



TRANSPORTATION PUBLIC WORKS

Autonomous Vehicles
October 27, 2023



TRANSPORTATION
PUBLIC WORKS

Transportation Code Section 545.452 EXCLUSIVE
REGULATION OF THE OPERATION OF AUTOMATED
MOTOR VEHICLES AND AUTOMATED DRIVING SYSTEMS.

(b) A political subdivision of this state or a state agency may not impose a franchise or other regulation related to the operation of an automated motor vehicle or automated driving system.

Bottom Line: As a City, we cannot regulate or permit AVs.

Our History With AVs

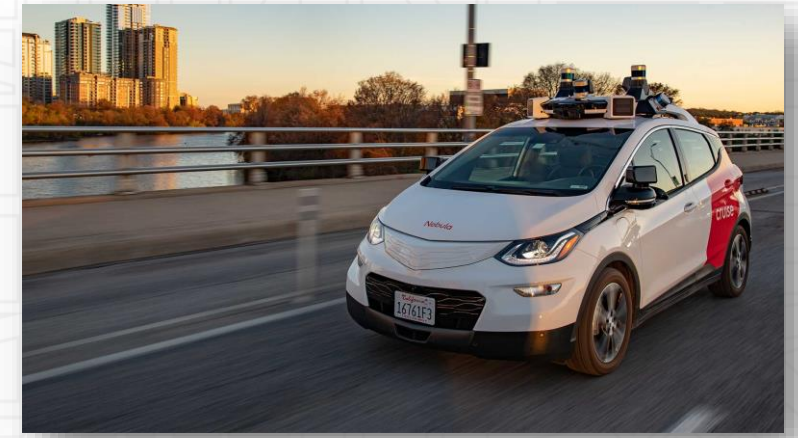
Smart Mobility
Roadmap **2017**

SB2205 gives the
State exclusive AV
oversight **2017**

Ford – ARGO AI begin
testing AVs in Austin
2019

Cruise begins
operating driverless
rideshare **2022**

AV Working Group
formed July **2023**



As AV demonstrations and discussions are occurring across the nation, City officials are cooperating with other cities, industry, research and government experts to develop best policies and practices for our region.

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10/24/2023



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Federal Regulation

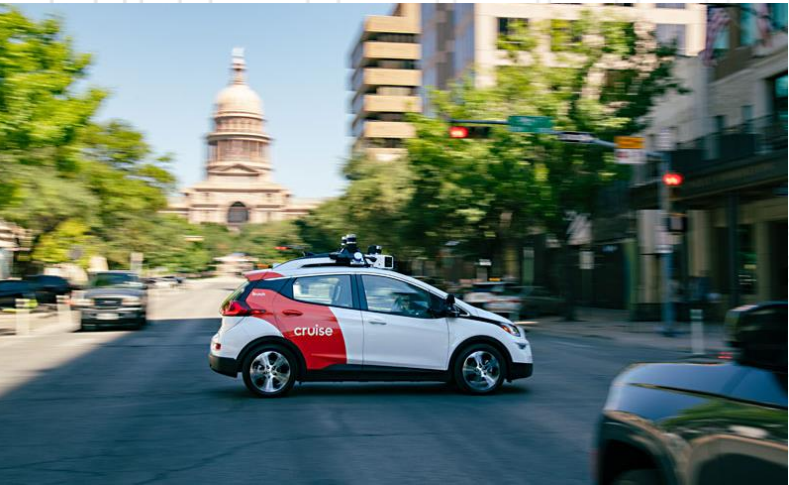
Typically, the Federal Government regulates the vehicle, and the State Government regulates the driver

- All vehicles must comply with the Federal Motor Vehicles Safety Standards (**FMVSS**).
- National Highway Transportation Safety Administration (**NHTSA**) – has a voluntary federal data-sharing program called Automated Vehicle Transparency and Engagement for Safe Testing Initiative (*AV TEST*), soon to be called AV STEP in fall 2023.
 - We anticipate additional rules promulgated in the future by NHTSA.
- Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration (**FMCSA**) is building a safety plan for autonomous driving systems for commercial vehicles (freight).



