



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 14, 2026

Infrastructure Readiness

[Western States Work to Link Vehicles Over Hundreds of Miles](#) – Government Technology

The Connecting the West initiative is creating a 1,200-mile connected vehicle corridor across Utah, Colorado, and Wyoming to enable real-time sharing of safety, traffic, and road condition information. The project has entered its evaluation phase and aims to improve roadway safety through interoperable V2X technology.

[Ettifos joins Arizona V2X deployment](#) – ITS International

Ettifos has joined Maricopa County Department of Transportation's Connected Vehicle Acceleration Zone (CVAZ) project in Arizona, supporting a large-scale V2X deployment aimed at improving roadway safety and mobility through connected vehicle technology.

[Tennessee DOT Tests Truck Parking Project Technologies](#) – AASHTO Journal

The Tennessee Department of Transportation is testing a smart truck parking system on I-40 that provides real-time parking availability information to drivers. The pilot will help identify technologies for potential statewide deployment to improve freight safety and efficiency.

[Washington DC deploys AI to monitor AVs](#) – Cities Today

Washington, D.C. has selected AIWaysion to deploy AI-powered roadside sensors that will independently monitor how autonomous vehicles interact with human-driven traffic. The pilot project aims to provide objective data on AV behavior, support comparisons with human driving, and help inform public discussions about AV safety and performance.

[Worn traffic signs pose risks for vision-based driving systems](#) – Imaging & Machine Vision Europe

A study by SeoulTech found that worn or damaged traffic signs can confuse AI vision systems used in automated driving, raising concerns about the reliability of traffic sign recognition and AV safety.

[Editorial: Where to? The Challenges of Automated Driving Around the World](#) – SAE Mobility Engineering

Mobility Engineering Technology highlights that AV deployment is advancing along different paths globally, with the U.S. prioritizing commercial services, Europe focusing on regulatory alignment and public transit integration, and Asia emphasizing large-scale logistics deployment. The article notes that successful AV adoption will depend as much on navigating regional policy, operational, and infrastructure challenges as on advances in vehicle technology.

Policy & Legislation

[Trump's Transportation Secretary Sean P. Duffy Unveils New National AV Strategy](#) – U.S. Department of Transportation (USDOT)

The USDOT released a new national AV strategy focused on improving safety, reducing regulatory barriers, supporting innovation, and enabling seamless interstate deployment of automated vehicles. The roadmap aims to accelerate safe AV development while strengthening U.S. leadership in the technology.

[AV Framework Updates and Request for Comments on Interim Guidance; Extension of Comment Period](#) – Federal Registrar

NHTSA extended the public comment period for its proposed AV Framework guidance and commercial deployment exemption process, giving industry, state transportation agencies, and other stakeholders additional time to provide input on future federal autonomous vehicle oversight.

[AASHTO Offers NHTSA Feedback on AV Framework](#) – AASHTO Journal

AASHTO provided feedback on NHTSA's proposed AV framework, calling for clearer safety oversight, standardized reporting requirements, and defined roles for AV stakeholders. The organization also emphasized preserving state involvement in autonomous vehicle testing, deployment, and regulation.

[NHTSA Opens Investigation into Tesla Cybercab Self-Certification Following Austin Deployment](#) – National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA)

NHTSA has opened an investigation into Tesla's Cybercab deployment, reviewing whether the company properly self-certified its driverless vehicle under federal safety standards. The probe highlights ongoing regulatory challenges surrounding purpose-built AVs that lack traditional driver controls.

[Minneapolis to consider requiring drivers in automated cars](#) – MPR News

Minneapolis is considering an ordinance that would require autonomous vehicles to have a licensed human driver on board and require AV operators to obtain a city license, citing safety and workforce concerns as Waymo continues testing in the city.

