LAST WEEK IN INNOVATIVE MOBILITY

March 20th - March 26th, 2017

RIDESHARING

Carpooling startup Scoop launches in Seattle, its first expansion outside of the San Francisco Bay Area, where it has more than 75,000 users currently. The Scoop smartphone app matches commuters with similar routes based on pre-scheduled pickup times and other factors like traffic and past feedback. The average cost per ride is five to six dollars, 80 percent of which is given to the driver.

BIKESHARING

The San Francisco Municipal Transportation Agency Board of Directors approve the Stationless Bike Share Permit Program to regulate dockless bikesharing operators. The program establishes permit fees and requirements as well as penalties for permitted bikes that are left unattended on the street, sidewalk, or public rights of way. The permit also requires operators to hold a public hearing to approve the use of on-street parking spaces for bike parking.

RIDESOURCING/TNCS

Grab plans to raise more than $1.5 billion in a new funding round led by SoftBank Group Corp. Grab has pledged to invest $700 million in Indonesia in the next four years, where the company saw over 600% growth last year. Grab also announced expansion into its seventh country, Myanmar, where it has begun piloting its service in Yangon. Grab's main rivals in Southeast Asia are Uber Technologies Inc. and Go-Jek Indonesia PT.
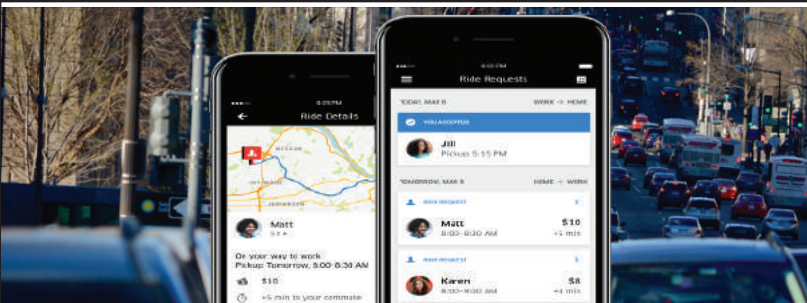
RIDESOURCING/TNCS

Uber suspends its automated vehicle testing program following a high-impact collision involving one of its test vehicles in Tempe, Arizona. Tempe police say that the Uber vehicle was not responsible for the incident, and there were no injuries. Police stated that another vehicle failed to yield for the Uber car, which was flipped on its side. It is uncertain whether the human driver was in control of the automated vehicle at the time of the collision.

RIDESHARING

Uber launches a carpooling pilot in Washington, D.C., called uberCOMMUTE. The pilot matches commuters traveling along three major highways during weekday commute hours for the price of five to ten dollars. Drivers will be reimbursed through the app for gasoline, parking, and other vehicle costs. Uber states that the service will not be for-profit, so the drivers will not be subject to the same vetting procedures as regular Uber drivers.

Berkeley
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innovative mobility

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