In San Francisco, California, city officials and the city attorney continue to raise concerns over requests by Cruise and Waymo to operate their automated vehicles (AVs) 24 hours a day. The city officials are calling for an environmental review to be completed before expanding the companies’ operating hours. The officials are concerned over the safety of AVs, especially as incidents with Waymo vehicles alone have increased six times this year.

The California State Assembly votes to ban the driverless operation of heavy-duty trucks. This vote signifies an emphasis on public safety as heavy-duty vehicles with automated technology are still required to have a safety driver onboard. This vote impacts vehicles over 10,000 pounds.

The National Automobile Dealers Association (NADA) announces that U.S. franchise car dealerships will collectively invest $5.5 billion in electric vehicle (EV) infrastructure. Automakers expect that individual car dealerships will invest $100,000 to $1 million for chargers and other upgrades to support EVs. This money is intended to help legacy automakers compete with EV manufacturers that sell vehicles directly to the consumer.

Ford launches Ford Drive, a pilot program to provide flexible EV leasing options for Uber drivers. Uber drivers who take advantage of this program can access a one- or four-month Ford Mustang Mach-E lease and earn an extra dollar for every trip they take (up to $4,000 annually). This program is currently only available to Uber drivers in three California cities: Los Angeles, San Diego, and San Francisco.

Serve Robotics, an automated delivery manufacturer, partners with Uber Eats to deploy delivery robots. Up to 2,000 delivery robots will be used across the Uber Eats U.S. market through 2026. Serve Robotics and Uber Eats have already completed a pilot of this program in West Hollywood, California, where over 200 restaurants used the service.