[DC Mayor Should Open the Door to Driverless AV Testing](#) – Chamber of Progress

Chamber of Progress and The Innovation Majority are calling on Washington, D.C. to permit driverless AV testing, arguing that existing laws already allow rider-only testing with appropriate safety safeguards. Supporters say the move could accelerate AV innovation and investment in the region. [Letter to Mayor](#)

[Waymo's Nevada Rollout Violates Accessibility Law, Disability Activist Claims](#) – Streetsblog USA

A disability rights advocate has challenged Waymo's robotaxi expansion in Nevada, arguing the service does not yet meet state accessibility requirements for wheelchair users, highlighting ongoing challenges around accessible autonomous mobility services.

[Trump's Transportation Department Celebrates \\$25 Million Investment in AV Shuttles to Improve Transit in Downtown Chattanooga](#) – Federal Transit Administration (FTA)

The FTA announced a \$25 million investment to deploy up to six autonomous shuttles in downtown Chattanooga, Tennessee, supporting expanded AV transit services and real-time system oversight.

[USDOT Maps Next Steps for Automated Truck Safety and Deployment](#) – ACT News

USDOT's new AV strategy outlines future regulations and safety standards for automated trucks, emphasizing interstate interoperability and federal-state coordination to support nationwide deployment of autonomous freight technologies.

[Self-driving growth: Securing local benefit from autonomous vehicles](#) – Centre for British Progress

A report from the Centre for British Progress argues that the UK should introduce a tax on self-driving vehicles to help manage the economic and transportation impacts of widespread AV adoption, including job displacement, congestion, and declining fuel-tax revenues.

Economic Development

[Kodiak AI On Track For Year-End Driverless Long-Haul Launch as Safety Case Readiness Reaches 93%](#) – Kodiak

Kodiak AI reported that it remains on track to launch driverless long-haul trucking service by the end of 2026, with its safety readiness framework now 93% complete. The milestone reflects ongoing progress toward commercial deployment of autonomous freight operations.

[Waymo is poised for Oakland](#) – The Oaklandside

Waymo has received regulatory approval to expand its robotaxi service into Oakland and other East Bay cities, though the company has not announced a launch date and says deployment will be gradual.

[Waymo rides now available on the Lyft App in Nashville](#) – Lyft

Lyft and Waymo have launched fully autonomous ride-hailing service in Nashville, allowing eligible riders to be matched with Waymo robotaxis directly through the Lyft app.

[Beep Closes Series B To Accelerate Commercial Deployment Of Autonomous Mobility Network](#) – Beep

Beep has closed a Series B funding round led by Mobileye, bringing its total funding to approximately \$130 million. The investment will support expansion of Beep's autonomous mobility services and commercial AV operations.

[Inceptio Technology Surpasses 1 Billion Kilometers in Commercial Autonomous Trucking, Accelerating the Development of Freight Physical AI](#) – TMCNET News

Inceptio Technology has surpassed 1 billion kilometers of commercial autonomous trucking operations in China, marking a major milestone in the large-scale deployment of autonomous freight technology.

[Cableless Trucks Are Coming Faster Than Carriers Think](#) – FreightWaves

Humble Robotics executives say cableless autonomous freight vehicles could reach commercial scale sooner than expected, with the potential to significantly reshape freight operations and trucking economics.

Public Safety & Enforcement

[Tesla Driver Killed After Self-Driving Mode Stops in the Middle of a Highway](#) – Futurism

A report on a 2025 fatal crash found that a Tesla was operating with a driver-assistance system engaged when it stopped on an Arizona highway and was struck from behind, killing the driver.

[Kids arrested after Waymo reports a gun in self-driving car](#) – USA Today

Two minors were arrested in San Francisco after a Waymo robotaxi detected and reported a "ghost gun" inside the vehicle, highlighting the role AVs can play in supporting onboard safety and security monitoring, while also raising questions about security and oversight in driverless transportation.

[Human 'safety drivers' in Uber robotaxis could lose skills if all they do is observe](#) – The Conversation

The launch of Uber and Wayve's robotaxi service in London has sparked concerns that safety drivers may lose critical intervention skills as their role shifts from active driving to monitoring autonomous systems.

