



*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/](http://iowadrivingav.org/)*

## Articles and upcoming events

April 1, 2024

### Infrastructure Readiness

#### [Tempe, Ariz., to Pilot GPS-Based Traffic Signal Priority – ABC Channel 7](#)

*Tempe will partner with digital transportation technology company LYT to add GPS-based signal technology at 12 intersections. The new system will give emergency vehicles green lights as they approach the signal. The one-year pilot will explore the feasibility of deploying the LYT system across Tempe; how well the GPS solution works in a “real world” setting; and whether response times are, in fact, improved. The city’s existing optical system will stay enabled and the two systems will be compared and analyzed.*

#### [USDOT to launch free V2X training at ITS America Conference & Expo – Traffic Technology Today](#)

*As a foundational-level course, the training will equip participants with a basic understanding of V2X concepts. Topics: introduction to key components that*

*enable a V2X ecosystem, learn about potential benefits of the technology, and explore example use cases and the messages and standards that support them while ensuring safety and privacy.*

### Fully autonomous street crawlers could make potholes thing of the past – New Atlas

*Authorities in the UK have successfully tested an autonomous machine designed to detect and seal surface cracks that can grow into potholes – which could save time and money. Following four years of research from the University of Liverpool's School of Engineering, a spin-out company was launched in 2020 to develop an AI-driven robotic maintenance system that could autonomously detect and repair potholes and cracks in roads.*

### Can a 'Smart Highway' in Texas Pave the Way to Self-Driving? – Bloomberg

*Cavnue's \$1.4 million contract with TxDOT commits the company to develop a testing ground on SH 130 to allow TxDOT to evaluate "integrated roadway and technology improvements" to support automated commercial trucks, as well the ability to scale such services across the state.*

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## **Policy & Legislation**

### Bipartisan group of senators urges implementation of tech to connect vehicles – Safety 21

*U.S. Sen. Gary Peters, Chair of the Subcommittee on Surface Transportation, led a bipartisan group of Senate colleagues in calling on the U.S. Department of Transportation (DOT) to prioritize implementation of connected vehicle technologies to make America's roadways safer. Statements in support of the letter included quotes from The Intelligent Transportation Society of America, the National Safety Council, Michigan DOT director, and PeopleForBikes. [Full letter](#)*

### New York City OKs Robotaxis; Requires Human Safety Drivers for Autonomous Vehicle Tests – Tech Times

*New York City has a new authorization procedure for autonomous vehicle (AV) testing businesses. The technology requires a human safety driver behind the wheel at all times. Companies must get a state Department of Motor Vehicles authorization and meet safety driver recruiting and training*

*criteria under the plan. Autonomous cars must also follow traffic and curb laws. Companies must provide methods for system failures and crash prevention.*

### California Senate Bill 915 Opposition Letter – Autonomous Vehicle Industry Association (AVIA)

*This week, AVIA led 65+ organizations including disability advocates, California-based community groups, business organizations, and individual companies in sending a letter to California lawmakers opposing SB 915, a bill that would halt AV progress in the state. The bill would require that local governments authorize AVs even after they are granted approval by state regulators.*

### After stalling, autonomous vehicle bill made it to the finish line in the Kentucky legislature. – The Commonwealth

*The Kentucky General Assembly has given final approval to legislation paving the way for autonomous vehicle use on state roadways. The measure includes a phase-in approach to driverless operation. The amended bill requires a driver for vehicles for the first two years.*

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## **Economic Development**

### Volkswagen Group increases collaboration with Mobileye – ADAS & Autonomous Vehicle International

*The Volkswagen Group is intensifying its partnership with Mobileye to help it bring new automated driving functions to series production. Mobileye will provide technologies for partially and highly automated driving based on its Mobileye SuperVision and Mobileye Chauffeur platforms.*

### Cruise leadership pledges more transparency, greater culture of safety in new letter – Teslarati

*Cruise executives pledged that the company would do its best to elevate its standards, especially when it comes to transparency and its partnership with the communities it serves.*

### Kodiak Establishes Autonomous Truck Advisory Council – Heavy Duty Trucking

*The Kodiak Industry Advisory Council will bring together a “diverse” array of forward-thinking industry leaders to help shape the company’s product development, deployment, and public engagement as it focuses on the commercialization of autonomous trucks. Inaugural members of the Kodiak Industry Advisory Council represent well-known brands and organizations in North American trucking including: Arkansas Trucking Association, Loadsmith, Walmart, Werner Enterprises, and UPS.*

Ready or not, self-driving semi-trucks are coming to America’s highways – The Washington Post

*Autonomous truck companies plan a major expansion this year to deliver your packages and food, speeding well ahead of federal safety regulations. Includes videos from inside the trucks operating on roads with and without safety drivers.*

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## **Public Safety & Enforcement**

US NTSB probes driver assistance system use in fatal Ford crash – Reuters

*The NTSB has been investigating the use of an advanced driver assistance system in a Ford Mustang Mach-E that was involved in a Feb. 24 fatal crash in San Antonio, Texas. The NTSB said preliminary information indicated the Ford struck the rear of a Honda CR-V that was stationary in a traffic lane on Interstate Highway 10. A San Antonio police report said the Ford had “partial automation” engaged at the time of the crash.*

OPINION: Why V2X and ADAS will fail without driver education – Traffic Technology Today

*Connected vehicle technologies combined with ADAS systems working together may hold the key to reducing deaths and serious injuries, even achieving net-zero accidents. But one more thing is essential: good old-fashioned responsibility. Technology is a valuable enabler, but personal responsibility, education, and accountability remain the best tools for building a safer and more resilient society.*

Driver Assistance Technologies: NHTSA Should Take Action to Enhance Consumer Understanding of Capabilities and Limitations – U.S. Government Accountability Office (GAO)

GAO made five recommendations, including that NHTSA finalize its NCAP roadmap, communicate progress on meeting time frames to update NCAP, and provide information to consumers on the limitations of partial driving automation systems on its website. [Full report](#)

[Tesla's new basic Autopilot video tutorial is clear and focused on safety – Teslarati](#)

Tesla has released a thorough tutorial focused on basic Autopilot's features and proper use. The video is over four minutes long, and all throughout its duration, Tesla highlighted that the features of basic Autopilot does not make vehicles autonomous. The company also emphasized that basic Autopilot is designed to work with a fully attentive driver. [Tesla Tutorials \(YouTube Video\)](#)

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## **Research, Development, Testing & Evaluation**

[Several State DOT Projects Receive SMART Grants – AASHTO Journal](#)

The U.S. DOT recently issued more than \$50 million to 34 technology demonstration projects across the country through its [SMART grant program](#). These state department of transportation projects received SMART grants worth over \$1.0 million: Colorado DOT, Maryland Transit Administration, Maryland State Highway Administration, Pennsylvania DOT, and Wyoming DOT.

[Students at BHS are building a fully autonomous vehicle – Yahoo News](#)

Brighton High School students will get access to some of the latest advancements in autonomous vehicles through a program that could impact as many as 40 students. The high school is working with PIX Moving to procure an autonomous vehicle that its students can build this spring. In working on the project, students will assemble a computer system and sensors and complete the body from the skateboard chassis.

[China's Best Self-Driving Car Platforms, Tested and Compared – Wired](#)

WIRED tested China's top three autopilot systems to see just how far ahead they are. Videos included.

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## **Upcoming Events**

Iowa Advisory Council on Automated Transportation Meeting (In-person)  
Thursday, April 18 from 10 am - 12 pm, Des Moines Area Community College