

Last Week In Innovative Mobility

September 2 - September 8, 2019



SCOOTER SHARING



Electric scooter company Spin signs “labor peace” pact with the Teamsters Joint Council 7. The move indicates the company welcomes unionization. Spin is one of 11 companies vying for a permit to operate in San Francisco. The city included labor practices as a key metric in evaluating permit applications last year.

AUTOMATED VEHICLES

The UK opens a 70km “Autonomous Village” test track for automated vehicles (AVs). In addition to the track, the Bedfordshire facility has six workshops to support mechanical, integration, and software development as well as a private mobile network for 5G testing. The center is planned to be part of a network of AV test facilities across the country.



SCOOTER SHARING



Spin sponsors street improvements at a Salt Lake City intersection. Spin has contracted with urban design company Team Better Block to transform the intersection into a more user-friendly space for pedestrians, bikers, and scooter users. The crosswalk and barrier lines between bike and parking lanes will be painted to make the intersection more visible.

APPS

Google will provide in-vehicle voice, navigation, and other apps in General Motor (GM) vehicles starting in 2021. Future GM infotainments will have built-in Google Maps and Google Assistant. GM will continue to offer its own infotainment features including: service recommendations, vehicle health status, in-vehicle commerce, and more.



CARSHARING



Peer-to-peer carsharing platform Getaround raises additional \$200 million in equity funding. The deal values Getaround at an estimated \$1.7 billion. The news follows the company’s recent \$300 million acquisition of Drivy, a European carsharing startup. Existing investors in Getaround include: Softbank, Toyota Motor Corporation, Menlo Ventures, and SOSV.

Visit imr.berkeley.edu to sign up for our weekly newsletters!
Follow us on Twitter @InnovMobility

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