Last Week In Innovative Mobility September 18 - 24, 2023



AUTOMATED VEHICLES

California Governor Gavin Newson vetoes AB 316, focused on regulating driverless trucks. At this time, automated heavy duty vehicles are still required to have a human safety operator on board. Upon vetoing, Newsom stated that he will work to help ensure the safe deployment of this technology and limit the negative impacts on jobs.

AUTOMATED VEHICLES

Uber Freight develops a 10-year partnership with Waabi, an automated trucking company. This partnership will begin with a pilot of the technology and fleet between Dallas and Houston, Texas. In the future, the partnership plans to expand operations outside of Texas and operate the trucks without a safety driver.



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AUTOMATED VEHICLES

Waymo, an automated vehicle company, announces plans to expand its robotaxi service in Los Angeles, California. Beginning in October 2023, Waymo will tour LA for six weeks, providing one week of free rides in six different service areas. Waymo reports that it has been mapping LA since 2019 and plans to have a service area larger than San Francisco, California.

SHARED MICROMOBILITY

A study reveals that shared micromobility users receiving a discount are more likely to use these modes for essential trips, like errands and commuting, than their counterparts. This was determined through survey data collected from Lime Access (a discount program offered by Lime) and non-Lime Access users. It also was estimated that 44% of Lime Access users connect to public transit.





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URBAN AIR MOBILITY

The United Auto Workers (UAW) strike continues as additional union members are called on to strike at various Ford, General Motors, and Stellantis plants across the U.S. The UAW is seeking to secure jobs and pay as the shift to electric vehicles (EVs) requires fewer workers on the assembly line. Meanwhile, the vehicle manufacturers are concerned the strike will further push out the production timeline and reduce EV investments.

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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