



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.

Articles and upcoming events

September 29, 2025

Infrastructure Readiness

[Autonomous vehicles join Chandler Flex service](#) – *Transportation Today*

Waymo's self-driving cars are now part of Chandler Flex, an on-demand transit service in Chandler, Arizona. Riders may be matched with a Waymo vehicle during peak times and will use the Waymo app for those trips. This marks the first U.S. public transit integration of Waymo's autonomous vehicles.

[IBTTA calls for US road pricing and V2X deployment](#) – *ITS International*

The International Bridge, Tunnel and Turnpike Association (IBTTA) is urging the U.S. to accelerate road pricing and vehicle-to-everything (V2X) technology deployment. They emphasize that tolling and V2X are essential for improving safety, reducing congestion, and funding infrastructure sustainably. IBTTA calls for federal support to expand these systems nationwide, highlighting their role in modernizing transportation and enhancing mobility.

[Collaborating on connected and automated vehicle technology across the Midwest](#) – Iowa DOT

Ten Midwestern states, led by Iowa DOT, are collaborating through Mid-America Association of State Transportation Officials (MAASTO) to advance connected and automated vehicle (CAV) technology. The initiative runs through 2028 and focuses on shared research, pilot projects, and public outreach to support safe, efficient CAV deployment across the region.

[Waco, Texas, Works to Become Futuristic Mobility Corridor](#) – Government Technology

Waco, Texas is positioning itself as a “futuristic mobility corridor” by investing in smart transportation infrastructure along a key stretch of Interstate 35. The city is collaborating with the Texas Department of Transportation and other partners to pilot technologies like connected vehicle systems, smart traffic signals, and real-time data sharing.

[University of Michigan to Bring Smart Vehicle Tech to Ann Arbor](#) – Government Technology

The University of Michigan is expanding its smart vehicle technology in Ann Arbor through a new initiative called Smart Intersections. This project will equip 20 intersections with sensors and connectivity tools to support autonomous and connected vehicles.

[Transurban and Toyota test C-ITS in Melbourne](#) – ITS International

Transurban and Toyota are conducting trials of Cooperative Intelligent Transport Systems (C-ITS) in Melbourne, Australia. The tests involve connected vehicles communicating with road infrastructure to improve safety and traffic efficiency.

Policy & Legislation

[Lawmakers want driverless vehicle rules in transportation bill](#) – Roll Call

Lawmakers are pushing to include federal regulations for AVs in the upcoming surface transportation reauthorization bill. They argue that clear national standards are needed to guide the safe deployment of driverless technology and prevent a patchwork of state laws. The proposed rules would address safety, data sharing, and oversight, aiming to support innovation while ensuring public trust and accountability.

[Zoox asks federal regulators for exemption to launch a commercial robotaxi service](#) – TechCrunch

Zoox, Amazon’s AV subsidiary, has requested an exemption from federal motor vehicle safety standards to launch its commercial robotaxi service. The company’s custom-designed vehicle lacks traditional controls like a steering wheel and pedals, which current regulations require.

[US NHTSA delays new car rating updates for one year at industry request](#) – MSN

The NHTSA is delaying its car safety rating updates until 2026 to give automakers more time to adjust to new rules for driver-assistance systems.

Economic Development

[Gatik expands autonomous truck fleet With Loblaw](#) – Freight Waves

Gatik is expanding its autonomous truck operations in Canada through a partnership with Loblaw, the country's largest grocery retailer. The company will deploy more driverless vehicles to transport goods between Loblaw facilities in the Greater Toronto Area.

[Waymo is getting into the corporate travel business](#) – TechCrunch

Waymo is entering the corporate travel market by offering autonomous ride services to businesses. The initiative allows companies to book Waymo vehicles for employee transportation, aiming to reduce costs and improve convenience.

[Autonomous Truck Developer Kodiak AI Goes Public](#) – Transport Topics

Kodiak Robotics, a developer of autonomous trucking technology, has gone public through a merger with special purpose acquisition company (SPAC) Bridger Aerospace. The deal values Kodiak at \$880 million and provides funding to scale its driverless freight operations.

[One small step for Bot Auto, one giant leap for autonomous trucking](#) – Freight Waves

Bot Auto has completed a historic driverless truck run in Houston, marking a major milestone in autonomous freight transport. The vehicle operated without a human driver onboard, navigating public roads safely and efficiently.

[Waymo announces partnership with Lyft to bring driverless rideshare service to Nashville](#) – WSMV 4

A new driverless rideshare service is launching in Nashville, Tennessee, offering autonomous vehicle transportation to the public. Operated by Beep and using vehicles from Oxa, the service will run on fixed routes and is part of a broader effort to introduce smart mobility solutions in the city.

