



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

January 6, 2025

Infrastructure Readiness

[V2X Interoperability Test Plan - Wyoming Archer Test Track](#) (Technical Report)
– U.S. Department of Transportation

The document outlines the test plan for Vehicle-to-Everything (V2X) interoperability, focusing on ensuring that different V2X systems can communicate effectively with each other. It includes detailed procedures for testing various aspects of V2X communication, such as message transmission, reception, and processing.

[Drivewyze expands services to three more US states](#) – ITS International

Drivewyze has expanded its Smart Roadways service to California, Michigan, and Nevada, providing in-cab virtual alerts to truck drivers about dangerous road conditions. This service is now available in 20 states, enhancing traffic safety by alerting drivers to slowdowns and hazards

New Driverless Bus Program Planned for Hong Kong Airport – IOT World Today

Hong Kong Airport is launching a new driverless bus program by the end of 2025. The service will connect the 11 Skies entertainment complex at Terminal 2 with the Hong Kong-Zhuhai-Macao Bridge checkpoint. Initially, 26 buses will be in operation, with plans to expand to 100 buses by 2028

Smart cars, roads and online cloud integration urged to improve safety – China Daily

The integration of smart vehicles, roads, and online clouds aims to enhance traffic safety and efficiency. A senior communication expert highlights that this combination will make driving less demanding and significantly improve overall traffic management.

Policy & Legislation

FMCSA denies exemption request from Waymo, Aurora – Land Line

The Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration (FMCSA) denied Waymo and Aurora's request for an exemption from regulations requiring traditional warning devices for stopped commercial motor vehicles. The companies sought to use cab-mounted beacons instead of ground-based reflective signs or road flares. FMCSA cited a lack of sufficient data and necessary monitoring controls to ensure highway safety.

As 'smart cities' tools grow nationwide, so do privacy and ethical concerns – Michigan Advance

As smart city technologies expand across the U.S., privacy and ethical concerns are growing. These technologies, including cameras and sensors, collect and analyze vast amounts of data to improve urban services. However, the increased monitoring raises issues about data retention and potential infringements on privacy and civil liberties.

Self-driving cars aren't here yet, but states are getting the rules ready – West Virginia Watch

States like Kentucky, Alabama, and South Dakota are preparing for self-driving cars by enacting new laws. These regulations include safety and communication plans for law enforcement and higher insurance requirements.

Mercedes-Benz approved for 95km/h Level 3 autonomous driving in Germany – ADAS & Autonomous Vehicle International

Mercedes-Benz has received approval from the German Federal Motor Transport Authority for its Drive Pilot system to conduct Level 3 autonomous driving at speeds up to 95 km/h. This makes it the fastest certified system for conditionally automated driving in a production vehicle.

Beijing introduces new regulations to promote autonomous driving – ADAS & Autonomous Vehicle International

Beijing has approved new regulations for AVs, set to take effect on April 1, 2025. These regulations cover infrastructure planning, on-road traffic management, and safety assurance, providing a clear framework for autonomous vehicles with Level 3 and higher systems. The new rules also introduce an annual inspection system to ensure the safety of these vehicles

Economic Development

Self-driving tech company expands in Bozeman – YP Radio

Aurora, a self-driving technology company, has expanded its operations with a new facility in Bozeman, Montana. The facility focuses on designing and manufacturing LiDAR sensors. The new facility currently employs 70 people and is part of the rapidly growing technology sector in Montana.

How autonomous trucks will impact the trucking workforce – Commercial Carrier Journal

Torc Robotics' Frank Mabry joins CCJ 10-44 to discuss automated trucking. Topics include public concerns, workforce changes, current use and research within automated trucking, regulations, and more.

Torc, Aeva Advance Autonomous Trucking – Self Drive News

Torc and Aeva have expanded their collaboration to accelerate the development of autonomous truck technology. This partnership focuses on improving safety and smarter decision-making by leveraging advanced 4D LiDAR sensing data and a Freightliner Cascadia platform.

Turns Out Blind People Really Love Taking Trips in Waymo's Self-Driving Robotaxis – SFist

Blind people in San Francisco appreciate Waymo's self-driving robotaxis for their accessibility features, such as honking or playing a tune to help locate the car, audio reminders, and detailed walking instructions. These adaptations, developed in collaboration with the National Federation of the Blind, make the service more reliable than traditional rideshare options.

Public Safety & Enforcement

Women harassed in San Francisco's driverless taxis as men chase and block vehicles – Yahoo News!

