



*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 September 16, 2024

### Infrastructure Readiness

[A DDOT robot is cruising the sidewalks of DC. Here's what it's up to – NBC Washington](#)

*The Washington D.C. DOT is using a small robot, called a Kiwibot in a pilot program to inventory signs. While travelling on sidewalks, the robot captures video of the signs which the DOT uses to determine if sign repairs are needed.*

[Researchers demonstrate pavement markers that transmit lane information to self-driving cars – Oak Ridge National Laboratory \(ORNL\)](#)

*Researchers at ORNL and Western Michigan University have developed pavement markers with microchips that transmit lane information to self-driving cars. This technology enhances navigation in poor weather and reduces power consumption, allowing electric vehicles to travel further before recharging.*

## Cars collect troves of data about traffic and road hazards. Should they share it? – AP News

*This article highlights how vehicle-to-everything technology is being utilized in Utah, Colorado, Montana, Texas and Michigan.*

## Airports See ‘Big Role’ For Autonomous Technology In Terminal, Ground Services – Aviation Week

*Airports are increasingly exploring autonomous technology for various functions, including snow removal on airfields and wheelchair services in terminals. This shift aims to enhance operational efficiency and passenger experience.*

## Aurrigo opens autonomous vehicle office at CVG airport – ADAS & Autonomous Vehicle International

*Aurrigo International has opened a new facility at Cincinnati/Northern Kentucky International Airport. This office, located inside the Delta Cargo building, will focus on deploying the Auto-DollyTug, a fully electric, autonomous tug designed to operate airside. The Auto-DollyTug aims to deliver cost savings, increased efficiency, and up to 60% carbon reduction compared to traditional diesel tugs.*

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## **Policy & Legislation**

### Gatik AI exec unpacks the regulations that could shape the AV industry – Emerging Tech Brew

*Richard Steiner, Gatik’s VP of Government Relations and Public Affairs, discussed the regulatory landscape for autonomous trucking. He emphasized the need for a more uniform national approach to regulations, rather than a state-by-state system. Steiner believes that a consistent federal framework would better support the widespread adoption and use of autonomous vehicles.*

### AVIA Statement Encouraging Governor Newsom to Veto AB 3061 – Autonomous Vehicle Industry Association (AVIA)

*AVIA has issued a statement urging Governor Newsom to veto Assembly Bill 3061. AVIA’s CEO, Jeff Farrah, emphasized the importance of public trust and transparency in the deployment of autonomous vehicles.*

### AVIA Statement Urging Governor Newsom to Veto AB 2286 – Autonomous Vehicle Industry Association (AVIA)

*AVIA has urged Governor Newsom to veto Assembly Bill 2286. AVIA's CEO, Jeff Farrah, argues that the bill, which aims to ban autonomous trucks in California, would hinder progress and prevent the state from benefiting from advancements in autonomous vehicle technology.*

### Protecting connected, self-driving vehicles from hackers – Computer Science and Engineering, University of Michigan

*The article discusses the vulnerabilities of connected, self-driving vehicle networks to data fabrication attacks. These networks, which rely on communication between vehicles and infrastructure, are at risk of being compromised by hackers. The University of Michigan-led study outlines preventive measures for fleet operators to protect against such attacks.*

### California DMV publishes draft of driverless regulations – Commercial Carrier Journal

*The California DMV has released draft regulations for heavy-duty autonomous vehicles, focusing on safety, operational protocols, and compliance. They are seeking public input to refine these standards.*

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## **Economic Development**

### Driverless semi-truck route to expand to Phoenix – Arizona's Family

*Aurora Innovation, a self-driving vehicle technology company based in Pittsburgh, has announced plans to extend its Fort Worth, Texas, to El Paso, Texas, lane by opening operations to Phoenix. Aurora said it expects to begin commercial trips with drivers for customers between Fort Worth and Phoenix in the first half of 2025, and it plans to start driverless operations on that route later in the year.*

### Driverless semis could be months away – ARS Technica

*The author met with representatives from Aurora, Kodiak, and Gatik to explore their autonomous strategies and current progress towards driverless operations. Both Kodiak and Gatik have initiated driverless testing under controlled conditions. Looking ahead, all three companies face the challenge of scaling up their driverless fleets and achieving profitability, all while maintaining a strong focus on safety.*

### Waymo and Uber expand their robotaxi partnership to Austin and Atlanta – The Verge

*Waymo and Uber have announced a multi-year strategic partnership to expand the availability of Waymo's autonomous driving technology via the Uber platform. They will be expanding their two-year robotaxi partnership to new cities: Austin, Texas, and Atlanta, Georgia, starting in early 2025.*

### Nuro is branching out into robotaxis and personally owned autonomous vehicles – The Verge

*Nuro is shifting its business strategy to focus on licensing its autonomous driving technology to outside companies, including car companies that want to use it for advanced driver-assist systems and rideshare operators for robotaxis.*

### Forterra Raises \$75 Million in Oversubscribed Series B Funding to Accelerate Self-Driving Technology for Defense and Industry – PR Newswire

*Forterra, a leading self-driving technology company, today announced its \$75 million Series B fundraise that was more than 2.5x oversubscribed. The new funding will enable Forterra to accelerate and scale the deployment of their autonomous driving system (ADS), AutoDrive®, with defense and industrial customers.*

### How Self-Driving Trucks Could Create New Jobs – Transport Topics

*The article discusses how self-driving trucks could impact jobs in the trucking industry. While autonomous trucks might displace some long-haul drivers, new job opportunities could emerge in areas like short-haul routes, logistics, and autonomous truck dispatching.*

