



The Iowa Advisory Council on Automated Transportation is intended to increase roadway safety, personal mobility, and freight movement within the state of Iowa by advancing highly automated vehicle technologies. The Council provides guidance, recommendations, and strategic oversight of automated transportation activities in the state. The structure of the ATC Press Clippings is done to align with the subcommittees and working groups that exist for the Council while aiming to keep the Council and other interested parties informed. Learn more at iowadrivingav.org/

Articles and upcoming events

March 4, 2024

Infrastructure Readiness

[How Iowa DOT Uses Augmented Reality for Projects](#) – *AASHTO Journal*

Matt Miller, the agency's director of emerging technologies, explained in the post that Iowa DOT is continuously collecting data on construction and maintenance projects; creating a "mountain" of data is simply "a bunch of images, documents, and numbers" if it can't be connected in a meaningful way.

[Youngstown OKs \\$682K Contract for Autonomous Shuttle](#) – *The Business Journal*

The city's Board of Control approved entering into a \$682,096.58 contract Thursday morning with Transdev Services Inc. for an autonomous shuttle, one of two that will be serving downtown. The shuttle covered by the agreement the city entered into is part of the approximately \$25 million Smart2 – for Strategic & Sustainable, Medical

& Manufacturing, Academic & Arts, Residential & Recreational, Technology & Training – Network project that also involves reconstruction of several downtown roads. Transdev will provide WRTA’s shuttle, which will seat about eight passengers plus offer two spaces for wheelchairs, said Dean Harris, WRTA’s executive director. The city will be able to charge and store its shuttle, which Harris said he believes is about the same size, at WRTA’s facility. The company will also provide a “safety driver,” who will be on board to navigate in the event the shuttle encounters an unanticipated obstacle such as construction or an accident

Oxa & Beep deliver AV services in Florida – ITS International

Oxa, which provides self-driving vehicle software, has launched its first commercial Oxa Driver product in passenger shuttles in Jacksonville, in the US state of Florida. The services are operated by Beep, a US shuttle service provider, in partnership with the Jacksonville Transport Authority and the Florida State College at Jacksonville. The shuttles are part of an autonomous vehicle programme - licensed by the US National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) - and the wider Ultimate Urban Circulator Project (U2C). U2C is a comprehensive programme to modernise and expand the Jacksonville Skyway – a 4km-long elevated monorail - and introduce AVs into the transport authority’s transportation system.

Driverless buses heading to city centre – BBC

Passengers will be able to ride on self-driving buses in Sunderland from May. The buses will transport people on public roads between the city's transport interchange and Sunderland Royal Hospital

Policy & Legislation

Ohio Gets Approval for Drone Traffic Surveillance Program – Government Technology

The Ohio Department of Transportation is planning to fly a large drone over a stretch of highway outside Columbus as part of a pilot traffic surveillance program, after receiving special permission. State officials refer to the stretch of U.S. 33 where the drone will operate as its “Smart Mobility Corridor,” which ODOT has outfitted with fiber-optic cables, road sensors and other equipment as part of its research into future automotive technology. The road connects Columbus with Marysville, the site

of a large Honda factory and the state's Transportation Research Center, a vehicle safety testing site

Truck rule is first test drive of federal autonomous vehicle oversight – Roll Call

The federal government, which has been slow to complete comprehensive regulations for automated driving systems, is mulling proposed standards for self-driving commercial vehicles. The proposed rule is expected this spring from the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration and would be in many ways a first step, as the bulk of policy governing the autonomous vehicle industry has come from a patchwork of state and local governments. The proposed rule is expected to address training and certification, drug and alcohol testing and physical qualification requirements for human operators of trucks with autonomous driving systems, even though operators would not be directly controlling the vehicle.

Waymo approved by regulator to expand robotaxi service in Los Angeles, San Francisco Peninsula – CNBC

Alphabet's Waymo division won approval from the California Public Utilities Commission to expand service to parts of L.A. and the Bay Area.

Economic Development

ARM and Nuro announce L4 partnership – New Electronics

ARM, the semiconductor design and software platform company, and Nuro, a leading autonomous technology company, have announced a multi-year collaboration to drive a scalable approach to the commercialisation of autonomous vehicles with AI built into their foundations.

