

Last Week In Innovative Mobility

December 30, 2024 - January 5, 2025



AUTOMATED VEHICLES

A Waymo automated vehicle (AV) and Serve delivery robot collide in Los Angeles, California. Waymo reports the AV detected the delivery robot as an inanimate object when the delivery robot paused before entering the turning lane. As the delivery robot began to enter the turning lane, the Waymo braked and hit the robot at four miles per hour, leaving both vehicles undamaged.



Mario Tama/Getty Images

ELECTRIC VEHICLES

The U.S. Joint Office of Energy and Transportation reports an 11.5% increase in the sale of battery electric vehicles (BEVs) and plug-in hybrid electric vehicles (PHEVs) from November 2023 to November 2024. BEVs and PHEVs are now thought to make up 10.4% of light-duty vehicle sales. Additionally, the Joint Office reports 2,490 new electric vehicle (EV) chargers in November 2024, with federal funding for over 24,000 EV chargers in development.



Honda

ELECTRIC VEHICLES

Five new EV models from Hyundai, Kia, and Genesis are now eligible for the federal \$7,500 EV tax credit. Hyundai recently opened a new EV manufacturing facility in Georgia to comply with EV tax credit rules requiring the vehicles to be built in North America. In 2025, there are currently 25 BEVs and 10 PHEVs eligible for a federal tax credit.



Andrew J. Hawkins/The Verge

MICROMOBILITY

California Senate Bill 1271 takes effect on January 1, 2025 to clarify e-bike regulation in the state. For example, devices that can be modified to reach speeds over 20 miles per hour with a motor alone or have over 750 Watts of power are no longer able to be marketed as an e-bike and may be illegal to use on certain roads and bike paths. Additionally, devices without pedals are no longer classified as e-bikes.



electrek

TRANSPORTATION PRICING

Congestion pricing begins in New York for drivers entering Manhattan. The congestion pricing plan is expected to raise \$15 billion in funding for the Metropolitan Transportation Authority to support public transit upgrades. However, the congestion pricing programs may face pushback from officials in New Jersey and at the federal level due to concerns about the unfairness of the pricing and the impact on traffic and pollution.



Michael Nagle/Bloomberg

Visit tsrc.berkeley.edu to sign up for our weekly newsletters!

Follow us on X @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

