

The lowa Advisory Council on Automated Transportation is intended to increase roadway safety, personal mobility, and freight movement within the state of lowa 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 <u>iowadrivingav.org/</u>

# Articles and upcoming events

May 12, 2025

# **Infrastructure Readiness**

MDOT, Cavnue Receive Federal Approval to Advance I-94 CAV Corridor – Cavnue

Cavnue and Michigan DOT received federal approval (FONSI) to move forward with the I-94 Connected and Automated Vehicle Corridor between Ann Arbor and Detroit. The project, following an environmental review, was found to have no significant impact. It will be the first U.S. corridor with dedicated lanes for connected and automated vehicles. <u>MDOT 's</u> <u>Connected and Automated Vehicle Corridor Page</u>

Autonomous transit service planned for Atoka - KTEN

By summer 2026, Atoka, Oklahoma will launch a self-driving transit service to help residents get around town more easily. The AV will provide a new public transportation option.

<u>Here-and-now Connected Vehicle benefits highlighted in new TTF</u> <u>video</u>– *Transport Technology Forum* 

The Transport Technology Forum released a short video highlighting how connected vehicle technologies are already improving road safety, reducing congestion, and enhancing traffic management in the UK. Filmed at a live demonstration event, the video showcases real-world applications and was presented at the TTF Annual Conference.

Northern Ireland's First Self-Driving Shuttle Service Coming to Belfast Harbour Estate Thanks to £11 Million Joint Government and Industry – Belfast Harbour

Belfast Harbour will launch Northern Ireland's first self-driving shuttle in late May 2025. The 9-seater electric shuttle will run between Titanic Quarter station and Thompson Dock, with six stops. It aims to improve "last mile" transport for commuters and tourists.

## **Policy & Legislation**

<u>Teamsters Call on Colorado Go. Jared Polis to Sign HB 25-</u> <u>1122</u> – International Brotherhood of Teamsters

The Teamsters are urging Colorado Governor Jared Polis to sign HB 25-1122, which would require a human safety operator in all commercial autonomous vehicles. They argue it's vital for protecting public safety and jobs, pushing back against unchecked AV deployment by tech companies.

AVs Are Moving Forward and Need Regulations to Catch Up – Government Technology

AVs are progressing quickly, but regulations are lagging behind. Industry leaders warn that inconsistent state and federal rules create confusion and slow deployment. While federal agencies handle vehicle standards, states manage safety, and cities often lack input.

California overhauling self-driving vehicle regulations governing Waymo, Tesla, Zoox and others – CNBC

California is overhauling its AV regulations to create a more comprehensive framework for testing and deployment. The new rules, open for public comment until June 9, 2025, will impact companies like Waymo, Zoox, and Tesla. The focus is on improving safety, encouraging innovation, and regulating both robotaxis and driverless trucks.

Washington eyes speed-limiting tech for reckless drivers after Renton crash kills 4 – KIRO Channel 7

Washington's BEAM Act proposes GPS-based speed limiters for repeat traffic offenders. These Intelligent Speed Assistance (ISA) devices would cap vehicle speed to posted limits using GPS. An override button may be allowed but would alert authorities if used. The bill is expected to become law soon.

#### **Economic Development**

<u>Aurora Begins Commercial Driverless Trucking in Texas, Ushering in a</u> <u>New Era of Freight</u> – *Aurora* 

Aurora has launched driverless commercial trucking in Texas, running autonomous freight routes between Dallas and Houston with no human onboard. The trucks use Aurora's Level 4 self-driving system and have already completed over 1,200 miles. Partners include Uber Freight and Hirschbach, with plans to expand to El Paso and Phoenix by year's end.

<u>Uber and May Mobility Announce Strategic Partnership to Scale</u> <u>Autonomous Vehicles</u> – *May Mobility* 

Uber and May Mobility have partnered to launch autonomous ride-hailing services, starting in Arlington, Texas by late 2025. May Mobility will deploy hybrid-electric Toyota Siennas with its advanced self-driving tech, initially with safety operators. Riders will be able to book these AVs through the Uber app.

Scaling our fleet through U.S. manufacturing - Waymo

Waymo is expanding its autonomous ride-hailing fleet by opening a new plant in Mesa, Arizona, with Magna. The facility will build thousands of Jaguar I-PACEs using Waymo's 6th-gen Driver system, creating hundreds of U.S. jobs and boosting domestic production.

<u>Uber CEO says the Waymo robotaxis on its app in Austin are busier than</u> <u>99% of human drivers</u> – *Yahoo Finance* 

Uber CEO Dara Khosrowshahi said Waymo robotaxis in Austin are already busier than 99% of human drivers on the platform. The strong performance has led Uber to plan fleet expansion and a launch in Atlanta later this year. He called self-driving cars Uber's biggest future opportunity. Uber now partners with 18 AV companies globally, including Waymo and Volkswagen.

<u>Widespread AV adoption is still 'just around the corner'</u> – Commercial Carrier Journal

At a recent autonomy roundtable, industry leaders highlighted how AI is accelerating AV development and transforming logistics. Gatik's CEO highlighted AI's role in smarter driving, while a former Waymo exec noted its ability to generalize beyond traditional robotics. Labor shortages are fueling interest, but safety and public trust remain major hurdles.

