Policy Rundown

For ITS America Advocacy Trust and Innovation Trust

ITS America in the News

EVENT- ITS America presents Technology Driving Transportation Executive Summit

The Technology Driving Transportation Executive Summit will be held in San Francisco, California on June 22nd. The one-day Executive Summit is focused on the development & deployment of the most cutting edge technologies as well as the education of the next generation workforce. Thought leaders from across transportation, artificial intelligence, automation, cyber security, labor, and technology companies turn thoughts and research into action, setting the market conditions for the success of the rapid adoption of new technologies in transportation and laying the groundwork for public acceptance of these technologies.

The Summit will include an opening keynote from Dale Fuller, Executive Chairman of the Board, Mobisocial and former CEO of McAfee; John Rossman, Author & Managing Director, Alvarez & Marsal and former Amazon executive; John Moon, Developer Relations Lead for Honda Developer Studio; Vish Nandlall, CEO of Elefante Group and more. Listen to engaging topics such as Beyond IoT: The New Network of Commerce; Security, Safety and Privacy; Secure Mobility, Connectivity and Seamless Movement; and Artificial Intelligence, Machine Learning and Automation.

Space is limited so be sure to register today. Visit techtransalliance.org to view the agenda and speakers we have lined up. Advocacy Trust members receive a promotional code for a discounted rate. Please contact Rachel Rettberg at rrettberg@itsa.org for information.
OP-ED - Let’s Resolve to Use Technology to Make Our Roads Safer

As President Trump visits Cincinnati on Wednesday, ITS America is urging Ohioans to understand the need to include intelligent transportation technology in future infrastructure projects, including the 5.9 GHz Safety Spectrum for V2V communication.

The Op-Ed can be found here. For more information about the Safety Spectrum Coalition go to www.thesafetyspectrum.org

Federal Administration Policy and Regulatory News

Trump Announces own “Infrastructure Week” - Endorses Privatization of Air Traffic Services

White House officials have dubbed this week “infrastructure week,” part of a series of policy-themed weeks that the administration is expected to roll out in the coming months. Trump formally endorsed privatizing air traffic control, and promoted his $1 trillion infrastructure plan, which includes $200B in proposed federal funding and $800B from other sources. The fact sheet issued by the Administration two weeks ago included proposals that recommend ITS deployment, such as approaches to congestion mitigation such as the nearly $400M Urban Partnership Agreement Program, which deployed ITS in Miami, Minneapolis, San Francisco, and Seattle in 2008-2009.

Department of Transportation takes issue with Self-Driving Technology -- Despite Support.

At the NHTSA sponsored Enhanced Vehicle Safety Conference in Detroit on Monday, USDOT Secretary Elaine Chao called on Silicon Valley to “step up” and explain self-driving technology to help the public overcome its fears of robots taking the wheel. The Secretary also stated that she intends to have the department review in a couple of months the NHTSA Federal Automated Vehicles Policy that will incorporate feedback from industry.

ITS America plans for Automated Vehicle; Media Pushes Back on Self Driving Technology
Self-driving technology has taken some hits in the media in recent weeks, with articles suggesting the technology is not mature yet or will not gain consumer confidence (Pittsburgh Post Gazette, “Advocacy group: Self-driving industries need to put brakes on on-road testing” Medium “Tesla Autopilot Review: Bikers will die.” and JD Powers “2017 U.S. Tech Choice Study: Consumers Fear Technology Failures with Autonomous Vehicles.”

Last November, ITS America commented on the volunteer automated vehicle guidelines. Last month the association established an ad hoc Automated Vehicle working group to address proposed legislation addressing expanding NHTSA authority and potentially pre-empting state regulations related to highly automated vehicles. (see legislative news below) A task force will be created to establish formal policy principles and articulate a path to achieving safety assurance and sustainable progress in deployment of highly automated vehicles. If you are interested in joining this group, please contact Ron Thaniel, VP for Legislative Affairs rthaniel@itsa.org or Steven Bayless VP for Regulatory and Public Policy at sbayless@itsa.org

**Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration will Address Heavy Vehicle Automation**

FMCSA announces that its Motor Carrier Safety Advisory Committee will meet on Monday and Tuesday, June 12-13, 2017, to provide recommendations to the Agency concerning: Highly automated commercial vehicles (HACVs), the development of the Agency’s fiscal year (FY) 2018-2022 strategic plan, and the review of the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Regulations (FMCSRs) to identify potential opportunities to reduce regulatory burdens while ensuring that Federal safety programs continue to achieve safety outcomes.

