

Last Week In Innovative Mobility

November 25 - December 1, 2019



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London refuses to grant Uber a new licence to operate in the city. The city came to the decision after a “pattern of failures” such as a safety breach that allowed unauthorized drivers to impersonate other Uber drivers. A similar breach allowed suspended drivers to create Uber accounts and take passengers on trips. Uber has 21 days to appeal the decision.

SCOOTER SHARING

Coup, an electric moped scooter sharing service owned by Bosch, will shut down. The company plans to close services in all three cities in which it operates: Berlin, Paris, and Madrid. According to the company, it was unable to identify an economically sustainable path forward.



APPS



Moovit, Microsoft, and Aira launch a new service for visually impaired travelers. The project allows users to call remote agents through the Aira app, who then view a live stream via the user’s smartphone and provide travel directions with Moovit’s route mapping services. The service is available in cities across the US, Canada, Australia, and New Zealand.

AUTOMATED VEHICLES

Wayve, an automated vehicle (AV) startup, plans to test AVs in central London. The Cambridge-based startup announced a \$20 million Series A funding round to launch the pilot fleet. Wayve relies on a learning-based system and plans to build a “scalable driving brain” applicable to any driving environment.



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The Seattle City Council unanimously approves a new 57-cent tax on transportation network company (TNC) rides. The revenue is intended to fund: 1) affordable housing projects, 2) a downtown streetcar, and 3) support for TNC drivers. Uber and Lyft are opposed to the new tax and have expressed support for a congestion pricing concept instead.

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