Waymo announces new robotaxi service in Santa Monica, California. The service is planned to begin on October 11, 2023 and last until November 18, 2023. Waymo will then provide service in other parts of Los Angeles, California.

The San Francisco Police Department investigates an incident where a Cruise automated vehicle (AV) ran over a pedestrian after they were hit by a human-driven vehicle. Cruise claims that the AV “braked aggressively” after the pedestrian landed in the lane of the Cruise AV. At this time, it is unclear if the Cruise AV could have avoided the collision with the pedestrian.

The U.S. Department of Treasury announces an update to the federal electric vehicle (EV) credit program that will allow car dealers to provide the credit at the time of purchase. This update will take effect in January 2024, and similar to the existing program, it only applies to qualified EVs. The EV dealers may provide the credit in cash or as a discount.

EV manufacturers, Hyundai and Kia, announce their adoption of the Tesla North American Charging Standard (NACS) EV charging plug. Hyundai, including Genesis, and Kia plan to have NACS integrated into new EVs by Q4 of 2024. In 2025, both manufacturers are expected to provide adapters for current EV owners with Combined Charging System plugs.

Uber announces the expansion of its package delivery service, Uber Connect, to include package returns. Customers looking to make a return through Uber Connect must provide the driver with a sealed package and prepaid postage. This service costs $5 or $3 for Uber One members, and drivers provide a picture of the receipt when the package has been dropped off to the carrier.

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