**ITS America will talk Security of Automated/Connected Vehicle before Federal Trade Commission**

Acting FTC Chairman Maureen K. Ohlhausen and will bring together a variety of stakeholders, including industry representatives, consumer advocates, academics, and government regulators, to discuss various issues related to connected and automated vehicles that collect data. The workshop will take place on June 28 at the FTC's Constitution Center office in Washington, D.C and live webcast
At the FTC, Steven H Bayless, VP for Regulatory Affairs will be joined by ITS America Advocacy Trust member Carrie Morton from the University of Michigan Mobility Transformation Center on a panel called “Connected Cars and Data” taking place from 11:45 am – 1:00 pm. Also represented is Booz Allen Hamilton, ARM and the Electronic Frontier Foundation (EFF), a privacy advocacy group that is opposed to the development of connected vehicle technology.

ITS America will file comments with FTC following the workshop in July. The ITS America Cybersecurity Task Force, lead by partner Cyber Future Foundation will address considerations and lay down recommendations. ITS America has filed comments with NHTSA on their cybersecurity guidelines, and with the FCC in response for a petition on DSRC security. ITS America also issued a report Cybersecurity and Dependable Transportation - System Assurance, Operations and Reactive Defense

Secretary Chao Announced first National Autonomous Vehicle Day; Speaks to Regulation

U.S. Department of Transportation Secretary Elaine Chao announced on Wednesday, May 31, 2017, the first National Autonomous Vehicle Day. Speaking at the second annual Drone Focus Conference in Fargo, North Dakota, Chao said, "Smart new transportation technology needs smart infrastructure."

“And we need the smartest infrastructure possible to allow manned and unmanned aircraft and vehicles to safely share airspace and roads,” said Chao. “The line between aerospace and terrestrial transportation technology is beginning to blur. So it makes sense to ensure that our infrastructure can accommodate these developments. This means an appropriate regulatory framework that can keep pace with rapidly changing technology."

While the remarks primarily addressed unmanned aerial vehicles, the Secretary called for a regulatory approach that ensures safety, while encouraging innovation and preserving creativity. “Creativity and innovation are part of the great genius of America—one of its hallmarks,” said Chao. “We must safeguard and nurture this legacy. But it is also critical that Silicon Valley and other innovators step up and share with the public their understanding of new technology, and address legitimate public concerns about safety and privacy.”

Secretary on Autonomous Vehicles Driving Us Toward a Zero Death Future
On May 31, 2017, Connection: The Official Blog of the U.S. Department of Transportation published a blog entitled "Autonomous Vehicles Driving Us Towards a Zero Death Future." It stated that autonomous vehicles have the potential to reduce and even eliminate the devastating loss of life to road deaths worldwide.

The blog cited all too grim statistics for vehicle-related fatalities:

- Motor vehicle-related crashes killed 1.3 million people worldwide 2015.
- In the United States, 35,092 road deaths in 2015—a spike of more than 7 percent above the previous year.

"With 94 percent of fatal vehicle crashes attributable to human error, the potential of autonomous vehicle technologies to reduce deaths and injuries on our roads urges us to action," wrote Connections. "It’s not just the leading automotive companies or the tech giants who are getting involved. All across America, innovators are jumping at the chance to be a part of the autonomous vehicle revolution. The lifesaving potential of autonomous vehicles is the primary benefit of this new technology."

Connections also spoke to other advantages of an autonomous vehicle future:

Mobility and Sustainability

"American motorists currently spend more than 6.9 billion hours a year sitting in traffic, according to the American Society of Civil Engineers. "Autonomous vehicles could potentially smooth traffic flows, reduce commute times, vehicle emissions and fuel costs."

