Last Week In Innovative Mobility April 28 - May 4, 2025



AUTOMATED VEHICLES

Waymo and Toyota have announced a partnership to develop a new automated vehicle (AV) platform and technology for privately owned vehicles. The partnership is believed to be built on a shared goal of preventing traffic-related accidents. Although little is known about how Waymo's technology will be incorporated into Toyota vehicles, Waymo explains they will continue developing their "generalizable" automated driver system.

AUTOMATED VEHICLES

Uber and May Mobility have announced a partnership to bring AV service to multiple U.S. cities. Through this partnership, May Mobility's AV service is anticipated to become available on the Uber platform in Arlington, Texas by the end of 2025. Initially, the AV service will operate with a safety driver, but it will eventually transition to a fully driverless experience.



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AUTOMATED VEHICLES

Aurora has launched the first automated long-haul, heavy-duty vehicle trucking service between Dallas and Houston, Texas. At present, a single automated truck operates on this route and has completed 1,200 miles without a human onboard. The route supports Uber Freight and Hirschbach Motor Lines, both of which took part in multiple test runs with Aurora before the driverless service officially launched.

ELECTRIC VEHICLES

Walmart has announced plans to own and operate a network of 400kW electric vehicle (EV) chargers equipped with both SAE J1772 and SAE J3400 connectors. As part of a pilot program, chargers have already been installed at three Walmart store locations. The chargers are supplied by ABB, and EV drivers can currently access charging through the Walmart app, with a credit card payment option expected to be added in the future.





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TRANSPORTATION PRICING

Starting in April 2025, Pennsylvania will introduce an annual road user fee for electric and plug-in hybrid vehicle owners. EV owners will pay \$200 per year, while plug-in hybrid owners will pay \$50. These fees are intended to compensate for the gas taxes these drivers do not pay and will be adjusted each year based on the Consumer Price Index.

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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