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

February 17, 2025

Infrastructure Readiness

NEMA releases standards for roadside V2X roadside units in the US *– Traffic Technology Today*

The National Electrical Manufacturers Association (NEMA) has released new standards for roadside vehicle-to-everything units in the US. The Connected Vehicle Infrastructure – Roadside Equipment Standard (NEMA TS 40010-2024) aims to improve communication among vehicles, infrastructure, and personal devices through over-the-air wireless safety messages, applications, and cybersecurity measures.

CAV Strategy for Canada *– Canadian Automated Vehicle Initiative*

The Canadian Automated Vehicle Initiative (CAVI) has developed a comprehensive strategy to advance connected and automated vehicle (CAV)

technology in Canada. The white paper outlines key recommendations, including a SWOT analysis of the current state of CAVs in Canada, and emphasizes the need for national-level action to enhance safety, innovation, and competitiveness in the CAV sector.

[New NCDOT app tested at NC State helps protect pedestrians, cyclists](#) – *CBS17*

The NCDOT has launched a pilot program at NC State University featuring the YU2X app, which enhances safety for pedestrians, cyclists, drivers, scooter users, and bus riders at 27 intersections. The app allows users to activate crosswalk signs and provides warnings for red lights, work zones, and speeding.

[Cities need to get ahead of autonomous delivery robots](#) – Policy Options

Cities need to proactively address the safety concerns posed by autonomous delivery robots on sidewalks. These robots can impede pedestrian flow and create navigation issues, especially for older adults and people with disabilities. Comprehensive research and inclusive planning are essential to prevent these robots from disadvantaging sidewalk users.

Policy & Legislation

[Proposed bill aims to regulate self-driving vehicles in Maryland](#) – *CBS News*

Maryland lawmakers have introduced a bill to regulate self-driving vehicles. The proposed legislation, HB439, would require a human operator for any vehicle over 10,000 pounds and mandate that automated vehicle manufacturers report incidents involving collisions, traffic citations, assaults, or harassment.

[Autonomous vehicles need safeguards, safety advocate tells House subcommittee](#) – *Land Line*

Cathy Chase, the president of Advocates for Highway and Auto Safety emphasized the need for safeguards in autonomous vehicle deployment during a House subcommittee hearing. She highlighted the importance of

maintaining public safety standards and suggested implementing a minimum vision standard for autonomous vehicles.

[NHTSA Proposes New Rule for Notice and Comment to Streamline Evaluation, Monitoring of AV Driving Systems](#) – *Daily Business Review*

This rule aims to create a more efficient framework for reviewing and overseeing vehicles equipped with automated driving systems. The proposal includes a notice-and-comment period to gather feedback from the public and stakeholders. The public may comment on these new rules until May 17, 2025.

[Waymo Offers Driverless Car Credit for Connecting with Public Transit](#) – *IOT World Today*

Waymo has launched a public transit credit program in Los Angeles, offering a $3 credit for riders who use Waymo One to connect with certain transit stops. This initiative aims to expand access to electric vehicles and promote sustainable transportation. The program follows a successful pilot in San Francisco and will run until April.

Economic Development

[Company Prepares Driverless Trucks Ahead of Texas Deployment](#) – *Government Technology*

Aurora Innovation is preparing to deploy driverless trucks in Texas, specifically on the route from Dallas to Houston. The company plans to remove human backup drivers from its vehicles by April. Aurora's trucks have successfully navigated various complex scenarios, boosting confidence in their autonomous technology.

[Uber CEO outlines robotaxi fleet plan](#) – *Smart Cites Dive*

Uber CEO Dara Khosrowshahi announced plans to expand the company's robotaxi fleet, starting with Austin, Texas, in March, followed by Atlanta in the summer. Customers can sign up to be among the first to ride these autonomous vehicles. Uber is partnering with Waymo for this initiative and aims to have hundreds of robotaxis in these cities by the end of the year.

[**May Mobility Now Offers Autonomous Driverless Rides in Peachtree Corners, Georgia**](#) – *May Mobility*

May Mobility has introduced its first commercial driverless transportation service in Peachtree Corners, Georgia, marking its third such operation in the US. The service, which uses autonomous Toyota Sienna vehicles, operates without a safety driver and includes eight stops along Technology Parkway.

[**Lyft to launch Mobileye-powered robotaxis 'as soon as 2026,' starting with Dallas**](#) – *Tech Crunch*

Lyft plans to launch fully autonomous robotaxis, powered by Mobileye, in Dallas by 2026. This initiative will start with a limited fleet and expand to other markets. The partnership with Mobileye aims to integrate advanced driver-assistance technology into Lyft's ride-hailing app.

[**Avride Expands Robot Delivery to Jersey City with Uber Eats**](#) – *Medium*

Avride is expanding its robot delivery service to Jersey City in partnership with Uber Eats. This initiative will use autonomous delivery robots to enhance the efficiency and convenience of food deliveries. The expansion follows successful deployments in other cities.