[Tesla autopilot probe urged after videos show drivers asleep at the wheel](#) – USA Today

A U.S. congressman has called for an investigation into Tesla's Autopilot and Full Self-Driving (FSD) systems following reports of drivers sleeping while using the technology, raising concerns about driver monitoring and system misuse.

[Man Repeatedly Jumped in Front of Tesla Cybercab to See If It Would Stop](#) – Guessing Headlights

A video circulating online showed a man repeatedly stepping in front of a Tesla Cybercab to test its pedestrian detection capabilities. The vehicle stopped successfully in the recorded encounters, but the incident highlighted concerns about unsafe interactions with autonomous vehicles on public roads.

[Waymo racked up 8,300+ SF parking tickets and nearly \\$1M in fines](#) – Electrek

Waymo's robotaxis have received more than 8,300 parking tickets in San Francisco since 2025, resulting in nearly \$1 million in fines as the company rapidly expanded its fleet. The citations highlight ongoing challenges for AVs operating in congested urban curbside environments.

Research, Development, Testing & Evaluation

[New National Survey: Public Comfort with Autonomous Vehicles Is Rising](#) – Autonomous Vehicle Industry Association (AVIA)

A new national survey found that public comfort with AVs is increasing, with younger adults leading the shift in acceptance. Despite growing interest, most Americans remain cautious about using self-driving vehicles for everyday travel.

[Waymo's Newest City Brings Its Biggest Challenge Yet: Rides In The Snow](#) – InsideEVs

Waymo has launched public robotaxi service in Denver, San Diego, and Tampa, expanding its commercial operations to 14 U.S. cities. The rollout increases Waymo's autonomous fleet to more than 4,000 vehicles and marks its continued rapid expansion as competition in the robotaxi market intensifies.

[The VW ID.Buzz Will Get Assisted Lane Changes And Pedestrian Detection](#) – InsideEVs

Volkswagen has expanded its IQ.Drive driver assistance suite to the ID.Buzz and select Atlas, Tiguan, and Golf models, adding features such as assisted lane changes, enhanced adaptive cruise control, and emergency assist functions.

[Audio tones can help automated vehicles communicate with pedestrians](#) – Virginia Tech

Researchers from Virginia Tech Transportation Institute (VTTI) and Zoox found that custom audio tones can help AVs communicate with pedestrians, offering an alternative to traditional horns for conveying vehicle intent.

[Toyota's Tesla-FSD Like System Arrives In 2028, But With Key Differences](#) – Inside EVs

Toyota plans to launch a next-generation driver assistance system in 2028 with capabilities similar to supervised point-to-point autonomous driving, while incorporating additional safety guardrails to monitor and constrain AI behavior.

[Houston and San Diego added to Zoox autonomous testing program](#) – ADAS & Autonomous Vehicle International

Zoox has expanded its AV testing program to Houston and San Diego, bringing its presence to 12 U.S. cities. The company will begin with mapping and testing activities before advancing toward autonomous robotaxi operations in both markets.

[DiDi's next-gen R2 robotaxi begins driverless trials in China](#) – ADAS & Autonomous Vehicle International

DiDi Autonomous Driving has launched fully driverless trials of its next-generation R2 Robotaxi in selected areas of Beijing and Guangzhou. Developed with GAC Aion, the Level 4 vehicle features advanced sensing and computing systems, advancing large-scale commercial robotaxi deployment in China.

Upcoming Events

[Next Stop: Autonomous Transit and the Evolving Workforce](#)

Partners for Automated Vehicle Education (PAVE)

September 16, 2026

11:00 a.m.

Presenters:

Justin Johnson – PLUM Catalyst

Art Guzzetti – APTA

Cemre Kavvasoglu – ADASTEC

Eran Ofir – Imagry

[Midwest AV Policy Summit: An Autonomous Vehicle Workshop for Policymakers and Public Sector Officials](#)

Upper Great Plains Transportation Institute (UGPTI) and Partners for Automated Vehicle Education (PAVE)

September 25, 2026 from 8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

North Dakota's Gateway to Science, Bismarck, ND