Accessibility

"Additionally, many seniors and people with disabilities cannot currently drive, even with vehicle modifications that help others drive safely. Autonomous vehicles could provide many more Americans access to the open road and to independence."

Legislative News

House on Fast Track to Introduce Automated Vehicle Bills; ITS America Task Force
The House Committee on Energy and Commerce Subcommittee on Digital Commerce and Consumer Protection is on a fast track to introduce legislative proposals intended to facilitate the development, testing, and deployment of self-driving cars in the next few weeks. The Subcommittee on Digital Commerce and Consumer Protection is finalizing discussion draft legislation, and a hearing is planned before the July 4 recess.

ITS America has and will continue to inform the Subcommittee on Digital Commerce and Consumer Protection throughout the legislative process on issues raised by our Advocacy and Innovation Trust Members. As requested after the conference call last month with majority staff to the Subcommittee on Digital Commerce and Consumer Protection, comments from ITS America’s Advocacy and Innovation Trust Members to the 16 legislative proposals are due by COB today (June 6, 2017). Please email your comments to ITS America’s Vice President of Legislative Affairs Ron Thaniel at rthaniel@itsa.org. Note, comments will be aggregated and not attributed to a particular ITS America member. ITS America has also made it clear to the Subcommittee on Digital Commerce and Consumer Protection that our comments on the legislative proposals are intended to inform the policy making process and that they should not be taken as official ITS America policy.

On a separate track, ITS America will shortly be announcing the formation of an Autonomous Vehicle Task Force. The current working group has addressed legislative issues to include exemptions, state and city preemption, accessibility, disclosures, cybersecurity, and research and development. The ITS America Autonomous Vehicle Task Force will be tasked to develop a policy for consideration for the ITS America Board of Directors.

**Senate Commerce Hearing on Two Key Transportation Post**

The Senate Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation will hold a nomination hearing Thursday, June 8, 2017, for Derek Kan to be Under Secretary of Transportation for Policy and Robert L. Sumwalt, III to be Member of the National Transportation Safety Board. The two positions are subject to Senate confirmation.

Click here to view Sumwalt's biographical information: 
https://www.commerce.senate.gov/public/_cache/files/e3c5a95a-94be-4ba7-8e16-6d45f09df167/F45D8A27FoCE4FB1D921EA3B397C395Dsumwalt-questionnaire-redacted.pdf

AI Caucus Launched

Congressman John K. Delaney (D-MD) and Pete Olson (R-TX) launched on May 24, 2017, the Artificial Intelligence (AI) Caucus for the 115th Congress. The goal of the caucus is to inform policymakers of the technological, economic and social impacts of advances in AI and to ensure that rapid innovation in AI and related fields benefits Americans as fully as possible. The AI Caucus will bring together experts from academia, government and the private sector to discuss the latest technologies and the implications and opportunities created by these new changes. Other members of the caucus include Congressman Jared Polis (D-CO), Congressman Derek Kilmer (D-WA), Congresswoman Anna Eshoo (D-CA), Congressman Andre Carson (D-IN) and Congresswoman Debbie Dingell (D-MI).

State Policy Developments

CO Gov. Hickenlooper Signs AV Legislation into Law

On June 1, 2017, Colorado Governor John Hickenlooper (D) signed into law SB 17-2013, legislation “concerning the authorization of automated driving systems to control motor vehicles throughout Colorado.” State Representative Faith Winter (D)—one of the bill’s sponsors—said that “[l]ast year 605 people died on Colorado highways—there were over two million crashes and 90 percent of those were from human error...This is a law that sets the framework to increase safety on our roads and encourage innovation in a growing field," according to a news report.

Under the law, if an automated driving system is capable of complying with every state and federal law that applies to the function the system is operating, then no additional permission is required to test the vehicle on Colorado’s roads. If, however, the automated driving system is not capable of complying with those laws, then a person shall not test the system unless approved by the Colorado State Patrol and the Colorado Department of Transportation.
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