



AUTOMATED VEHICLES

Lyft announces the addition of automated shuttles to their platform beginning in 2026. The Level 4 automated shuttles, known as Holon Urban shuttles, will be provided by Benteler Mobility and can hold up to 15 passengers. Passengers will be able to request a ride on the automated shuttles through the Lyft app in select cities and from select airports in the U.S.

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Tesla announces a plan to begin supervised testing of its robotaxi service in the San Francisco Bay Area. Initially, the robotaxis will only be available to friends and family members of Tesla employees and select individuals from the public. To charge customers for rides in California, Tesla will need to obtain the appropriate permit from the California Public Utilities Commission.





AUTOMATED VEHICLES

City officials and labor leaders in Boston, Massachusetts express concern about the introduction of automated vehicles (AV). Several concerns relate to the ability of AVs safely navigate the complex streets of Boston and the impact they will have on existing taxi and ridehailing drivers. A Waymo representative explains that although the vehicles do not have drivers, their model supports other jobs, including mechanics and cleaning personnel.

GOODS DELIVERY

Coco Robotics demonstrates the operation of electric, automated delivery robots at the 125th New York International Auto Show. The delivery robots are overseen by remote operators and use a combination of technologies, including artificial intelligence and advanced battery systems. Coco robots are capable of navigating complex environments, chime when they reach their destination, and offer a user-friendly experience for retrieving the delivered item.





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TNCs/RIDEHAILING

Uber introduced a new safety feature that allows women using the app to match exclusively with other women drivers or passengers. Initially, Uber is piloting the feature in Detroit, Michigan; Los Angeles, California; and San Francisco, California. Although this is the first time the feature is available to women in the U.S., Uber launched a similar feature in Saudi Arabia in 2019 and has tested it in other countries.

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