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Proposal: A Bitcoin-Based Dividend for New York City Residents

This proposal outlines a framework to implement a Bitcoin-based dividend system for New York City residents, aiming to empower citizens by directly sharing the city's economic success, promote financial inclusion by introducing residents to cryptocurrency and fostering financial literacy, attract and retain tech-savvy individuals and businesses to enhance the city's appeal, and support local businesses by encouraging spending within the city's economy. By integrating modern technology with local government resources, this initiative seeks to create a more equitable and sustainable financial ecosystem.

The dividend system emphasizes real-time, penny-accurate checkbook transparency to maximize accountability and efficiency, as opposed to the costly and limited benefits of current government transparency systems such as SOCRATA (now Tyler Technologies) and LEIGHTRONIX INC. A portion of the city's annual budget surplus, potentially generated from increased tourism revenue, economic development initiatives, and tax revenue from cryptocurrency-related businesses, would fund the program and eventually we could just redirect any taxes directly to the citizens and eliminate local government completely except for essential services. All legal residents of New York City, regardless of income level, would be eligible to participate. Recipients would receive recurring Bitcoin allocations through a secure digital wallet platform, designed for easy access and fund management, with the frequency of distribution being monthly, quarterly, or annually. The initial dividend amount would be determined through feasibility studies and adjusted based on the city's economic performance and budgetary considerations.

To ensure the program's success, a pilot program would be initiated with a limited participant pool to test functionality and address potential issues before citywide rollout. Comprehensive educational initiatives would be launched to inform residents about the basics of Bitcoin, the benefits of the program, and safe cryptocurrency management practices. Partnerships with cryptocurrency exchanges, financial institutions, and community organizations would be established to enhance the program's impact. Robust security measures, including encryption and fraud detection systems, would be implemented to protect resident funds and ensure data integrity.

This proposal includes an additional revenue stream generated by car-sharing corporations operating in New York City. A portion of car-sharing company profits would contribute to the citizen dividend fund through franchise fees imposed for operating within city limits, revenue-sharing agreements allocating a percentage of company revenues, and usage-based fees applied to individual car-sharing transactions. By ensuring these companies, which benefit from city infrastructure and contribute to congestion, fairly share their economic benefits with the

city, the program could also reduce traffic congestion by incentivizing sustainable transportation options. Implementation would involve feasibility studies to determine appropriate fees and revenue-sharing percentages, transparent agreements with car-sharing companies, and regular audits to ensure compliance and accurate tracking of contributions.

The program would stimulate economic growth by increasing spending within the city, boosting local businesses, and creating jobs, while also fostering financial empowerment through broader access to cryptocurrency and improved financial literacy. It would enhance the city's appeal to innovative individuals and businesses, positioning New York City as a leader in cryptocurrency adoption. By providing a consistent source of supplemental income, the program could reduce income inequality and enhance social equity. The integration of car-sharing revenue would diversify funding sources, ensuring sustainability and increasing the program's long-term impact.

Although promising, the program faces challenges such as Bitcoin's value volatility, which requires strategies to manage fluctuations, and the critical need for strong cybersecurity measures to protect resident funds and prevent fraud. Regulatory compliance with evolving cryptocurrency laws will also be essential, and addressing public skepticism and building trust in the program will play a vital role in its success.

A Bitcoin-based dividend program offers a transformative opportunity to share New York City's prosperity with its residents, promote innovation, and foster equity. By incorporating car-sharing revenue, this initiative becomes more sustainable and impactful. Despite the challenges, thorough planning and stakeholder collaboration can unlock significant economic and social benefits for New York City.