Last Week In Innovative Mobility
July 1 - July 7, 2019

TNCS/RIDESOURCING
Lyft partners with First Transit to offer wheelchair accessible vehicles (WAV) in San Francisco and Los Angeles. Riders will be able to request WAVs in app by enabling Access Mode. The pilot will use 2019 Toyota Siennas operated by certified drivers from First Transit. Rides will be priced the same as Lyft Standard Rides.

SCOOTER SHARING
Scooter sharing operator Beam provides personal accident insurance coverage to users. Coverage is extended to all users across Singapore, Malaysia, Australia, and New Zealand. Riders are be covered for a range of events, such as: bone fractures, loss of teeth, and loss or damage to personal belongings.

TNCS/RIDESOURCING
Uber introduces an “Uber Comfort” feature in dozens of cities across the U.S. Vehicles booked with Uber Comfort must be no more than five years old and have a minimum legroom of around three feet. Riders can request quiet time and their ideal temperature in advance. Uber Comfort rides cost between 20 to 40% more than UberX.

AUTOMATED VEHICLES
California gives Waymo permission to transport passengers in automated vehicles (AVs). Waymo is the fourth company to be issued a permit to participate in CA’s Autonomous Vehicle Passenger Service pilot. The permit allows Waymo employees to hail AVs. Waymo can't charge for rides and safety drivers must be present.

ELECTRIC VEHICLES
Ola Electric, a subsidiary of Indian TNC Ola, raises $250 million from SoftBank. The Series B financing round valued Ola Electric at $1 billion, making it the first EV company in India to gain unicorn status. This funding comes as India sets a goal to convert 40% of its existing fleet of cabs and scooters to electric by 2026.

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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.