Driverless Insights Under Neon Lights: Testing in Las Vegas to Power Future Partner Deployments – Nuro

Nuro is testing its AVs on public roads in Las Vegas, including the Strip, to gather real-world data for future partner deployments. The vehicles are currently operated manually with safety drivers. The goal is to refine Nuro's self-driving system, not to launch its own delivery service.

#### **Public Safety & Enforcement**

Zoox Self-Driving Taxis Recalled Following Las Vegas Crash – IOT World Today

Zoox recalled its self-driving taxis after a crash in Las Vegas involving an unoccupied robotaxi and a passenger car. The vehicle misjudged the other

car's behavior, leading to a collision. No injuries occurred. Zoox paused testing, updated its software, and notified regulators. This is its second recall due to safety concerns.

<u>Tesla in autopilot crashes into van parked in driveway, driver ticketed for</u> <u>careless driving</u>– *ABC Channel 7 New York* 

A Tesla on Autopilot in South Brunswick, NJ crashed into a parked van after in a driveway. The driver was cited for careless driving, as state law holds drivers accountable even when using autonomous features.

What happens when a Waymo is at fault in a crash? - Arizona's Family

Between 2021 and 2024, Waymo autonomous vehicles were involved in over 200 crashes in Arizona, with police finding the vehicle at fault in 13% of reviewed cases. Although state law allows citations for autonomous vehicles, none were issued due to enforcement challenges, raising concerns about accountability. In the event of a crash, Arizona law requires all drivers—including those involved with autonomous vehicles—to exchange information. Drivers can do so by visiting <u>waymo.com/notify</u>, calling support, or waiting for roadside assistance.

Aurora deployment prompts questions about warning device regulation – Landline

Aurora Innovation launched its first driverless truck in April 2025, but faces scrutiny over federal safety compliance. The FMCSA denied its request to replace physical roadside warning devices with beacons. Aurora is now suing, claiming the decision stifles innovation, though it hasn't clarified how its trucks will meet current safety rules.

## Research, Development, Testing & Evaluation

Quantifying safety impacts of V2X-enabled traffic systems (Phase <u>1</u>) – *Mobility Center of Excellence* 

*The Phase 1 <u>Report</u> from the Center of Excellence on New Mobility and Automated Vehicles explores the safety impacts of V2X (Vehicle-to-Everything) communication systems using a probabilistic risk assessment* 

(PRA) approach. They found that integrating V2X with driver-assist features like collision warnings and emergency braking can improve safety by an additional 7–8%.

<u>New Research Shows Self-Driving Taxis Outperform Human Drivers</u> – *IOT World Today* 

Waymo's research shows its self-driving taxis are significantly safer than human drivers. Across 56.7 million miles, they had 92% fewer pedestrian crashes, 82% fewer cyclist crashes, and 96% fewer injury-causing intersection crashes. Serious injury crashes were reduced by 85%. The findings were peer-reviewed and accepted for <u>publication</u>.

<u>Self-driving ATVs — designed at CMU — are designed to help in times of disaster</u> – *Pittsburgh Post-Gazette* 

Carnegie Mellon's AirLab unveiled TartanDriver, a self-driving ATV built for off-road environments. It uses sensors and AI to navigate rough terrain like forests and disaster zones without human input. The vehicle adapts in real time, learning from both human drivers and its own experiences, with potential uses in emergency response and remote deliveries.

<u>A pilot project is bringing self-driving robots to Toronto — sparking</u> <u>concerns from one city councillor</u> – *CBC* 

Toronto is testing self-driving delivery robots from Magna in several neighborhoods. The small, remote-monitored vehicles operate in low-speed zones. Ontario approved the project, but some city officials are concerned about safety and lack of local oversight. Critics also question the need for the technology over existing options like electric cargo bikes.

Vehicle Age and Driver Assistance Technologies in Fatal Crashes Involving Teen and Middle-Aged Drivers – JAMA Network

A study using U.S. fatal crash data (2016–2021) found that teen drivers are more likely than middle-aged drivers to operate vehicles over 15 years old, which significantly increases their risk of death in crashes. Driving older vehicles raised fatality risk by up to 31%, while each additional driver assistance technology reduced the risk by 6%. The findings highlight the importance of teens using newer, safer vehicles equipped with modern safety features

#### **Upcoming Events**

Mcity 2.0: Remote AV Testing ITS America May 13 1:00 p.m.

Presenters: Guarev Pandey – Texas A&M University Jeff Ban – University of Washington Sam Abuelsamid – Telemetry

Essentials to Beginning V2X at a Public Agency

*ITS America* May 21 12:00 p.m.

Presenters: April Wire – Maricopa County DOT Alan Davis – Georgia DOT Jim Misener – Qualcomm

#### **Recent Events**

Policy & Legislation Subcommittee Meeting Materials Iowa Advisory Council on Automated Transportation Thursday, March 13

Public Safety & Enforcement Subcommittee Meeting Materials Iowa Advisory Council on Automated Transportation Friday, March 28

*Iowa Advisory Council on Automated Transportation Meeting - summary in progress* Tuesday, April 29