Women in San Francisco have reported harassment incidents involving driverless taxis. Men have been chasing, blocking, and attempting to break into these vehicles, causing safety concerns.

Waymo's First Responder Program Receives Independent Safety Confirmation – Waymo

Waymo's First Responder Program which includes training for over 15,000 first responders, ensures safe interactions between Waymo's AVs and emergency personnel. The validation confirms that Waymo's protocols meet industry standards for emergency responses. [Jaguar I-PACE Waymo Emergency Response Guide and Law Enforcement Interaction Protocol](#)

AVSC develops best practices for traceable AV safety inspection protocols – SAE International

The Automated Vehicle Safety Consortium (AVSC) has released a best-practice document for Automated Driving System-Dedicated Vehicles (ADS-DVs). It standardizes safety inspections, aiming to build public trust and promote industry consistency. The framework includes inspection elements, triggers, and a classification system for ADS-DV components.

Waymo explains how its driverless taxis handle car thefts after incident in downtown LA – MSN

Waymo's driverless taxis handle car thefts by keeping the automated driving system engaged, preventing manual operation. The Rider Support team can ask the individual to leave and coordinate with the Emergency Response Team and law enforcement if necessary.

Waymo reveals what happens to NYE revelers who pass out drunk in its self-driving taxis – Daily Mail

If a passenger passes out drunk in a Waymo self-driving taxi and doesn't respond, the vehicle's cameras and a human employee will assess the situation. If both confirm the passenger is incapacitated, a Waymo support agent will try to contact the passenger. If there's no response, emergency personnel will be contacted.

Research, Development, Testing & Evaluation

AAA research reveals safety progress in vehicle technology – Dayton Daily News

AAA's research shows that 2024 model vehicles with automatic emergency braking (AEB) systems avoided 100% of forward collisions at speeds up to 35 mph, a significant improvement from older models (2017-2018), which only avoided collisions 51% of the time.

Driverless taxis making the rounds along the Las Vegas Strip, preparing for passenger rides – Las Vegas Sun

Zoox is testing its driverless taxis along the Las Vegas Strip, aiming to offer rides to tourists and locals. These AVs have been operating since June 2023 and are designed for complex driving scenarios. Free rides for employees' families and friends will start in early 2025, with public rides to follow.

Safer, Cleaner, More Equitable: Seizing the Opportunities of Highly Automated Vehicles (white paper) – PAVE Europe

The white paper provides a comprehensive overview of the benefits and challenges of AV technology. It highlights the potential for improving road safety, reducing emissions, and enhancing accessibility. The paper also explores relevant use cases to help the general public, press, and policymakers understand and embrace the opportunities presented by autonomous mobility.

Americans warm to driverless cars, though skepticism remains – YouGov

A YouGov online survey reveals that while Americans are increasingly enthusiastic about driverless cars, with 35% expressing excitement, skepticism remains high. Concerns about the technology have decreased slightly, but 70% of respondents still have reservations.

Upcoming Events

ITS America Digital Twinning Decoded Webinar

ITS America

January 16

1:00 p.m.

Presenters:

Greg McGuire – Mcity

Matthew Junak – HNTB Corporation

Mark Pittman – Blynco

Jeanus Ko – Rekor Systems, Inc.

A National Strategy for Transportation Digital Infrastructure

ITS America

January 30

12:00 p.m.

Presenters:

Firas Ibrahim – U.S. Department of Transportation

Laura Chace – ITS America

Brian Cronin – U.S. Department of Transportation

Alasdair Cain – U.S. Department of Transportation

Timothy Drake – ITS America

Connected Vehicle Data Roundtable: Real-world applications to improve transportation for all

StreetLight

February 6

1:00 p.m.

Presenters:

Scott Lee – TranSmart

Zong Tian – University of Nevada Reno

Wang Zhang – Maricopa Association of Governments (MAG)

Carl Novelli – StreetLight

Automation In Transportation: Lessons For Safe Implementation

National Transportation Research Board (NTSB)

March 11-12, 2025

Washington D.C.

Forum participants:

Jennifer Homendy – NTSB Chair

NTSB Board Members

TRB Annual Meeting 2025

January 5 to 9, Washington, DC

CES 2025

January 7 to 10, Las Vegas, NV

SAE Government/Industry Meeting

January 28 to 30, Washington, DC

Iowa Advisory Council on Automated Transportation Meeting

Tuesday, April 29 from 10 am - 1 pm

Recent Events

Iowa Advisory Council on Automated Transportation Meeting Materials

Iowa Advisory Council on Automated Transportation

Tuesday, October 29