[UK startup Wayve begins testing self-driving tech in Nissan cars on Tokyo's streets](#) – The Guardian

UK startup Wayve has begun testing its self-driving technology in Tokyo using Nissan vehicles, marking its first international deployment outside the UK. The trials aim to evaluate how Wayve's AI-based driving system adapts to Japan's unique urban environment.

Public Safety & Enforcement

[PlusAI Forms Safety and Policy Advisory Council of Former Regulators and Industry Leaders to Accelerate the Commercial Launch of Factory-Built Autonomous Trucks](#) – PlusAI

PlusAI has formed a Safety and Policy Advisory Council made up of former regulators and industry leaders to support the commercial launch of its factory-built autonomous trucks. The council will guide safety standards, regulatory strategy, and public engagement as Plus prepares to scale deployment.

[A new challenge for emergency workers: Learning how to handle a robotaxi](#) – MSN

Emergency responders are facing a new challenge: learning how to safely interact with AVs like robotaxis during crashes or emergencies. As driverless cars become more

common, first responders must adapt protocols to handle vehicles without steering wheels, pedals, or human drivers.

[Waymo driverless car stopped by Bay Area police during DUI operation](#) – MSN

During a DUI checkpoint in the Bay Area, police stopped a Waymo driverless car operating in autonomous mode. The vehicle complied with officers and safely navigated the stop without incident. This event highlights how AVs are programmed to respond to law enforcement and raises questions about future protocols for interactions between police and driverless technology.

[A \\$1,000 Hands-Free Driving Gadget Drove an Old Prius Coast-to-Coast 99% Autonomously](#) – The Drive

A \$1,000 OpenPilot device from Comma.ai let a 2008 Prius drive 99% autonomously across the U.S., using cameras and sensors to control the car. A human still monitored and occasionally intervened, showing how affordable tech can enable advanced automation..

Research, Development, Testing & Evaluation

[Lyft and May Mobility launch AV pilot in Atlanta](#) – ADAS & Autonomous Vehicle International

Lyft and May Mobility have launched an AV pilot in Atlanta, offering driverless rides through the Lyft app. The service uses May Mobility's AVs on fixed routes and is part of a broader effort to expand accessible, sustainable transportation.

[Houston streets, drivers could make it more difficult for driverless cars to fully operate: Experts](#) – ABC Channel 13

Experts say Houston's unpredictable driving environment, marked by aggressive drivers, inconsistent road markings, and complex intersections—poses challenges for AVs.

[Autonomous Cars Could Slash Traffic Jams by 40% and Make Cities Flow Again](#) – MSN

Experts say AVs could cut traffic congestion by as much as 40%. By streamlining driving behavior, reducing stop-and-go movement, and interacting with infrastructure and other cars, AVs can help cities run more smoothly. The result: quicker commutes, cleaner air, and safer roads.

[Tesla's 'self-driving' software fails at train crossings, some car owners warn](#) – NBC News

Drivers say the Tesla's Full Self-Driving system often misses train-related hazards, leading to calls for stronger safeguards and oversight. The problem reflects wider challenges in preparing autonomous technology for unpredictable real-world conditions.

[Very few of Waymo's most serious crashes were Waymo's fault](#) – Understanding AI

The article from Understanding AI analyzes Waymo's AV crash data, revealing that only a small number of its most serious incidents involved the vehicle driving autonomously at the time. Most severe crashes occurred when the vehicle was in manual mode or struck by other drivers.

Upcoming Events

[V2X Accelerator Deployment Concept Series Webinar #1: Utah DOT](#)

ITS America

Thursday, October 2

12:00 p.m.

Presenters:

Blaine Leonard & Phillip Castro – Utah DOT

Vince Garcia – Wyoming DOT

Heather Pickering-Hilgers – Colorado DOT

Rick Smith – TriHydro

[The high-tech Honky Tonk Highway: Using lidar for traffic management and crowd safety on Nashville's busiest street](#)

ITS America

Tuesday, October 7

10:00 a.m.

Presenters:

Robert White – Nashville DOT

Dan Work & Will Barbour – Vanderbilt University

[V2X Accelerator Deployment Concept Series Webinar #2: Maricopa County DOT](#)

ITS America

Tuesday, October 7

1:00 p.m.

Presenters:

Joe Cottrell – Maricopa County DOT

Virginia Lingham – WSP

[V2X Accelerator Deployment Concept Series Webinar #3: Texas A&M Transportation Institute](#)

ITS America

Wednesday, October 15

1:00 p.m.

Presenter:

Robert Brydia – Texas A&M Transportation Institute

[Automated Transportation Symposium](#)

November 3-6, 2025

Tempe, Arizona