Last Week In Innovative Mobility

May 18 - 24, 2020
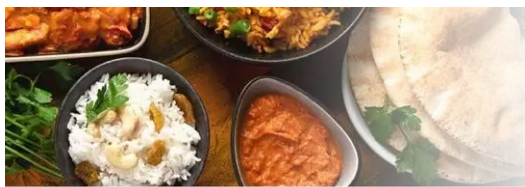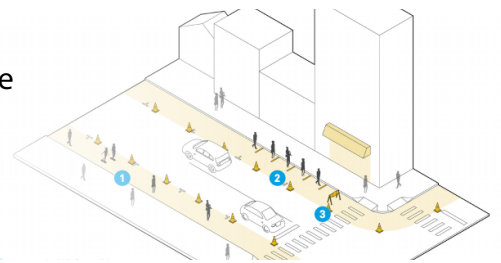

ITS Berkeley
Institute of Transportation Studies

CAR RENTAL

Hertz files for bankruptcy. The company has seen a decline in revenue and bookings as the COVID-19 pandemic reduces travel demand. Prior to the bankruptcy filing, Hertz laid off 12,000 employees and placed another 4,000 on furlough. The company plans to stay in business while it restructures its debts.

CITY PLANNING

NACTO releases a design guide for pandemic response and recovery. The guide compiles emerging practices from around the world that facilitate essential workers and goods movement, while ensuring space for physical distancing. The guide also includes implementation resources for cities and their partners. NACTO plans to update the guide as the pandemic evolves.
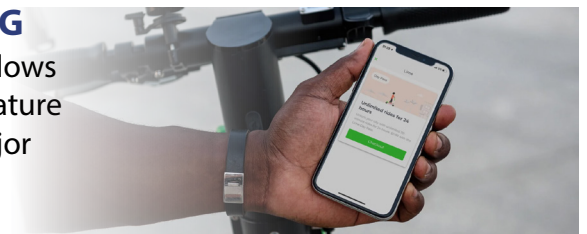
COURIER NETWORK SERVICES

Amazon launches a food delivery service, Amazon Food, in select areas of Bengaluru, India. The launch arrives at a time when order volumes have sharply declined in India due to the COVID-19 pandemic, including the reduction of staff in existing food delivery services.

SCOOTER SHARING

Lime launches a Day Pass option in 20 U.S. cities. The 24-hour pass allows users unlimited 30-minute rides and reservations for $11.99. The new feature is likely aimed at winning back riders, as Lime relaunches its fleets in major markets.

TNCS/RIDESOURCING

Ola, a transportation network company (TNC) based in India, lays off 1,400 people. Affected employees will receive a minimum of three months severance pay. The company says its revenue has dropped by 95 percentage points over the last two months, and Ola expects long-term impacts on TNC demand. Ola plans to invest in research and development in the near term.

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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

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