these slow-moving delivery devices are small enough for pedestrians to easily maneuver around on city sidewalks," Winkelblech said.

In June, the Arlington City Council also approved a resolution authorizing the competitive sealed proposal (RFP) procurement method for a new on-street autonomous vehicle service. This Request for Proposal will allow the City to contract with a vendor to provide on-street autonomous transportation services to the public within the Entertainment District. The City was the first in the nation to offer ongoing autonomous shuttle service to the public and plans to continue testing new technology.

Highlights

Arlington Tomorrow Foundation Helps Connect Families to Babies in NICU

On a video screen, a tiny newborn appears asleep in a crib.

The parents, who cannot be at the baby's side, watch the screen to check in throughout the day.

This new technology is now live at Texas Health Arlington Memorial Hospital, providing an instant connection between parents and their infants who require long stays in the Neonatal Intensive Care Unit (NICU).

Arlington Tomorrow Foundation contributed \$82,000 for the system, called Angel Eye Camera Systems.

"It is very difficult for parents to leave the hospital with empty arms," said Amber Bellville, a veteran NICU nurse at Texas Health Arlington Memorial. "They know their babies physically need to be in the hospital to grow and be healthy, but it's very difficult emotionally."

Using a secure login, families can now pull up a live feed of their babies anytime on a computer or smartphone. The system also includes one-way audio so parents can talk to their babies.

Arlington Memorial has installed 17



cameras in its NICU, which serves more than 300 pre-term, high-risk and ill newborns each year.

The hospital is part of Texas Health Resources, which is working to bring the technology to all of its NICUs.

Arlington's Via Rideshare Provides Affordable Transportation for UTA Students



Marvin Tran doesn't own a car, so the 23-year-old marketing major relies on public transportation to get to his classes at the University of Texas at Arlington from his home in Dallas.

Tran's daily commute includes taking a train to the TRE CentrePort Station, where he then pulls out his smart phone and books a ride on one of the City of Arlington's 10 Via Rideshare vans. Within minutes, he's picked up by a Via driver and is able to sit back and browse his phone, listen to music or study during the 10-mile trip to the UTA campus in Downtown Arlington.

Besides the affordability, Tran said he appreciates the Via Rideshare service's dependability and flexibility.

"It drops me off right in front of my class," Tran said.

Tran is one of more than 5,550 people who have set up accounts with Via since the City of Arlington's rideshare pilot program rolled out last December. Arlington, partnered with Via, is one of the first cities in the nation to offer on-demand ridesharing as an innovative public transportation solution. The service is designed to provide affordable transportation to key areas of The American Dream City, allowing riders to access entertainment, shopping

and dining options, work or school, and even medical appointments.

Because he takes advantage of the ViaPass, Tran enjoys up to four trips a day on Via Rideshare for a promotional rate of just \$10 per week. That means in between classes, he can also book rides to restaurants in Downtown, to the Entertainment District or to other destinations within the Via service area at no additional cost.

"When they came out with the pass, I could take more classes," Tran added, saying that public transportation costs had him previously limiting his trips to UTA to twice a week. Before becoming a Via rider, Tran said other on-demand transportation services between TRE CentrePort Station and UTA had cost him as much as \$24.

"I've told people if they plan to go to UTA or be in Arlington, just take Via," Tran said. "You can go to the stadium, you can go Downtown. There's lots of stuff in Arlington."



OPEN ARLINGTON

New Community Survey Will Help Arlington Prioritize Release of Open Data

The City of Arlington wants to know what data its residents and visitors care about. Please participate in this brief survey to help us make our growing webpage, [Open Arlington](#), a

better resource for you and the community at large. This survey will help us know what data interests you the most and that feedback will help us prioritize our work!

[Click here to participate in the City of Arlington Open Data survey.](#)

This survey closes August 31, 2018.

And if you haven't check out Open Arlington recently, you should know we've finished making some major improvements. For example, you can find out what parks, libraries, public art or cultural opportunities are near you through the new Neighborhood Amenities app. Or get a closer look at some of our innovative Smart City projects, which include plans to test autonomous robot delivery devices on city sidewalks.



UT Arlington Granted 23 Patents as Part of UT System's No. 3 World Rank

The University of Texas at Arlington was granted 23 U.S. patents in 2017, a success that contributed to UT System's overall No. 3 ranking in the Top 100 Worldwide Universities Granted U.S. Utility Patents in 2017.

These rankings, compiled by the National Academy of Inventors and the Intellectual Property Owners Association, were based on data obtained from the United States Patent and Trademark Office.

"UTA is a Carnegie R1: Highest Research Activity university with a strong entrepreneurship and innovation culture," said Duane Dimos, UTA vice president for research.

"We also lead Texas universities in the number of National Academy of Inventors fellows and are ranked in the top 10 nationally for NAI

fellows, which is a clear recognition of our commitment to translating our inventions into real solutions for the benefit of society," he added.

The Carnegie Classifications of Institutions of Higher Education are the main reference for research institutions in the United States and R1 is the highest classification. The National Academy of Inventors is a national member organization that recognizes as fellows inventors who have contributed to important advances in a wide variety of fields and successfully patented their inventions.

Among the UTA technologies patented last year were:

- Radio therapeutic nanoseeds to target inoperable small tumors
- Flexible strain sensor
- Ashless environment-friendly lubricants
- Device for assessing soil heave

"UTA has a strong innovation ecosystem that enables the university to patent the inventions created by its faculty and students and to find the funding or licensing opportunities that enables companies to bring those inventions to the market," said Teri Schultz, director of UTA's Office of Technology Management. "We are proud members of the UT System and aim to continue to contribute strongly to the UT System's high ranking in the Top 100 Worldwide Universities Granted U.S. Utility Patents."