



MICROTRANSIT

Ford announces that its commuter shuttle service, Chariot, will cease all operations by this March. Chariot operates in nine cities in the U.S. and in London. Services will end in London on January 25th and in U.S. cities on February 1st. Founded in 2014, Chariot gathered \$3 million in seed funds before it was acquired by Ford for \$65 million in 2016.

APPS

HERE launches a social transportation smart-phone app, SoMo, for both urban and rural users. SoMo aggregates transportation modes onto a single platform so that users can see all of their mobility options from its interface. SoMo allows users to connect over common interests, enabling shared rides to one-time or recurring events (such as a concert or work commute).





PUBLIC TRANSIT

Starting September 1st, Paris will offer free public transit to kids under the age of 11 and residents with disabilities under the age of 20. Paris will also offer 50% off public transit for college and high school students and free bikesharing for those under 18. This plan is expected to cost €15 million per year and will cover Paris and the surrounding Île-de-France region.

COURIER NETWORK SERVICES

Walmart is partnering with Udelv to test the use of automated vans for grocery deliveries. Starting in February, customers in Surprise, AZ will be able to place orders online and receive their groceries via an automated delivery van. Safety drivers will be present in each vehicle, which are designed to travel up to 60 miles per hour and carry up to 32 grocery orders.





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DATA SHARING

TransitScreen is collaborating with nonprofit MobilityData to develop an open data platform. The platform, OpenMobilityData, will share global public transit and mobility data and will be integrated with public transit data editors, allowing information to update automatically. TransitScreen currently collects local, real-time mobility data for display in commercial buildings.

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Innovative Mobility Research (IMR) focuses on the future of mobility and is based at the Transportation Sustainability Research Center at the University of California, Berkeley