

# Last Week In Innovative Mobility

May 10 - 16, 2021



## AUTOMATED VEHICLES

**Automated vehicle (AV) companies, Cruise and Waymo, apply for permits to charge for rides and delivery services in San Francisco, California.** In Cruise's application, the company says that it would operate from late evening to early morning on roads with speeds up to 30 miles per hour (mph). Waymo's application states that they would have a safety driver onboard and operate 24/7 on roads with posted speed limits of up to 65 mph.



## AUTOMATED VEHICLES

**Volkswagen plans to develop an electric, automated minibus by 2025.** The vehicle, the ID Buzz, is anticipated to have Level 4 automation (according to SAE International's levels of automation). Volkswagen is beginning AV testing with MOIA, an AV startup, in Munich, Germany and Pennsylvania in 2021.



## PUBLIC TRANSIT

**A Japanese transportation company explores zipline-based public transit options.** Zip Infrastructure, Inc. proposes to use a network of electric-powered ziplines throughout a city to transport capsules of up to 12 people. The infrastructure is currently being tested in Odawara, with plans to officially implement the system in 2025.



## PUBLIC TRANSIT

**Monterey-Salinas Transit (MST) on California's Central Coast is the first California public transit agency to offer tap-to-pay fares.** MST is also the first public transit system outside of a major metropolitan area to offer this service. The service is enabled through a partnership with the California Department of Transportation and various private companies.



## SCOOTER SHARING

**Bird, a scooter sharing startup, plans to go public through a merger with Switchback II, a special purpose acquisition company.** Switchback is estimated to be valued at \$2.3 billion. Bird may use the funding to increase its profitability, pay off existing debts, and expand its European operations.



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