Last Week in Innovative Mobility
May 16th - May 22nd, 2016

Ridesharing
Google-owned navigation app Waze launches a carpool pilot program in the San Francisco Bay Area. The Waze Rider app uses Waze’s navigation system to match commuters traveling along similar routes during morning and evening commute hours. Compensation for the ride is transmitted via the app, at the IRS’ suggested carpool rate of 54 cents per mile.

Carsharing
GM’s carsharing service, Maven, expands to Washington, D.C. and Boston. Maven launched earlier this year in Ann Arbor, Chicago, and New York, offering Chevrolet Volts, Malibu sedans, and other vehicles for rent at a rate of $6 or more per hour. As part of the expansion, certain residential buildings in Chicago, Washington, and Boston will be equipped with Maven vehicles reserved for tenants.

Vehicles
The non-partisan lobbying group, Securing America’s Future Energy (SAFE), meets with politicians in Washington to discuss recommendations for accelerating the introduction of automated vehicles. FedEx CEO Fred Smith and head of the self-driving car division at Alphabet, John Krafcik, are among the group of executives and former U.S. military leaders joining SAFE to lobby for new legislation.

Ridesourcing/TNCs
Uber partners with the developers of San Francisco’s Parkmerced apartment complex to offer new tenants a monthly $100 transportation stipend in exchange for going car-free. The money can be used for any form of public transit, as long as a minimum of $30 is spent with Uber. Uber will also offer a flat five dollar fare for Uber Pool trips from the Parkmerced complex to nearby BART and MUNI stations.

Apps
Tesla and Luxe launch on-demand valet parking and charging services in New York and San Francisco. Tesla owners can now request a valet on-demand from Luxe’s app, which will pick up and park the customer’s Tesla at a designated charging station. Additionally, customers can request services such as a car wash, overnight parking, and a personal chauffeur.

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Innovative Mobility Research (IMR) is based at the Transportation Sustainability Research Center (TSRC) at the University of California, Berkeley

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