

Last Week In Innovative Mobility

March 23 - 29, 2020



SCOOTER SHARING

Bird lays off 30% of its employees amid uncertainty caused by COVID-19. Of the 1,387 people employed prior to the layoff, 406 people were laid off. According to Bird, the former employees will receive four weeks of pay, three months of health coverage, and 12 months to exercise their stock options.

COURIER NETWORK SERVICES

Instacart workers plan a nationwide strike for March 30 to protest the company's practices. The workers, who are responsible for grocery shopping and deliveries, say their requests for safety precautions have been ignored. The workers are demanding that Instacart provide personal protective equipment and hazard pay of \$5 extra per order, among other requests.



PUBLIC TRANSIT

U.S. public transit agencies receive \$25 billion in emergency funding from the federal government. Passenger rail receives an additional \$1 billion. The funding was included in the \$2 trillion COVID-19 economic stabilization plan passed in late-March 2020.



AUTOMAKERS

U.S. automakers shift to ventilator production. Ford, General Motors, Toyota, and Tesla are among the companies that have pledged to help address the shortage of ventilators in the U.S. Some of the automakers are partnering with existing ventilator makers to help ramp up production, while others are exploring producing ventilators in their own factories.



BIKESHARING

Wheels deploys a pedal-less electric bicycle with self-cleaning handlebars and brake levers. The e-bikes are available for gig workers, restaurants, non-profits, or others who do their own deliveries. The e-bikes can be rented on a weekly or monthly basis or purchased outright.



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