AV Companies Currently Deployed & Estimated Fleet Size

Company	Number	Status	Model
Cruise	150	Most fully-driverless	Chevy Bolt
Waymo	25	Includes Test Drivers	Jaguar I-PACE
ADMT (Volkswagen)	10	Includes Test Drivers	VW ID Buzz (European model)
AV Ride	4	Includes Test Drivers	Hyundai Sonata & Ioniq



Data current as of 10/20/23

AV Safety Working Group



Even though the City cannot regulate AVs, the City has been proactive by establishing the AV Safety Working Group to:

- Prepare and train for incidents
- Collect data and standardize documentation
- Facilitate Communication



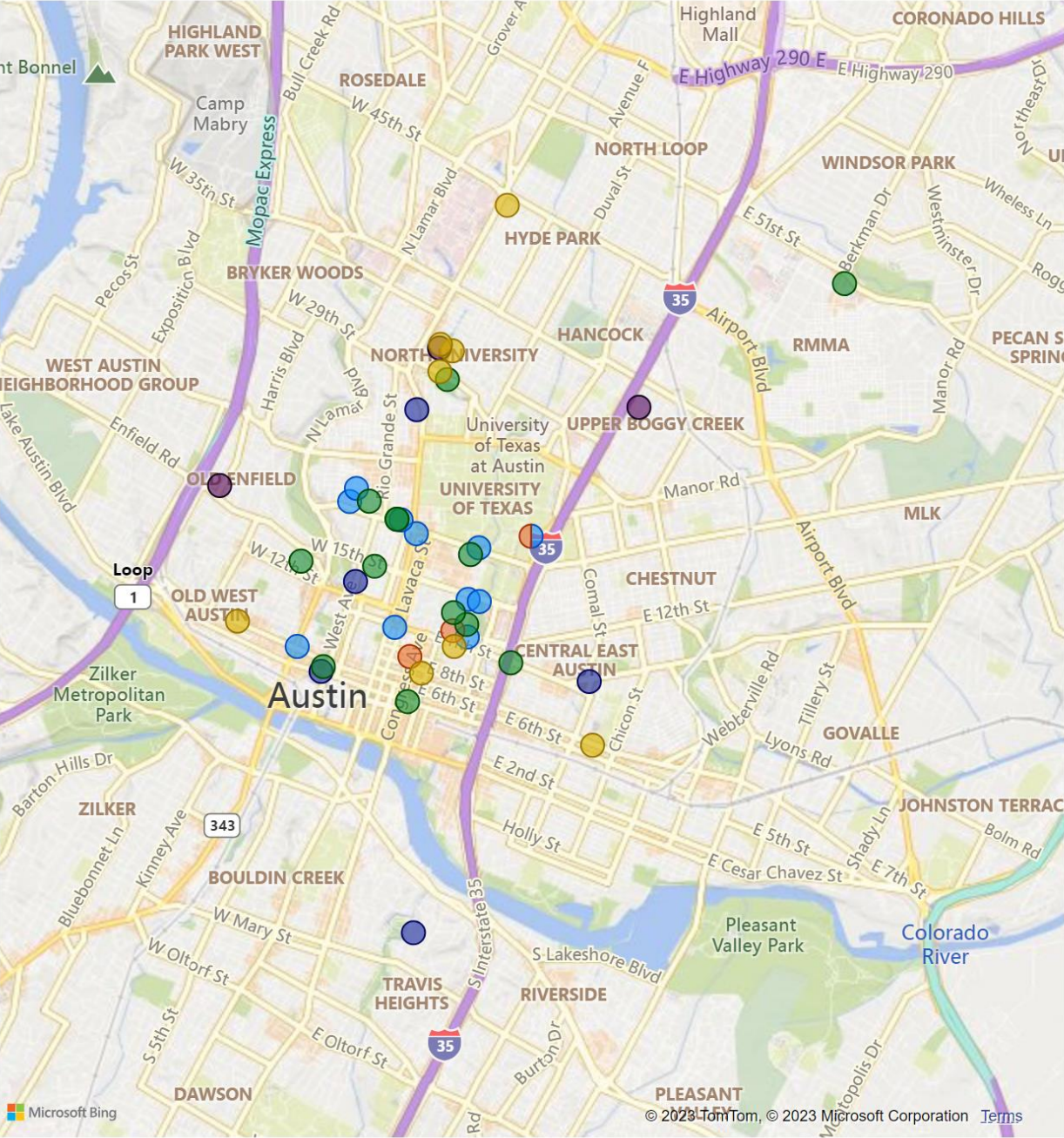
AV Safety Working Group

- Creates a single group to communicate about incidents, communicate with AV companies, create procedures, and share data.
- Develop expectations around AV deployment and communication.
- Bring in all public safety departments for trainings and include Texas DPS and UT Police.
- Gather data and analyze it to determine “hot spots” and frequent issues. Communicate with AV companies to identify remedies.



Location and Issue

Issue ● Blocking Traffic ● Collision ● Ignore APD Direction ● Near Miss ● Nuisance ● Safety Concern



Count of Feedback by Type and Issue

