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

December 8, 2025

Infrastructure Readiness

[TxDOT Artificial Intelligence Strategic Plan](#) – Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT)
TxDOT's 2026 AI plan focuses on scaling AI from pilots to everyday operations, guided by new state AI-governance law. It emphasizes human-validated AI, stronger data infrastructure, and expanding AI into safety, asset management, and project delivery, aiming to make AI a core, responsibly managed capability across the agency.

[Streetline Launches First-of-its Kind Public-Private Partnership Smart Truck Parking Deployments for States Nationwide](#) – Globe Newswire
Streetline has launched a first-of-its-kind public-private partnership to deploy smart truck-parking technology across multiple U.S. states. The program uses real-time sensors and digital tools to help truck drivers find safe, available parking while giving states better data to manage freight movement and reduce safety risks from roadside parking.

[Streetline Expands AI-Powered Smart Truck Parking Availability System to I-5 Corridor in the State of Washington](#) – Globe Newswire
Streetline has expanded its AI-powered smart truck-parking system to the I-5 corridor in Washington, one of the busiest freight routes in the U.S.

[PlusAI Launches Southern Europe's First Autonomous Trucking Program with IVECO](#) – PlusAI
PlusAI and IVECO are launching Southern Europe's first Level 4 autonomous trucking program, developing two IVECO S-Way trucks with PlusAI's SuperDrive system for supervised testing on the Madrid–Zaragoza freight corridor starting in 2026.

Policy & Legislation

[U.S. House committee to consider legislation to speed self-driving car deployment](#) – Fort Worth Star-Telegram
Congress is weighing proposals that could sharply limit state authority over AVs while expanding how many AVs automakers can deploy without meeting traditional safety standards.

[Federal Bill Proposes the Use of AI, Telematics to Improve Road Safety](#) – Carrier Management
The bipartisan [Roadway Safety Modernization Act](#) would let states use federal funds for AI- and telematics-based tools to spot dangerous infrastructure before crashes happen. The bill aims to shift agencies toward proactive, data-driven safety improvements while protecting privacy, and it has support from multiple state DOTs. Companion legislation is also moving through the House.

[House Introduces Discussion Draft of SELF DRIVE Act of 2026](#) – ACT News
The House's draft SELF DRIVE Act of 2026 would update federal vehicle safety laws to cover automated driving systems, giving NHTSA clearer authority to set AV-specific standards. It would require manufacturers to provide documented safety cases, address cybersecurity, and support new testing and compliance processes as Congress works toward a modernized AV regulatory framework.

[MTS opposes driverless car services like Waymo without local oversight](#) – Times of San Diego
San Diego's transit board voted 12–1 to oppose Waymo's robotaxi expansion unless local governments regain oversight, urging state leaders to restore local control and let communities decide whether AVs can operate on their streets.

[Consumer Reports to Congress: Auto Safety Legislation Must Close Safety Gaps and Protect Consumers](#) – Consumer Reports
Consumer Reports is urging Congress to tighten auto-safety laws with stronger standards, better testing, clearer crash-data reporting, and tougher automaker accountability, warning that weak rules could let unsafe driver-assistance and autonomous systems reach the road.

[New York governor clears path for robotaxis everywhere, with one notable exception](#) – TechCrunch
New York Governor Kathy Hochul plans to introduce legislation that would legalize commercial robotaxi services across most of New York State, but not in New York City. The proposal would expand the state's AV pilot program to allow "limited deployment" of for-hire AVs outside NYC, with companies required to show local support and meet high safety standards.

[Soon, Cars Would Talk On Road As Govt Mandates Vehicle-to-Vehicle Communication In All New Cars](#) – Trak.in
India plans to require V2V communication in new cars, allowing vehicles to share speed, location, and hazard data to improve safety and traffic flow. The mandate will roll out in phases, starting with higher-end models before expanding to all new vehicles.

Economic Development

[Kodiak to Scale Autonomous Trucking Hardware and Sensor Solution in Strategic Agreement with Bosch](#) – Global News Wire
Kodiak AI and Bosch are partnering to mass-produce Kodiak's autonomous-trucking hardware, giving the company the scale and reliability needed for commercial driverless trucking and expanding on its existing driverless deployments.

[CES Shows How AI, Software Are Redefining Truck Technology](#) – Transport Topics
Trucks are rapidly becoming connected, updateable machines powered by generative AI, with autonomous-trucking progress showcased through new partnerships, better sensors, and AI-driven development tools from companies like Kodiak, Bosch, Innoviz, and AWS.

[Mobileye partners with US auto maker on hands-free driving](#) – ADAS & Autonomous Vehicle International
Mobileye landed a major U.S. automaker deal to supply about nine million EyeQ6H chips, enabling next-gen hands-free driving. The automaker will make Mobileye's Surround ADAS standard on many models, using the chip to unify driving functions and cut system costs.

[Why 1 In 4 Cars Is Totaled After A Crash Now (And It's Not The Damage)](#) – Carscoops
More crashed cars are being declared total losses because older vehicles are worth less and modern repairs cost far more. Advanced sensors, cameras, and calibration needs make even minor collisions expensive, pushing repair bills over a car's value. As a result, total-loss rates are rising, repair times are longer, and insurance premiums continue climbing.

[Ford Targets Affordable Level 3 Autonomy by 2028](#) – Self Drive News
Ford is aiming to launch affordable Level 3 hands-off, eyes-off driving by 2028, starting on its new low-cost EV platform. The company built a unified in-house computing system to cut costs and shrink hardware, and it will use LiDAR for reliability. An AI

assistant arrives first (2026–2027), with Level 3 rolling out once the new EVs enter production in 2027–2028.

