

Resolution Draft

ORDINANCE OF THE CITY (Town, Village, County) of _____ FOR THE PROTECTION OF THE PUBLIC AGAINST THE POTENTIAL THREAT TO PRIVACY AND SAFETY POSED BY THE USE OF UNMANNED AERIAL VEHICLES (DRONES)

WHEREAS, United States airspace is the busiest in the world, with up to 87,000 flights per day, including commercial airliners and freight haulers, air taxis and private and military aircraft;

WHEREAS, under the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) Modernization and Reform Act of 2012, the FAA is directed to create regulations that will enable unmanned aerial vehicles (referred to in the remainder of this ordinance as drones) to fly throughout US airspace by September 2015;

WHEREAS, the current absence of legal constraints for the use of drone technology creates a potential for government abuse through the unchecked use of drones;

WHEREAS, drones do not have the same capability to avoid other aircraft and there have been many instances of drone crashes;

WHEREAS, drones have the capability of carrying a variety of weapons, including 12-gauge shot guns, tear gas, rubber bullet guns, bombs and missiles, and have been used overseas to carry out extrajudicial assassinations;

WHEREAS, drones have the capacity to continuously monitor and track individuals' movements, store images and data, record phone and text communications, and take photographs and film individuals without regard to the distinction between public and private spaces on a 24-hour basis;

BE IT RESOLVED, that any data collected or evidence obtained via drone by law enforcement can only be done with a probable cause warrant or in an emergency that constitutes an imminent threat.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that data obtained using a warrant may only be used during the time of a court case, and must be immediately destroyed afterwards and not used for any other purposes.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that weaponizing of drones by non-military agencies - especially by law enforcement agencies - be strictly prohibited.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that any entity in the city that intends to use drone technology must submit for approval to the City Council a statement of purpose and guidelines for use, and that the Council shall exercise oversight over implementation.