Waymo, an automated vehicle (AV) company, announces that it will be providing an automated taxi service in Austin, Texas. This will be the fourth major U.S. city where Waymo is piloting its automated taxi service. It is expected to begin in Fall 2023.

The California Privacy Protection Agency (CPPA) investigates AV privacy practices. AVs often collect information on the user’s location, personal preferences, and other personal information. The investigation will determine if AV companies are protecting personal data under the California Consumer Privacy Act.

The California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) is voting on the expansion of the Cruise and Waymo AV taxi services in San Francisco, California on August 10, 2023. If approved, Cruise and Waymo operations can occur 24/7 in San Francisco. Although Cruise and Waymo vehicles are designed to follow traffic safety rules, many opponents cite safety concerns involving AVs blocking emergency vehicles.

St. Paul, Minnesota approves the introduction of 200 shared electric-assist bikes by Lime, a shared micromobility operator. Users can locate and pay for the dockless bikes through the Lime or Uber mobile application. Initially, low-income areas in the city will receive at least 30% of the bikes.

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency proposes new vehicle emission limitations that are expected to reduce emissions by 60% by 2030. The new proposal is flexible and would allow automakers to determine how they want to meet the new requirements. Despite the large emission cuts, there are concerns that this new plan would be difficult to achieve and will not meet the Paris Agreement goals.

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