Pennsylvania Department of Transportation

HAV Advisory Committee Minutes

Date / Time / Location	**July 21, 2026 / 1300-1430 / Hybrid Teams & In-person Meeting / PennDOT Keystone Building, 8th Floor Board Room (8N1 R) or Microsoft Teams**
Attendance (bold were present)	**HAV Advisory Committee: Sean Taggart**, Dr. Raj Rajkumar, **Liz Fishback**, Michelle Elder, **Kelly Yemen AICP**, **Ted Leonard**, Sara Innamorato (Lauren Connelley), James Martini, Caroline Boehm (**Michael McKenney**), **David Vrona**, **Wendell W. Young IV**, **Dr. Rory Cooper**, Gerardo Interiano (**Ma1tt Blackburn**), **Lt. Rachel K. Grant (Sgt. Steven Schmit)**, **Melissa Wright** (**Caroline McCaig**), Stephen DeFrank (**Regi Sam**), Rep. Kerry Benninghoff (Josiah Shelly, **Layne Heininger**), Sen Marty Flynn (Justin Gensmore), **Mark Dombrowski**, Mark Compton (**Mike Pack**), Sen Judy Ward (**Nolan Ritchie**), Rep. Ed Neilson (**Kyle Wagonseller**), **Sec. Mike Carroll**
	PennDOT staff: Derrick Herrmann P.E., Kevin Tobias, Kennedy O'Dell, Jeffrey Young, Marisa Balanda, Theresa Wagner, Larry Shifflet

Agenda:	**Action items:**
1. Welcome, Roll Call, and Introductions Previous meeting minutes and updates since last meeting. 3/24/26 Meeting minutes are located on the HAVAC website. a. Secretary Carroll (MC), chair of the Committee, kicked-off with welcoming the Committee to the meeting and provided a brief overview of the agenda. b. Derrick Herrmann (DH) completed roll call and discussed prior meeting minutes. c. With no comments on the prior meeting minutes, DH moved to the core agenda.	➢
2. State/National Updates Certification updates (AVs and PDDs) • DH provided updates: No certificates or approvals issued since last meeting • DH: Stack AV requested expansion of municipality locations, website has been updated • DH: PDD expansions for Avride in Philadelphia, shared a map on the expanded location for deliveries. DH detailed the first quarterly report submitted for Avride. • DH discussed PDD vandalism - 12 incidents across 9 robots in 28 days and noted working with Avride to avoid certain times and locations • DH asked Kelley Yemen (KY) if there was anything to add from the City of Philadelphia's perspective. • KY reiterated similar experience and discussed complaint routing in Philadelphia. Philly and PennDOT need full visibility into complaints	➢ PennDOT to publish public comment for data reporting requirements.

Agenda:	Action items:

for expansion consideration, but stated there haven't been any major incidents
• DH: PennDOT receives complaints from various outlets and coordinates responses with Avride
• DH: Avride stopped operating in public park areas at the request of the Department in reaction to public feedback
• DH: Avride paused operations during peak FIFA World Cup periods
• Nolan Ritchie (NR) asked if PDDs reduced congestion from delivery drivers
  ○ DH: No mode-shift studies have been completed to date, but we do not believe it is shifting as the fleet is currently still small.
  ○ KY, NR and others discussed concerns around job displacement for bike delivery
 	
First Responder Training
• DH: Transformational Techology Division is coordinating trainings
  ○ Upcoming Philadelphia training in two weeks (pending)
  ○ Working on video training for state police
  ○ Motional has participated in the past; Waymo expected in future
 	
Compliance Data Reporting Public Comment update
• DH provided an update that the public comment period has not yet opened and clarified that reporting of vehicle code violations applies only after conviction
• DH asked if anyone has comments at this point
• Liz Fishback (LF) shared that Stack AV is awaiting public comment period before providing comments
 	
DH provided a PennSTART update
• Major cuts/fill underway; large hills and ponds to be constructed
• Bridge/tunnel expected to be constructed late summer
• Gantry expected spring 2027
• Paving may extend to spring 2027
• VDA and third lane pending PA Sites application
• Digital twin and simulation work funded through SS4A
• Applied to Appalachian Regional Commission Grant Program for simulator training equipment
• Multiple first responder classes planned monthly/annually
LF- Stack AV noted value of nearby facility compared to Columbus, OH due to proximity	

Agenda:	Action items:
3. HAVAC Annual Report DH announced that PennDOT is beginning work on the HAV Annual Report for 2026 and will provide a draft for review prior to the next meeting. Goal is to review the draft in the next meeting and then to finalize it for publishing at the end of the year. NR asked whether the report would address workforce more than prior years and DH noted that it was PennDOT's intent to do so. Dr. Rory Cooper (RC) offered assistance with addressing this part of the report.	➢ PennDOT to develop draft of HAV Annual Report to share
4. Open Discussion MC moved to open discussion. LF noted concerns around the recent Rep. Waxman memo regarding AVs over 10,000-lb, and support was offered by Motional, Aurora, and Stack to discuss existing law. MC opened the meeting for non-committee members. Several members of the public noted concerns around robotaxi safety and a desire for further studies to be completed. MC thanked participants for the discussion.	➢
5. Review of Action Items	➢
6. Closing Remarks	➢
7. Adjournment With no further action MC adjourned the meeting at 2:35 pm.	➢