

Last Week In Innovative Mobility

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Patrick T. Fallon/AFP/Getty Images

AUTOMATED VEHICLES

Uber partners with Waymo to provide automated vehicle (AV) rides in Austin, Texas and Atlanta, Georgia. Beginning in 2025, Uber customers in both cities may be matched with a Waymo vehicle upon requesting a ride through the Uber app. It is thought that this partnership was made in light of pressure from Uber investors and Tesla's October 2024 robotaxi announcement.

AUTOMATED VEHICLES

New data suggest there will be about four million Level 4 AVs across the world by 2040. It is thought that the use of AVs will be wide ranging including goods movement and ridehailing. Experts suggest that the key challenges for AVs are related to technology, such as testing requirements, hardware flaws, and the availability of 5G network connectivity.



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Chalmers University of Technology

ELECTRIC VEHICLES

Swedish researchers announce the development of a carbon fiber composite battery that may increase electric vehicle (EV) range by 70%. The battery is stiff enough to support weight comparable to that of aluminum, potentially allowing the battery to serve as a structural component in vehicles. In addition, the battery is thought to be less flammable than current EV batteries and does not require copper or cobalt.

TNCs/RIDEHAILING

Tesla partners with Uber to provide ride navigation through the built-in Tesla screen. In addition, Tesla drivers can enable battery monitoring so they are only offered ride requests within their available battery range. Data sharing is enabled through an application programming interface called Smartcar.



electrek



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TRANSPORTATION SAFETY

The U.S. National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) proposes a new rule to address pedestrian deaths from vehicle collisions. The proposal includes a new vehicle testing procedure to evaluate the vehicle hood-to-head impact for adults and children. NHTSA estimates the new rule could prevent up to 67 deaths due to vehicle-pedestrian collisions each year.

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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

