

Last Week In Innovative Mobility

November 16 - 22, 2020



AUTOMATED VEHICLES

Automated vehicle (AV) operators in California can offer and charge for shared, driverless rides. However, companies must first receive permits from the California Public Utilities Commission and the California Department of Motor Vehicles, meet reporting requirements, submit a safety plan, and provide quarterly reports. Companies are concerned that the processes could delay deployments by two or more years.

AUTOMATED VEHICLES

Via announces a partnership with May Mobility, a fixed-route AV company. The companies plan to launch an AV platform in March 2021 in Texas that integrates on-demand shared rides, public transit, and transportation options for people with disabilities. The long-range plan is to integrate Via's technology into May Mobility's AV platform to support use cases for AVs, such as on-demand, dynamically-routed shared services.



AUTOMATED VEHICLES



Motional, an AV company, receives permission from Nevada officials to begin operating AVs without a safety driver in Las Vegas. Motional has been testing AVs in Las Vegas since 2018, and they provided over 100,000 rides through its partnership with Lyft. The company plans to continue to test AVs and complete a testing and assessment period in 2020.

GOODS DELIVERY

Walmart purchases select assets from JoyRun, a meal and grocery delivery service. Included in the purchase are JoyRun's talent, technology platform, and IP. The acquisition helps expand Walmart's delivery service and will be integrated into the company's Supply Chain Technology team.



ELECTRIC DEVICES

Train stations in the Netherlands replace their ashtray posts with electric bicycle (e-bike) charging posts. The new chargers help to replace obsolete ashtray posts (smoking in train stations was banned last month) and allow travelers to charge their bikes while waiting for a train. Each pole can charge two e-bikes simultaneously and is designed by the Amsterdam company Lightwell.



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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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