



FACT SHEET: FEDERAL AUTOMATED VEHICLES POLICY OVERVIEW

The Federal Automated Vehicles Policy sets out a proactive safety approach that will bring lifesaving technologies to the roads safely while providing innovators the space they need to develop new solutions. The Policy is rooted in DOT's view that automated vehicles hold enormous potential benefits for safety, mobility and sustainability.

The primary focus of the policy is on highly automated vehicles (HAVs), or those in which the vehicle can take full control of the driving task in at least some circumstances. Portions of the policy also apply to lower levels of automation, including some of the driver-assistance systems already being deployed by automakers today.

Components of the Policy

- Vehicle Performance Guidance for Automated Vehicles: The guidance for manufacturers, developers and other organizations outlines a 15 point "Safety Assessment" for the safe design, development, testing and deployment of automated vehicles.
- Model State Policy: This section presents a clear distinction between Federal and State responsibilities for regulation of HAVs, and suggests recommended policy areas for states to consider with a goal of generating a consistent national framework for the testing and deployment of highly automated vehicles.
- Current Regulatory Tools: This discussion outlines DOT's current regulatory tools that can be used to accelerate the safe development of HAVs, such as interpreting current rules to allow for greater flexibility in design and providing limited exemptions to allow for testing of nontraditional vehicle designs in a more timely fashion.
- Modern Regulatory Tools: This discussion identifies potential new regulatory tools and statutory authorities that may aid the safe and efficient deployment of new lifesaving technologies.

Policy Development and Public Comment

The Policy is a product of significant public input, including two public meetings and an open public docket. The Policy will be updated annually to ensure it remains relevant and timely, and will continue to be shaped by public comment, industry feedback and real-world experience. DOT is seeking public comment on the entire policy at www.transportation.gov/AV.

Most of the Policy is effective on the date of its publication. However, certain elements involving data and information collection will be effective upon the completion of a Paperwork Reduction Act (PRA) review and process.

The policy outlines a series of next steps that the agency will take to solicit additional public input and to implement the components. The next steps include public workshops, stakeholder engagement, expert review, work plans to implement Policy components, possible rulemakings, and education efforts.