IOWA ADVISORY COUNCIL ON AUTOMATED TRANSPORTATION

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

August 19, 2024

Infrastructure Readiness

Autonomous, Electric Bus Headed to Michigan Lakeside – *Government Technology*

> *An autonomous electric bus from ADASTEC will start offering tours at Sleeping Bear Dunes National Lakeshore in Michigan from mid-August, following programming and testing. This initiative highlights the potential of autonomous technology in recreational areas.*

USDOT Releases National Deployment Plan for Vehicle-to-Everything (V2X) Technologies to Reduce Death and Serious Injuries on America's Roadways – *U.S. Department of Transportation*

> *This plan aims to implement Vehicle-to-Everything (V2X) technologies nationwide to enhance road safety, mobility, and efficiency. V2X technologies enable vehicles and wireless devices to communicate with each other and with roadside infrastructure, contributing to a safer and more efficient transportation system. More*

information on the plan and grants: Connected/Automated Vehicles and Emerging Technologies.

USDOT Awards $19.2 Million in Advanced Vehicle Technology Grants to Texas to Serve as National Model and Help Save Lives on Our Nation's Roadways – *U.S. Department of Transportation's Federal Highway Administration*

> *The Texas A&M Transportation Institute (TTI) will receive the grant for the Texas TRUST Project: Transforming Roads, Unleashing Smart Technologies that will serve as a national model to accelerate and spur new deployments of vehicle-to-everything (V2X) technologies.*

Detroit's autonomous shuttle service offering rides in downtown begins Tuesday – *Fox 2 Detroit*

> *A new free autonomous shuttle service that will be available to disabled residents and those over the age of 62 will soon start operating in Detroit. The route covers 10.8 miles and has 68 stops. Safety operators will remain behind the wheel of the Connect shuttles at all times.*

Chinese robotaxi startup WeRide gets approval to carry passengers in California – *Tech Crunch*

> *WeRide, a Chinese autonomous vehicle startup, has received approval from California's Public Utilities Commission to test driverless vehicles with passengers in San Jose and nearby areas. They cannot charge fares or offer rides to the public. This approval comes as WeRide prepares for a potential U.S. IPO amid increased scrutiny of Chinese technology.*

Policy & Legislation

US expected to propose barring Chinese software in autonomous vehicles – *Reuters*

> *The Biden administration plans to issue a proposed rule that would bar Chinese software in vehicles in the United States with Level 3 automation and above, which would have the effect of also banning testing on U.S. roads of autonomous vehicles produced by Chinese companies.*

PennDOT seeks public comment on proposed automated vehicle guidelines – *WGAL*

PennDOT has opened a public comment period for their proposed highly automated vehicle guidelines. The public comment period will close on Aug. 22.

Viewpoint: Pursuing Claims Involving Automated Driving Systems – *Claims Journal*

As the technology for self-driving cars advances, the insurance industry faces new challenges in claims handling, vehicle repairs, and subrogation litigation. The article highlights that while fully autonomous vehicles are not yet available, the increasing use of advanced ADS requires insurers and legal professionals to adapt to more complex product liability issues.

OOIDA raises concerns about AI technology in transportation – *Land Line*

The Owner-Operator Independent Drivers Association (OOIDA) has raised concerns to the USDOT about the rapid adoption of AI technology in the trucking industry. While acknowledging potential benefits, OOIDA warns that unproven AI technologies could pose safety risks and financial burdens, especially for small trucking businesses. They emphasize the need for thorough testing, safety standards, and mandatory crash-reporting requirements before widespread implementation.

Mercedes-Benz granted approval to test L4 AVs in China – *ADAS & Autonomous Vehicle International*

Mercedes-Benz has received approval to test Level 4 autonomous vehicles on designated roads and highways in Beijing. This testing will focus on multi-sensor perception and system performance for advanced autonomous driving systems.

Economic Development

Carnegie Mellon University researching impact of autonomous technology on transportation workers' jobs. – *Mass Transit*

Carnegie Mellon University researchers, supported by the U.S. DOT, are studying how autonomous technology impacts transportation workers' safety, workload, and routines. They aim to develop strategies for integrating tools like pedestrian detection and lane centering to augment, not replace, operators.

No hands: Pa. makes way for driverless trucking – *90.5 WESA*

At PennSTART, driverless trucks can navigate hazards in mock work zones, drive through fog, snow and ice and different types of pavement markings, gathering

critical data for the companies and for the government agency responsible for the state's roads. Aurora collaborates with PennDOT on new regulations and works with community colleges to develop curricula for new jobs in autonomous trucking.

JB Hunt, Bridgestone and Kodiak achieve 50,000 miles of autonomous long-haul trucking – *ADAS & Autonomous Vehicle International*

JB Hunt, Bridgestone, and Kodiak Robotics have successfully completed over 50,000 miles of autonomous long-haul trucking. This collaboration involves transporting Bridgestone tires between South Carolina and Dallas using Kodiak's autonomous trucks. The initiative aims to enhance operational efficiency and demonstrates the potential of autonomous technology in long-haul shipping.

Autonomous Vehicle Industry Association Welcomes J.D. Power – *Autonomous Vehicle Industry Association (AVIA)*

AVIA welcome J.D. Power, an industry leader in consumer insights, advisory services and data and analytics, as its newest member.

Shake Shack, Serve Robotics roll out autonomous sidewalk robot delivery in Los Angeles – *Reuters*

Shake Shack and Serve Robotics are partnering to use autonomous sidewalk robots for Uber Eats deliveries at select Los Angeles locations. This aims to accelerate the deployment of up to 2,000 AI-powered delivery robots on the Uber platform by 2025.

