

The Honorable Gus M. Bilirakis, Chair

Introduction to Autonomous Vehicle (

It is a transformational time in transportation history. Yet, Benjamin Franklin's infamous quote from 1736, "An ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure," aptly applies. We urge our Nation's leaders to use this document as the "GPS," the way to "guarantee public safety," as AV development and deployment moves forward.

Manufacturer Submissions to NHTSA: Any submission to NHTSA by AV manufacturers or developers must be mandatory, publicly available and include thorough and adequate data and documentation. Additionally, NHTSA must be directed to review and evaluate all submissions to assess whether an approach to automated driving system (ADS) development and testing includes appropriate safeguards for operation on public roads.

Proper Oversight of Testing: AV testing is already underway in many localities. Fundamental and commonsense safeguards must be instituted for testing on public roads including the establishment of

Consumer and Worker Rights³: The well-established rights of consumers to seek accountability in a court of law for injuries suffered as a result of AVs must be preserved. Moreover, exploitative independent contractor relationships that shield AV companies from liability and deny workers basic workplace rights should be explicitly prevented.

Ensuring Local Control and Sustainable Transportation

Local, State and Federal Regulatory Roles: In keeping with existing law and practice, the federal government should prescribe regulations for the performance of these vehicles, leaving regulation of the operation of these vehicles to the states.

In-Depth Study of AV Impacts on Transportation Systems and Environment: DOT must undertake a comprehensive study to inform policymakers and the public about how these vehicles will impact our existing transportation systems and ensure effective mitigation of problems identified.

NOTE: The AV Tenets outlined in this document do not constitute the entirety of each supporting

Supporters of Autonomous Vehicle (AV) Tenets
As of October 5, 2022

Active Transportation Alliance (Metro Chicago)
Advocates for Highway and Auto Safety
America Walks
American Association for Justice
American Motorcyclist Association
American Public Health Association
American Trauma Society
Association of Pedestrian and Bicycle Professionals
Bicycle Coalition of New Mexico
BikeNWA
BikeOklahoma
Bike Pittsburgh

Environmental Law & Policy Center
Families for Safe Streets
Federal Law Enforcement Officers Association
GorgePedal.com
Health by Design
Idaho Walk Bike Alliance
International Brotherhood of Teamsters
Joan Claybrook, President Emeritus, Public Citizen, Former Administrator, National Highway Traffic
Safety Administration
KidsAndCars.org
LA Walks
League of American Bicyclists
Missouri Bicycle and Pedestrian Federation
National Association of City Transportation Officials (NACTO)
National Coalition for Safer Roads
National Consumers League
New Urban Mobility Alliance
Parents Against Tired Truckers
Public Citizen
Owner-Operator Independent Drivers Association
Rails-to-Trails Conservancy
Ride Illinois
San Francisco Families for Safer Streets
Shenandoah Valley Bicycle Coalition
Skilled Motorcyclist Association Responsible, Trained and Educated Riders (SMARTER) Inc.
SoCal Families for Safe Streets
The Daniel Initiative
Transport Workers Union
Transportation Alternatives
Transportation for America
Transportation Trades Department, AFL-CIO
Trauma Foundation
Truck Safety Coalition
Virginia Citizens Consumer Council
Walk SF
Washington Bikes
Whirlwind Wheelchair International
Wyoming Pathways