

# Last Week In Innovative Mobility

February 19 - 25, 2024



## AUTOMATED VEHICLES

The California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) announces a pause on the decision to allow Waymo to expand its service area in the San Francisco Bay Area and Los Angeles. This announcement follows two incidents in California where a Waymo vehicle collided with a cyclist and another one was set on fire. CPUC has 120 days to decide upon the expansion with the option to extend the suspension for an additional 180 days.

Yahoo! Finance

## AUTOMATED VEHICLES

Experts anticipate that the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration will release proposed rules focused on automated heavy-duty vehicles (HDVs) in Spring 2024. The rules are expected to cover various topics including the certification and testing requirements for automated HDV operators. The role of HDVs on interstates has led to this expected action at the federal level.

Andrej Sokolow/Picture Alliance

## AUTOMATED VEHICLES

Cruise plans to resume automated vehicle (AV) testing in Houston or Dallas, Texas within the next few months. The AV company is conducting talks with city regulators to verify they may begin testing with a safety driver present in the vehicle. Cruise has made changes in the past few months including increased training for safety drivers and improved communication between safety drivers and engineers.

David Paul Morris/Bloomberg

## ELECTRIC VEHICLES

CATL, the world's largest battery maker, plans to reduce the cost of lithium iron phosphate batteries by 50 percent. A 60kWh electric vehicle battery that previously cost manufacturers almost \$6,800 is expected to be around \$3,400. This battery can be charged in approximately 30 minutes and has a cost of about \$56/kWh.

CATL

## URBAN AIR MOBILITY

Experts explain the future of electric, vertical take-off and landing (eVTOL) aircraft. Before air taxis can begin mainstream operations, they will be required to obtain Federal Aviation Administration certification, vertiport infrastructure needs to be in place, and software must be tailored for both users and operators. The air taxi market is not expected to begin to scale until 2026 or beyond.

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