Maxieye launches autonomous driving brand for commercial vehicles – *ADAS & Autonomous Vehicle International*

Maxieye, an AI-driven autonomous driving service provider, has launched a new sub-brand called Qiantu, focused on autonomous driving solutions for commercial vehicles. Qiantu aims to enhance safety and efficiency in the commercial vehicle sector with features like automatic emergency braking, intelligent cruise control, and accident reconstruction tools.

Public Safety & Enforcement

Research provides roadmap for CAV crash reporting and safe CAV deployment – *Mountain Plains Consortium*

Researchers evaluated CAV crash reporting practices across the United States. Through a survey of state transportation officials and a review of current practices

and legislation, the study identified challenges in data consistency and gaps in reporting. Two page research brief and full report

San Francisco neighbors say repeated Waymo honking is keeping them up at night – N*BC Bay Area*

Residents in San Francisco's South of Market neighborhood are being disturbed by the frequent honking of Waymo's driverless cars. Waymo has acknowledged the issue and is working on a software update to reduce the noise.

Waymo fixes honking issue waking up SF neighbors – *Axios*

The incessant horn blaring from Waymo cars isn't a bug. The company recently introduced a honking feature designed to avoid low-speed collisions, but after it became a nuisance for some San Francisco residents, the robotaxi company has made some tweaks

New Tech Is Revolutionizing Fleet Safety — But at the Price of Awareness? – *Automotive Fleet*

New technologies are significantly enhancing fleet safety, but experts caution that drivers may become overly reliant on these systems, potentially neglecting situational awareness. Advanced driver-assistance systems (ADAS) like lane departure warnings and collision interventions are becoming standard, yet fleet managers emphasize the importance of proper driver training to ensure these technologies are used effectively.

SAE Tomorrow Today - Episode 238 - Improving Road Safety With ADAS and ADS – *SAE International*

During this podcast episode, they sat down with Seth Chalmers, Director of Traffic Engineering at Dibble to discuss new NHTSA developments, the intersection of ADAS and autonomy, and his experience with Waymo in Phoenix.

Research, Development, Testing & Evaluation

The City of Falls Church Launches Smart Cities Program – *Falls Church News-Press*

The City of Falls Church, in collaboration with Virginia Tech's Transportation Institute, has launched a $10 million Smart Cities Program to modernize intersections and deploy smart technologies. The program aims to improve

pedestrian safety, traffic flow, and energy efficiency with innovations like adaptive street lighting and smart intersections.

Waymo to begin testing driverless robotaxis on San Francisco freeways – *Tech Crunch*

> *Waymo plans to start testing its fully autonomous vehicles with no human safety driver on freeways in the San Francisco Bay Area this week. Initial testing will include employees as passengers and will start outside rush hour with "less than a handful" of vehicles.*

Integration of Connected Vehicle and RWIS Technologies – *Inya Nlenanya, Adnan Inusah, and Shauna Hallmark*

> *This white paper presents the findings to date of the Integration of Connected Vehicle (CV) and Road Weather Information System (RWIS) Technologies project. The project reviewed the literature related to CV-RWIS integration, analyzed ongoing projects carried out by DOTs on CVs and RWIS, surveyed state and local transportation agencies regarding their investments in RWIS technologies to facilitate integration with CVs, conducted follow-up interviews with selected agencies, and prepared a summary of current challenges to CV-RWIS integration and recommendations for future research.*

Assessing the Impact of Driver Assistance Technology: A Review of Non-Crash and Crash Studies – *Kristin Lennox, Iiona Scully, Julio Yanes and David Cades*

> *This paper provides a review of both non-crash and crash based evaluations of Level 2 systems, including a new analysis of crash data published by Tesla. Overall, while non-crash assessments of Level 2 systems have been mixed, all crash studies published to date point to a reduction in risk associated with such systems. This review also suggests improvements to non-crash studies that may increase their predictive value.*

Clemson University unveils newest student-built autonomous off-road rescue vehicle – *Clemson College of Engineering*

> *Clemson University unveiled its latest groundbreaking autonomous rescue vehicle. Deep Orange 15, features high-speed, off-road, optionally piloted rescue functionality, will use advanced driverless technology and a powerful propulsion configuration to traverse off-road terrain from desert sands and boulders to urban rubble.*

Upcoming Events

Building Trust in Autonomous Vehicle Safety: Key Lessons and Opportunities
Association for the Advancement of Automotive Medicine
August 26
1:00 p.m.

Presenter:
Dr. Philip Koopman - Carnegie Mellon University

Control of Vehicles and Traffic for Safety and Mobility
CCAT Distinguished Lecture Series
August 29
1:00 p.m.

Presenters:
Petros Ioannou - University of Southern California

Price Presents: The Future of Autonomous Vehicles
University of Southern California
August 30
2:00 p.m.

Presenters:
Petros Ioannou - University of Southern California
Adam Lane - Waymo

A Conversation with Robert Hampshire, USDOT's Deputy Assistant Secretary for Research and Technology
METRANS, University of Southern California
September 4
2:00 p.m.

Presenter:
Robert Hampshire - United Stated Department of Transportation

Iowa Advisory Council on Automated Transportation Subcommittee Meetings

Public Safety & Enforcement Subcommittee Meeting
Wednesday, September 25 from 11:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

Economic Development & Infrastructure Readiness Joint Subcommittee Meeting
Friday, September 27 from 1:30 - 2:30 p.m.

Policy & Legislation Subcommittee Meeting
Wednesday, October 2 from 11:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.