

Last Week In Innovative Mobility

August 7 - 13, 2023



AUTOMATED VEHICLES

The California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) approves the expansion of Cruise and Waymo automated vehicle (AV) taxi services in San Francisco, California. The service expansion was determined by a 3-1 vote after 5.5 hours of public comments. The companies can now operate the AV service 24/7 in San Francisco, making it the first U.S. city to have two AV ridehailing services.

Justin Sullivan/Getty Images

RAIL SERVICE

Amtrak and Texas Central Partners apply for federal funding to develop high-speed rail (HSR) between Dallas and Houston, Texas. The route between the two Texas cities is expected to have 240 miles of dedicated track with an estimated travel time of less than 90 minutes. This HSR project is anticipated to reduce greenhouse gas emissions by 100,000 tons per year.



Amtrak

TNCs/RIDEHAILING

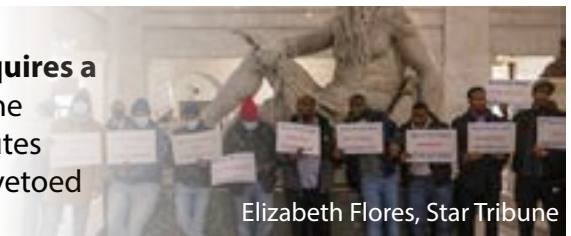
The Italian government approves a 20% increase in the number of allowable taxi licenses that will last two years. The new licenses will only be granted to those who drive electric or hybrid vehicles. This comes after complaints about the taxi services falling short of customer needs, including extremely long wait times and issues with metering and payments.



Remo Casilli/Reuters

TNCs/RIDEHAILING

The City of Minneapolis, Minnesota is voting on an ordinance that requires a minimum wage for transportation network company (TNC) drivers. The minimum wage would be based on the driver's number of miles and minutes driven. A similar ordinance was passed in May 2023, but it was ultimately vetoed by the state governor over fear that Uber would exit the market.



Elizabeth Flores, Star Tribune

URBAN AIR MOBILITY

Wisk and Archer, urban air mobility (UAM) companies, settle a trade secret dispute. Archer agrees to allow Wisk to be their automated flight technology provider and will gain company shares. Wisk's developments include an electric vertical takeoff and landing aircraft and plans to begin UAM services within 5 years.



Wisk.aero

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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

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