Pennsylvania Department of Transportation

HAV Advisory Committee Minutes

Date / Time / Location	**March 24, 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 (**Matt Blackburn**), **Lt. Rachel K. Grant (Sgt. Steven Schmit)**, Melissa Wright (**Caroline McCaig**), Stephen DeFrank (**Regi Sam**), Rep. Kerry Benninghoff (Josiah Shelly), 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, Shane Rice, Marisa Balanda, Theresa Wagner, Christine Norris, P.E., Larry Shifflet

Agenda:	**Action items:**
1. Welcome, Roll Call, and Introductions Previous meeting minutes and updates since last meeting. Meeting minutes are located on the HAVAC website. New member: Sean Taggart, SEPTA 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. DH specifically mentioned the completion and posting of the 2025 Annual Report. c. With no comments on the prior meeting minutes, DH moved to the core agenda.	➢
2. State/National Updates DH provided State updates: a. Waymo updates i. Waymo is actively working with PennDOT Driver and Vehicle Services on registration and inspection of their vehicles, but has not submitted the certificate of compliance application for commercial driverless service in Philadelphia yet b. Philadelphia City Council resolution i. DH provided Philadelphia City Council resolution overview and proposed hearings ii. MC - discussed how Act 130 is overarching state law. PennDOT will wait for city council to take next steps and then PennDOT will take the appropriate action iii. DH asked if Kelley Yemen (KY) had any further context to provide from the City's understanding	➢ DH to share draft of ongoing compliance reporting for public comment. ➢ DH to share links to NHTSA notices of public comment and SELF DRIVE act to committee members.

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iv. KY - stated hearing is more of a fact finding hearing as it relates to gig workers and labor questions v. Liz Fishback (LF) - Asked if the city council will correct inaccuracies in the resolution vi. MC - Replied that it is up to the city and that it is just a resolution at this time. We are living in the world of Act 130 and it is the law. vii. Nolan Ritchie (NR) - Asked if city council would be inviting law enforcement to speak viii. KY - cannot speak to that as it is city council's decision c. Planning for data reporting RFI i. DH – PennDOT planning to open public comment period for ongoing compliance data reporting. Moving from 'MRC failure' reporting to immobilizations. Looking for feedback from HAVAC members prior to public comment. ii. LF – appreciate the opportunity to review prior to public comment, DH – will send it to the committee w/ meeting minutes iii. NR - Asked about law enforcement role in immobilization iv. DH - discussed first responder training efforts PennDOT is making v. Matt Blackburn (MB) - Asked about a vehicle pulling over due to bad weather. vi. DH - That would not be applicable to reporting. PennDOT is hoping to avoid unnecessary data asks that would just be burdensome. vii. LF – noted that this appears to be a refocus on the 'MRC failure' reporting to something more realistic; DH confirmed d. NHTSA public comment on Zoox purpose-built AV - https://www.federalregister.gov/documents/2026/03/11/2026-04730/zoox-receipt-of-application-for-temporary-exemption-from-various-requirements-of-the-federal-motor i. DH - NHTSA released FMVSS exemptions as notice for public comment. He also reviewed comments received regarding Zoox for purpose-built AV's as it relates to Act 130 and Title 75 Vehicle equipment standards. Inspections are covered and Act 130 considered these exemptions as a possibility. Noted Fed's role in FMVSS ii. MC - Asked for clarification on NHTSA requests. iii. KY – Asked about occupant protection safeguards and that they should be put into place	

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iv. DH – Agree-PennDOT will consider commenting on the public comment period. Also concerned what it means for first responders when needing to takeover or move a vehicle without standard controls e. SELF DRIVE Act - https://www.congress.gov/bill/119th-congress/house-bill/7390/text i. DH - Reviewed the language of the bill; Seems to be getting traction; The language does include a preemption for states. PennDOT does not want to lose the ability to enforce safeguards. Interstate Commerce being an issue to deal with, especially in the northeast ii. LF - Preempting states is focused on interstate commerce. Federal framework to allow for consistency. Might see this move this summer. iii. MB - Even if bill passes, would not change how automated vehicle companies interact with the state. LF agreed. iv. MC – For clarity, the bill is #HR 7390 Self-Drive Act. f. PDD updates i. DH spoke about recent personal delivery device activity in the state specifically in Philadelphia where Avride is working with Uber Eats with approximate fleet of 8 bots. A slower roll out is expected. Noted some vandalism, but nothing serious to date.	
3. Level 3 Consumer Ownership Presentation Nolan Ritchie (NR) provided a presentation discussing the current state and national landscape for Level 3 consumer-owned AVs. a. DH & NR – noted that some companies have pulled back launch plans, but that there has been interest in the state from constituents and public that have emailed the PennDOT AV resource account. b. Dr. Rory Cooper (RC) - Discussed accessibility concerns and the need to keep options open. Level 3 for consumers has potential to offer mobility options for persons with disabilities.	➢ DH to share presentation to committee members.
4. Rep. Hogan Letter DH discussed a letter PennDOT received from Rep. Hogan regarding concerns of foreign vehicles and foreign manufactured equipment being used for HAVs in Pennsylvania. a. DH - Generally, this oversight falls outside of PennDOT, but as part of the certificate of compliance there are certifications for cybersecurity best practices. Asked committee if we should consider the suggestions in the letter: 1. Country of origin disclosures 2. State-level cybersecurity audits b. DH – PennDOT does not feel we have the capacity for the cybersecurity audits, nor do we feel this is our role or oversight c. LF - Feels this is a federal role	➢ PennDOT to coordinate with Rep. Hogan and offer follow-up with AV committee members.

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d. MB & LF - Happy to talk to the representative. e. DH – PennDOT will follow-up and try to make connection.	
5. Open Discussion a. MC opened up for discussion and announcements from any committee members now the core agenda is complete. b. MB - Shared that Aurora has released a new economic impact study regarding autonomous freight in the US. By 2035, AV trucking will account for up to $70 billion of US GDP putting $9 million back into consumer's pockets. Industry currently supports 17,000 jobs. Further detailed $9.4 billion in annual safety benefits by preventing hundreds of fatalities and thousands of injuries c. MC shifted to non-committee members to provide any comments. d. A number of members of the public joined the meeting and voiced concerns regarding automated robotaxis, particularly in Philadelphia. Concerns were shared around displacement of gig workers and current rideshare market and a number of incidents that have occurred in other locations around the United States that currently have robotaxis operating. e. MC – Thanked those who raised their concerns and were willing to share them with the committee; reiterated that Act 130 is the current law in Pennsylvania and PennDOT will be in compliance	➢
6. Review of Action Items	➢
7. Closing Remarks	➢
8. Adjournment With no further action MC adjourned the meeting at 2:35 pm.	➢