Last Week In Innovative Mobility

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ITS Berkeley
Institute of Transportation Studies
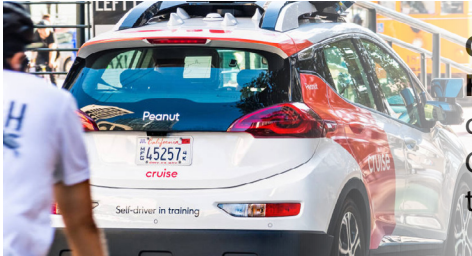
AUTOMATED VEHICLES

Cruise deploys five automated vehicles (AVs) to the Sunset District in San Francisco, California. The vehicles do not have a human driver on board and can only operate on streets with posted speeds lower than 30 miles per hour. Cruise plans to expand operations neighborhood by neighborhood as it builds trust in the community.

ELECTRIC VEHICLES

Ireland expands its electric vehicle (EV) charging network by repurposing phone booths. Approximately 12 million USD is being invested in replacing 180 public telephone booths with DC charging points from Tritium, an Australian manufacturer. The new charge points are capable of recharging most EV batteries to 80% full in about 30 minutes.

ELECTRIC VEHICLES

Toyota plans to unveil a new prototype EV. The EV uses solid-state batteries that allow it to have twice the range of current EVs and the ability to recharge in 10 minutes. The company has over 1,000 patents for solid-state batteries and plans to begin producing them in 2025.

GOODS DELIVERY

Ford Motor Company prepares to launch an AV commercial fleet by learning from its recent experience delivering food and school supplies. The deliveries support 50 students in Miami-Dade County, Florida during the COVID-19 pandemic. Deliveries are made by Ford's AV Fusion Hybrids manned by two specialists, but they are operated without human engagement.

SHARED MICROMOBILITY

The Colorado Springs city council is considering an electric scooter sharing pilot. The potential program includes up to three companies providing a fleet of 150 to 400 electric scooters during a six-month term, with the option to renew for an additional six months. Each scooter and station/parking zone are expected to cost $75 and $40, respectively.

innovative mobility