Public Safety & Enforcement

[Florida police department tests nation's first self-driving patrol car (video via YouTube)](#) – CBS Mornings
Florida is piloting its first self-driving police patrol vehicle in Daytona Beach, using it for routine patrols, monitoring, and low-risk calls so officers can focus on higher-priority work. Officials stress it's meant to support, not replace, human officers by providing constant automated coverage.

[Waymo vehicle parked in Denver bike lane during training; company says human driver to blame](#) – 9 News
A Waymo car was spotted blocking a Denver bike lane, but the company said a human trainee, not the AV system, had parked it. Waymo called the violation against company policy and handled it internally, while the city stressed that blocking bike lanes is unsafe and illegal no matter who's behind the wheel.

[Lyft and Uber drivers protest Waymo robotaxis as California considers further regulations](#) – AP News
A group of Uber and Lyft drivers in California protested to demand a slowdown in robotaxi expansion, arguing AVs threaten their jobs and are rolling out too fast. Waymo and Cruise defend the technology as a safety improvement, and regulators are still approving broader deployments.

[Tesla Faces Wrongful Death Lawsuit Over Autopilot Failure](#) – Self Drive News
A Washington family has filed a wrongful death lawsuit against Tesla after a Model S using Autopilot struck and killed a motorcyclist in April 2024. The driver admitted he was relying on Autopilot and may have been looking at his phone. He was later arrested for vehicular homicide.

[PAVECast: Navigating the Road Ahead: Paul Steier on AAMVA's Role in AV Innovation](#) – Partners for Autonomous Vehicle Education (PAVE)
An interview with Paul Steier of American Association of Motor Vehicle Administrator (AAMVA). The group's top priority is creating consistent, cross-state standards for safe AV testing and operation, focusing on uniform rules, shared data, and coordinated guidance so states advance together rather than independently.

[Self-Driving Cars Will Use Teal Lights Under New Standard](#) – Kelly Blue Book
Self-driving cars will start using teal exterior lights to signal when the automated-driving system is in control. The new SAE standard is meant to help police and others quickly see when hands-off driving is allowed. Mercedes already uses teal lights on its Level 3 Drive Pilot, and more automakers are expected to adopt the feature.

[Waymo passenger jumps out of self-driving car after it stops on rail tracks near oncoming train](#) – TV6
A Waymo robotaxi in Phoenix stopped on railroad tracks, forcing a passenger to bail out as a train approached. The train missed the car, and Waymo said the AV got confused by the crossing layout. The company pulled the vehicle from service, reported the incident, and is investigating the cause.

[Waymo stops on Venetian Causeway, upsetting drivers and sparking safety concerns](#) – NBC Channel 6 Miami
A Waymo robotaxi briefly stopped on the Venetian Causeway in Miami, backing up traffic as drivers maneuvered around it. The incident fueled local worries about AV reliability, and Waymo said it's reviewing what happened as it works to expand service in the city.

Research, Development, Testing & Evaluation

[From closed course to public roads: The path to driverless](#) – Waabi
Waabi says it has progressed from supervised testing to fully driverless runs on a closed course, using a truck platform built with full redundancy in steering, braking, compute, and power. The company developed its own fault-monitoring and fallback system plus remote mission-management tools so trucks can operate safely without a human onboard. These steps are meant to pave the way for public-road driverless deployment using its "Physical AI" approach.

[Comparing Merging Behaviors of Drivers with Vehicles Equipped with Level 3 Automation and Connected Messaging when Merging in a Mixed Vehicle Fleet Environment of Various Traffic Densities](#) – FHWA Technical Report
A driving-simulator study found that L3 automation and vehicle-to-vehicle communication can influence safer merging behavior, especially in larger platoons, though participants were sometimes unsure which features were active. The findings offer insight into driver trust, comfort, and acceptance of future ADS and CDA technologies.

[Self-driving cars could prevent over 1 million road injuries across the US by 2035](#) – TechXplore
A new analysis suggests that AVs could prevent more than 1 million road injuries in the U.S. between 2025 and 2035, even with modest adoption levels. The projection comes from a JAMA Surgery [study](#) that used national crash-injury data from 2009–2023 to model future trends.

[Can AVs ride the storm out?](#) – Land Line
North Dakota researchers are studying how AVs handle snow, ice, and extreme cold, after receiving over $1.2 million in federal funding. The project will examine how winter conditions affect sensors, safety inspections, and operational limits, with the goal of

creating a winter-specific safety plan and testing framework for AVs, especially autonomous trucks.

[Lucid, Nuro and Uber present global robotaxi update during CES](#) – ADAS & Autonomous Vehicle International
Lucid, Nuro, and Uber revealed their production-intent robotaxi at CES and confirmed that autonomous on-road testing began last month in the Bay Area, led by Nuro with supervised prototypes. Pending final validation, production is expected to begin at Lucid's Arizona factory later this year, ahead of a planned Bay Area launch.

[Mercedes is hitting pause on Level 3 hands-off driving, for now](#) – TechSpot
Mercedes is pausing its Drive Pilot Level 3 system due to high costs, limited operating conditions, and the collapse of its lidar supplier. The company is shifting focus to a more scalable Level 2++ system that works in broader real-world scenarios.

[Riding Along With Mercedes and Its In-City Driver Assistance System](#) – SAE International
The Level 2 system uses extensive sensors and NVIDIA computing to navigate pedestrians, double-parked cars, lane changes, and intersections while acting as a cooperative "co-driver." Now over 90% complete, it aims to eliminate mode confusion and create a seamless blend of human and machine driving.

Upcoming Events

[SAE Government/Industry Meeting](#)
January 22 - 22
Washington DC
[Automated & Connected Vehicles Digital Summit (Online)](#)
March 24 - 25
Hosted by SAE International