

Last Week In Innovative Mobility

November 11 - 17, 2024



AUTOMATED VEHICLES

Zoox begins operations of an automated vehicle without a steering wheel and other driver controls in San Francisco, California. Initially, the vehicle will only provide rides to Zoox employees in the South of Market neighborhood. Additionally, Zoox recently expanded their testing area in Las Vegas, Nevada to improve the artificial intelligence driving model.

AUTOMATED VEHICLES

Waymo announces their robotaxi service in Los Angeles, California is open to the public and no longer has a waitlist. Passengers may request a ride within the 80 square mile service area through the Waymo One app. The service area spans from Santa Monica to Chinatown, including Culver City, Beverly Hills, and Hollywood. Note the Waymo vehicles do not travel on highways.



AUTOMATED VEHICLES

Cruise admits to false reporting to the National Highway Transportation Safety Administration following the October 2023 incident in San Francisco, California. Cruise failed to describe in an incident report that their vehicle dragged a person about 20 feet before stopping. Additionally, Cruise agrees to pay a \$500,000 fine, maintain a safety compliance program, and report annually on their compliance program and remediation efforts.



ELECTRIC VEHICLES

A six country survey of 6,000 drivers finds 57% of respondents expect to have an electric vehicle (EV) within ten years. Additionally, participants reported their top priorities for EVs are reliability, safety, and value for their money. Eighty-one percent of participants further noted battery size and range were critical factors when deciding to purchase an EV.



TRANSPORTATION PRICING

The New York Governor, Kathy Hochul, approves a congestion pricing plan with a 40% reduction in pricing compared to the initial plan. Following federal approval, most drivers will pay a \$9 toll to enter the congestion zone beginning in January 2025, with plans to increase the toll after three years. The congestion pricing funds will support the Metropolitan Transportation Authority's budget for public transit upgrades.



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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