[**Self-Driving Cargo Vehicle Launched by WeRide**](#) – *IOT World Today*

WeRide has launched the Robovan W5, a self-driving electric cargo vehicle designed for high-frequency urban use. It features a cargo space of 194 cubic feet, a payload capacity of 2,200 pounds, and an operating range of 136 miles. The vehicle uses WeRide's advanced autonomous technology, including a redundant sensor kit for 360-degree perception and real-time traffic analysis.

Public Safety & Enforcement

[**Tampering with technology: how fleets can prevent drivers from disabling safety systems**](#) – *Commercial Carrier Journal*

Fleet operators can prevent tampering with in-cab safety technology by addressing practical and psychological barriers. Drivers often disable these

systems due to alert fatigue or privacy concerns. Making safety systems effective and aligned with drivers' priorities is crucial to prevent tampering.

[Tesla Cybertruck crash on Full Self-Driving v13 goes viral](#) – *Electrek*

A Tesla Cybertruck crash involving Full Self-Driving (FSD) v13 went viral after the vehicle failed to merge lanes and hit a curb, eventually crashing into a pole. The driver shared his experience to emphasize the importance of staying attentive while using FSD.

[Waymo Self-Driving Car Goes Barreling Through Giant, Water-Filled Pothole in San Francisco](#) – *Road Track*

Several Waymo self-driving vehicles, including one caught on camera were seen driving over large pothole before construction crews could properly block it off. The incident raised concerns about the ability of autonomous vehicles to handle unexpected road conditions.

[Automakers make big strides in front crash prevention](#) – *IIHS*

Automakers have significantly improved front crash prevention systems, with 22 out of 30 vehicles earning "good" or "acceptable" ratings in recent IIHS tests. This progress follows the introduction of a tougher evaluation by the IIHS, which now includes tests with various targets like motorcycles and semitrailers.

[Tesla offers 10% insurance discount if you drive more using its 'Full Self-Driving' system](#) – *Electrek*

Tesla is offering insurance discounts to drivers who use its Full Self-Driving (FSD) system. Specifically, Tesla Insurance provides up to a 10% discount for drivers in Arizona and Texas who use FSD for more than 50% of their miles.

[When Will Self-Driving Cars Be Common?](#) – *ABC News 10*

Fully autonomous vehicles (Level 5) are still years away, but advancements in Level 2 and Level 3 systems are progressing significantly. Companies like GM, Ford, and Mercedes-Benz are enhancing their semi-autonomous features, with some Level 3 systems already available in certain regions. The widespread adoption of fully self-driving cars will depend on technological advancements, regulatory approvals, and public acceptance.

Research, Development, Testing & Evaluation

[Autonomous Cars Don't Understand How Blind People Move Around. A Research Team Is Trying to Boost Safety.](#) *– Maryland Today*

Researchers are working to improve autonomous vehicle safety by studying how blind pedestrians navigate streets. They developed "[BlindWays](#)," a dataset with 3D motion-capture data and descriptions of blind individuals' movements to help autonomous vehicles better predict their actions.

[Safety Considerations Associated with Driverless Shuttles](#) *– Crossroads, Minnesota's transportation research blog*

The Minnesota DOT has studied driverless shuttles' safety in pedestrian-heavy areas, finding that increasing shuttle speed and improving electronic messaging can enhance safety. The study also emphasized understanding driver behavior to develop strategies that mitigate potential dangers.

[Autonomous vehicle testing in California dropped 50%. Here's why.](#) *– TechCrunch*

AV testing in California dropped by 50% in 2024, according to the state's Department of Motor Vehicles. The decline is attributed to several factors, including the suspension of Cruise's testing permits and Waymo's shift towards commercial operations. Additionally, fewer companies are conducting public road testing, with only 11 out of 31 permitted companies actively testing in 2024.

[Scoop: Waymo to send self-driving cars to New Orleans](#) *– Axios New Orleans*

Waymo is bringing its self-driving cars to New Orleans to train its AI on the city's varied road features. Starting with a limited fleet, Waymo will test in complex areas, including city centers and freeways. Although a driver will be present for safety, the goal is to refine the technology for future autonomous operations.

Upcoming Events

[The Road Ahead: Navigating AV Policy and Progress in 2025](#)
Partners for Automated Vehicle Education (PAVE)
February 19
1:00 p.m.

Presenters:
Hilary Cain - Alliance for Automotive Innovation
Finch Fulton - K&L Gates

[Navigating the Road Ahead: Switzerland's Push for Autonomous Mobility](#)
Partners for Automated Vehicle Education (PAVE) Europe
February 24
7:00 a.m.

Presenters:
Lorenz Stalder – Federal Roads Office (FEDRO)
Yong Gessner – WeRide
Christian Zinckernagel – Holo
Jeroen Beukers – Transports Publics Genevois (TPG)

Iowa Advisory Council on Automated Transportation Meeting
Tuesday, April 29 from 10 am - 1 pm