



AUTOMATED VEHICLES

Via partners with BusBot and EasyMile to launch an automated shuttle program in Australia. The pilot is meant to fill gaps in public transit service for seniors. Rides can be hailed using BusBot's smartphone app and will be free for the pilot's duration, around 22 weeks. The electric shuttles are capable of level 4 automated driving.

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Startup Refraction Al unveils REV-1, an automated delivery vehicle that is able to operate both in bike lanes and on the roadway. The REV-1 is light-weight and low-power enough to qualify under e-bike regulations. Whether cities will allow them to operate in bike lanes is uncertain. Each vehicle has enough space to carry four packed grocery bags.





CARSHARING

Seventy-five vehicles were stolen after car2go eased background checks in Chicago. Car2go stopped conducting manual background checks (which take a day or two) to make the sign-up process easier. The thefts were orchestrated by around 20 people who set up accounts with fake or stolen credit cards. Car2go has since reverted to manual background checks.

SCOOTER SHARING

Bird CEO Travis VanderZanden says the company has positive unit economics. According to VanderZanden, Bird makes \$1.27 per ride on its Bird Zero scooters, which make up more than 75% of its fleet. The disclosure follows a report from The Information that Bird was seeking \$300 million in new funding after shrinking revenue and a loss of \$100 million.





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Ford and Volkswagen partner to develop electric, automated vehicles. VW is investing \$2.6 billion in Ford's Argo AI and buying \$500 million in Argo shares, giving the two automakers equal stakes in the startup. Ford will also build an electric vehicle (EV) in Europe using VW's MEB EV platform.

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