Kodiak, Martin Brower test autonomous reefer route – Trucking Dive

Food and beverage distributor Martin Brower and autonomous trucking tech firm Kodiak Robotics are delivering freight autonomously with a safety driver eight times per week from Roanoke, Texas, to Oklahoma City, according to a news release. The deliveries involve time-critical refrigerated freight for restaurants, continuing runs that began in July 2022 and have already totaled over 600. After the autonomous vehicle route, local drivers distribute the products to multiple restaurants

[Aurora forges forward on trucking, highlights safety as passenger autonomy struggles](#) – *Pittsburgh Post-Gazette*

Aurora is flexing its safety and transparency achievements ahead of a commercial launch that could extend its lead in the autonomous vehicle industry as the passenger side of the market struggles. The Pittsburgh company said its software is almost completely ready for a commercial launch by the end of 2024 — a milestone that will allow Aurora to remove backup human drivers from about 20 autonomous trucks hauling freight along I-45 in Texas. Recent testing has shown the trucks to be safer than human drivers in some instances, CEO Chris Urmson detailed in an investor call last week.

Public Safety & Enforcement

[First public education programmes for self-driving vehicles launched](#) – *Fleet News*

The Partners for Automated Vehicle Education United Kingdom (PAVE UK) was launched this week at the Royal Automobile Club in London, with the Department for Business and Trade, the Department for Transport (DfT), the Centre for Connected and Autonomous Vehicles (CCAV), and Transport for West Midlands (TfWM) as its founding partners. The PAVE UK initiative aims to build public confidence in self-driving technology through a programme of education and engagement, supporting the UK Government's ambition to safely deploy self-driving vehicles on UK roads

[Opinion: How Letting Bikes 'Talk' To Cars Can Save Lives](#) – *Streetblogs USA*

Discusses how vehicle-to-everything technology could improve safety on roadways, particularly for vulnerable road users like bicyclists. The authors identified Denver and Utah as currently using V2X technologies

[GM's Cruise Prepares to Resume Robotaxi Testing After Halt](#) – *MSN*

General Motors Co.'s Cruise autonomous driving unit is nearing the resumption of robotaxi testing in the coming weeks, with Houston and Dallas emerging as potential locations, following the grounding of its fleet last year, according to people with knowledge of the matter. The Cruise LLC unit is in talks with officials in several metro areas, including the two Texas cities, about resuming tests on public roads

with safety drivers, said two of the people, who asked not to be identified because the deliberations are private.

Autonomous vehicle technology vulnerable to road object spoofing and vanishing attacks – *Tech Xplore*

A University of California, Irvine-led research team has demonstrated the potentially hazardous vulnerabilities associated with the technology called LiDAR, or Light Detection and Ranging, many autonomous vehicles use to navigate streets, roads and highways. [Research Paper](#)

Research, Development, Testing & Evaluation

To improve our technology': Waymo, a self-driving car service, doing weather testing in Buffalo – *WKBW-TV (includes video)*

Waymo, a self-driving car service, is currently doing weather testing right here in Buffalo in an effort to improve its technology. There is no word on when or if the service may come to Buffalo. It's made by Jaguar, is fully electric and has 29 cameras on its exterior. Some of the cameras have wipers so the cameras can detect the road even in winter weather.

PAVE Releases 2023 Annual Report – *Partners for Automated Vehicle Education*

2023 PAVE Annual Report provides an overview of our activities and initiatives from the past year

Nissan aims to start driverless ride service in Japan by 2027 – *Reuters*

Nissan Motor aims to start a small-scale driverless ride service in Japan in about three years as part of a move to use the technology to make up for a shrinking number of taxi drivers, it said on Wednesday. Nissan hopes to begin offering what is known as Level 4 autonomous driving services in three or four municipalities in Japan, including in rural areas, by the financial year starting April 2027. Nissan plans to conduct trials in Yokohama at Level 2 autonomy with safety drivers on board over the coming years

U Michigan researchers improve traffic signal timing with GPS data from a small number of connected vehicles – *Green Car Congress*

In an 18-month pilot study conducted in Birmingham, Michigan, the team used connected vehicle data insights provided by General Motors to test its system, resulting in a 20% to 30% decrease in the number of stops at signalized intersections. Officially, it's the world's first large-scale, cloud-based traffic signal retiming system, and it represents a major opportunity for communities to recalibrate their signal patterns at a reduced cost. U-M's research appears in an open-access paper in Nature Communications.

Upcoming Events

PAVE Europe Virtual Panel – “Riding the Wave: Pioneering the Future of Public Transport with AVs in Europe”

Partners for Automated Driving Education (PAVE) Europe

March 5

7:30 a.m.

Presenters:

Christian Willoch – Ruter As

Dimitri Konstantas – University of Geneva

Mara Cole – Bayern Innovativ GmbH

Inside the Multi-Machine Maneuver Transaction: Implications of Trust, Fault, and Machine Reputation

Center for Connected and Automated Transportation

March 14

1:00 p.m.

Presenter:

Dr. Karl Wunderlich - Noblis

Iowa Advisory Council on Automated Transportation In-person Meeting
Des Moines Area Community College on Thursday, April 18 from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.