



AUTOMATED VEHICLES

The California legislature passes assembly bill (AB) 2286 to ban driverless automated heavy-duty vehicle (HDV) operations within the state. The bill applies to HDVs weighing 10,001 pounds or more, establishes reporting requirements for automated HDV manufacturers, and requires the California Department of Motors Vehicles to report on automated HDV performance. A similar bill was vetoed by Governor Gavin Newsom in 2023.

ELECTRIC VEHICLES

Global data suggest in areas with high electric vehicle (EV) adoption, EV owners drive more miles on an annual basis than internal combustion engine (ICE) vehicle owners. It is thought that this may be due to the lower cost per mile of EVs compared to ICE vehicles. In addition, data suggest that EVs with driver assistance features, such as Teslas, are driven further annually, compared to other EVs.





ELECTRIC VEHICLES

Volvo joins a growing number of auto manufacturers announcing delays in EV production. Volvo's plan to exclusively sell EVs has now been extended from 2030 to 2040, with a plan to incorporate more plug-in hybrids and mild hybrids in the interim. Additionally, Volvo cites slow EV charging infrastructure deployment, fewer government incentives, tariffs, software issues, and other challenges as barriers to reaching their goal.

SHARED MOBILITY

A microtransit system, called "The Hop," launches with a 36-vehicle fleet in five central Texas cities, serving potentially 650,000 people. Passengers can request a ride via mobile app and expect to wait 30

minutes or less for a vehicle to arrive. It is thought that The Hop may replace the fixed bus service in the area, depending on an ongoing evaluation of the service.





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TRANSPORTATION SAFETY

The California legislature passes state bill (SB) 961, requiring vehicles sold in California to be equipped with a warning system to alert drivers when they are ten miles per hour over the speed limit. The warning system, known as intelligent speed assistance, has been required in Europe since 2022 and would be required in California beginning in 2030. To become a state law, Governor Newsom must approve the bill before September 30, 2024.

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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