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## **Public Safety & Enforcement**

### Experts say driver assistance systems are doing more for safety than self-driving tech – Tech Spot

*Experts are debating the impact of Advanced Driver Assistance Systems (ADAS) on road safety. Supporters argue ADAS reduces accidents by minimizing human error, while critics worry about over-reliance and system malfunctions. Mixed data fuels the debate. Continuous advancements and monitoring are needed to ensure ADAS enhances safety without new risks.*

### Volvo Says The EX90's 'Hardware Ready' For Self-Driving. But There's A Catch – Inside EVs

*Volvo's EX90 is equipped with hardware for autonomous driving, including radar and lidar sensors. However, the software for full autonomy isn't ready yet and needs further testing and regulatory approval. Volvo plans to introduce these features gradually, starting with highway driving under specific conditions.*

### Auto Innovators and PAVE Launch New Auto Safety PSA – Partners for Automated Vehicle Education (PAVE)

*The Alliance for Automotive Innovation and PAVE have launched a new PSA to emphasize the importance of driver engagement when using Advanced Driver Assistance Systems. The campaign aims to educate the public on the critical role drivers play in ensuring safety, even with advanced technologies. <https://www.whoisdriving.org/>*

### Tesla Workers Trained Autopilot To Ignore Road Signs So It Didn't Drive Like 'Robot That's Just Following Rules' – Jalopnik

*The article reveals that Tesla workers were instructed to train the Autopilot system to ignore certain road signs to avoid making the cars drive like “robots.” This was part of an effort to make the driving experience feel more natural. The report also highlights concerns about Tesla's workplace culture and the potential safety implications of such training practices.*

### Zoox Safety Report Volume 3.0 (published 2024) – Zook

*Zoox's latest safety report, Volume 3, outlines their comprehensive Operational Safety Program. This includes detailed processes for planning and ensuring safety during robotaxi operations, as well as maximizing safety learnings from these operations.*

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

### Guidelines to steer the future of autonomous trucking – Virginia Tech News

*The article discusses a comprehensive guidebook developed by the Virginia Tech Transportation Institute and 17 partners, funded by a \$7.5 million grant from the U.S. DOT. This guidebook outlines best practices and policy considerations for implementing automated driving systems in large trucks. It aims to steer the future of autonomous trucking by providing a concept of operations that addresses safety, efficiency, and regulatory issues. [Final Report](#)*

### LG First in World to Receive New 'Common Criteria Certification' in V2X Device Category – LG

*LG Electronics has achieved a significant milestone by receiving the world's first Common Criteria (CC) certification for security stability in the Vehicle-to-Everything (V2X) device category. This certification was awarded for LG's V2X solution developed for Volkswagen, specifically the VW Transceiver Module.*

### Waymo thinks it can overcome robotaxi skepticism with lots of safety data – The Verge

*Waymo has launched a new [safety data hub](#) that reveals that its robotaxis have driven 22 million miles with injury-reported crash rates, nearly four times lower than human drivers in Phoenix and San Francisco. This initiative aims to boost transparency and public trust in autonomous technology.*

### We took self-driving Waymo cars for a test ride. This is what happened – LAist

*A test ride of Waymo's self-driving cars in Los Angeles revealed that the vehicles are highly responsive to obstacles, sometimes making the ride feel a bit rough. The cars successfully navigated challenging routes, including one-way streets and unprotected left turns during rush hour. The experience highlighted both the potential and current limitations of autonomous driving technology.*

### Autonomous Trucking Lidar Will Be First – LiDAR News

*The article discusses how LiDAR technology is expected to be the first to enable autonomous trucking. Companies are focusing on integrating advanced LiDAR systems to enhance the safety and efficiency of self-driving trucks, paving the way for widespread adoption in the logistics industry.*

### AVs and robotaxis will be the norm in major cities by 2035 – Yahoo Finance

*The article discusses the projection that autonomous vehicles (AVs) and robotaxis will become commonplace in major cities by 2035. According to GlobalData, fleets of level four AVs will be widely adopted, transforming urban transportation. This shift is expected to enhance safety, reduce traffic congestion, and lower emissions. The article also highlights the technological advancements and regulatory support necessary to achieve this vision.*

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## **Upcoming Events**

UTC Fall 2024 Seminar Series: Autonomous Vehicle Deployment in Arizona  
*Urban Transportation Center, University of Illinois Chicago*

September 19  
12:00 p.m.

**Presenter:**

Amanda Kindle – Arizona Department of Transportation

The Role of Roadway Digital Infrastructure (RDI) in Emergency/Incident Management

*ITS America*

September 26

1:00 p.m.

**Presenters:**

Barry Matlack – Causeway

Brenda D. Guerra – Texas Department of Transportation

Brock Aun – HAAS Alert

Connectivity Solutions for Vulnerable Road Users: Let's have safer roads

*ITS America*

October 8

1:00 p.m.

**Presenters:**

Adam Snider – GHSA

Jacob Harel – Harman

Shailesh Patil – Qualcomm Technologies

Mina Sartipi – University of Tennessee-Chattanooga

**Iowa Advisory Council on Automated Transportation Subcommittee Meetings**

*Public Safety & Enforcement Subcommittee Meeting*

Wednesday, September 25 from 11:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

*Economic Development & Infrastructure Readiness Joint Subcommittee Meeting*

Friday, September 27 from 1:30 – 2:30 p.m.

*Policy & Legislation Subcommittee Meeting*