Waymo announces that their automated robotaxis complete over 50,000 paid rides every week. The rides were completed in Phoenix, Arizona and San Francisco and Los Angeles, California. Waymo explains that passengers come from all socio-demographic backgrounds, and the service is helping people gain more independence.

Daimler announces launch of automated heavy duty vehicles (HDVs) in 2027. Daimler has been testing the automated technology with the Freightliner Cascadia model, coupled with sensors and a computer that makes driving decisions. Daimler will conduct testing on the vehicles with a safety driver in the vehicle and expects the automated HDVs will be delivered with level 4 automation.

Concerns grow among the automotive industry and global leaders regarding China’s manufacturing of electric buses. Given China’s low production costs for electric vehicles (EVs), the industry is concerned that Chinese electric bus manufacturing will limit market competition. Some suggest that EV manufacturing in China is unfairly subsidized by the government.

Google launches new Google Maps features for locating electric vehicle (EV) charging stations. Android users can now employ Google Maps to identify and determine a route to EV charging stations, similar to gas stations. In order to enable this feature, EV owners must adjust their settings to indicate that they drive an EV.

A webinar hosted by the Eno Center for Transportation reported on the growing popularity of e-bikes in bikesharing programs. One expert shared that although e-bikes cost more, they result in an increase in users who may want to travel in a hilly area or longer distances. Additionally, battery swapping and electrified docking stations have helped reduce the logistical challenges associated with having e-bikes in a bikesharing fleet.

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