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News Release

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2018 Demo Day to Celebrate Innovate Durham Program
Six Startup Companies to Showcase Their Results for Durham's Local Governments

DURHAM, N.C. – New ideas and technology are now benefiting the City of Durham and Durham County governments, and residents and other startups are invited to meet the six companies that made it happen during an event early next month.

On Tuesday, December 4 beginning at 6 p.m. at Hayti Heritage Center, located at 804 Fayetteville St., the six 2018 Innovate Durham cohort participants will share presentations about their company and the work they did in partnership with City and County departments at the program's second annual Demo Day. The event is free and open to the public, and will provide an opportunity for residents to see the results of innovative solutions tested, and allow other startups to learn more about the program that serves as a model for government innovation in action.

City and County staffs collaboratively chose six partners for the 2018 cohort, which is a program that allows startups and entrepreneurs to use local government as a lab to test out an idea, product or service by getting access to local government staff, data, and facilities. The 2018 partners and their assigned test-case departments are as follows:

Community Expert Solutions
Durham County Public Health Department
Community Expert Solutions has an online platform, Digital LinCS, that matches, connects, and manages eligible people to patient assistance programs for free and reduced-cost HIV medications. Digital LinCS is configured to complete patient assistance programs for PrEP (Pre-exposure prophylaxis), a daily pill used to prevent HIV, and HIV Medication Assistance Program applications for HIV treatment medications.

Deep Visual Insights
City of Durham General Services Department
Deep Visual Insights uses artificial intelligence software to automatically and regularly check that security cameras are properly working. With this software, unhealthy cameras are quickly identified and operators are alerted of the problem. This software was developed by veteran Duke University researchers as part of a research project that was initiated by the Duke University Office of Information Technology.

Hoverlay
Durham County Library & Engineering Services Departments
Hoverlay is an augmented reality application that displays information about development projects at the project location. Anyone around that location can experience highly visual, highly curated content about the project. This pilot tested whether the app can increase engagement and understanding of the benefits of development.

Rownd
City of Durham Fleet Management Department

Rownd is an internet-of-things platform which makes every vehicle a smart vehicle. Using the OBD-II port on the dashboard, the platform monitors engine performance and problems, location, acceleration and deceleration patterns, crashes, and maintenance schedules. Rownd starts with end-to-end security and data-ownership in which the user owns their data and it is kept secure.

State of Place
City of Durham Transportation Department
State of Place is predictive analytics software that quantifies what people love about cities - walkability, sustainability, livability. State of Place uses a data-driven, holistic urban design focus to help achieve the City's Vision Zero goal of zero pedestrian fatalities. The software automatically recommends optimal ways to improve places for people, planet, and profits effectively and cost efficiently.

TRASHR
City of Durham Solid Waste Management Department
TRASHR is an internet-of-things technology that seeks to make the waste management industry more efficient while promoting sustainable initiatives. TRASHR uses sensors to measure how full a dumpster is and transmits that information to a database where provided data analytics can be used to optimize waste routes, validate new composting initiatives, and save money.

These six startups were selected using several criteria including the ability to allow the City and County to test the latest technology and build innovation capacity within each organization. Four of the six companies are located in Durham and five companies self-identified as minority or woman-owned or led. The pilot period for each company ran from August 20 through November 20. Each partner meet regularly with Innovate Durham staff as well as selected City or County departments to help test their products.

Durham remains the first city and county in North Carolina to start a public-private innovation partnership program and modeled its program after existing programs in Kansas City, Mo., Pittsburgh, Pa., and San Francisco, Calif. For more information, visit the Innovate Durham website or contact Senior Budget & Management Analyst Ben Kittelson with the City's Budget and Management Services Department at (919) 560-4111, ext. 20289 or Ben.Kittelson@DurhamNC.gov, or Strategic Initiative Analyst Eric Marsh with the County's Strategic Initiatives Office at (919) 560-0018 or emarsh@dconc.gov.

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