Automated trucks may face an operational roadblock in California. In January 2024, an Assembly Bill (AB 316) was introduced that would require a trained human safety operator to be present any time heavy-duty automated trucks operated on public roads in the state. If passed, AB 316 would go into effect in January 2024, which would limit the Department of Motor Vehicle's ability to regulate automated vehicles.

Denver, Colorado’s electric bike (e-bike) rebate program creates biking advocates. The rebate was introduced in 2022, and over 4,700 residents took advantage of it. E-bike adoption has improved individual health outcomes and is increasing advocacy for safer biking infrastructure.

Electric vehicle (EV) adoption is dependent on equitable, affordable charging access. Individuals who reside in multifamily units tend to have less EV charging access and, as a result, must use public chargers, which are typically more expensive. Additionally, EV charging infrastructure tends to be less prevalent in lower-income communities.

EV batteries are being repurposed by a startup, B2U Storage Solutions Inc, in Southern California. B2U has a 25 megawatt-hour storage facility that is connected to the state’s power grid and comprised of approximately 1,300 EV batteries. Systems like B2U’s could lower grid-scale battery capital costs by roughly 40%.

Google builds in EV features to Google Maps. The features help to address the range anxiety EV drivers may face. For example, Google Maps will now show when locations, like supermarkets, have EV chargers available.

Visit tsrc.berkeley.edu to sign up for our weekly newsletters! Follow us on Twitter @InnovMobility

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.