San Mateo Countywide Automated Vehicles Strategic Plan FACT SHEET

Automated Vehicle (AV) technology is rapidly growing across our region and has the potential to transform various sectors of transportation. From personal vehicles to shuttles, transit, freight, delivery and more, automation could reshape mobility in San Mateo County. As the major funding agency for transportation projects in this county, the San Mateo County Transportation Authority (SMCTA) is looking at how it can support local jurisdictions as they prepare for the advent of AV technology in their communities. With significant input from local jurisdictions and stakeholders, SMCTA in coordination with the City/County Association of Governments (C/CAG), is preparing a Strategic Plan (Plan) that will guide how funding is allocated for AV pilots, projects, and activities.

Project Scope

The SMCTA and C/CAG are co-sponsoring the development of this Strategic Plan coupled with an action plan to prepare for the advent of AV in San Mateo County which includes how funding of projects would be prioritized. The Plan will include strategies and recommendations for how to prioritize funding of AV pilots, projects, and activities. The Plan will also ensure that any projects the TA funds will align with the federal, state, county, and local visions for AV deployment.

Project Goals

- Identify current local, statewide, and federal policy and regulatory frameworks for AV.
- Establish a shared local vision for AV deployment that aligns with county and state objectives.
- Identify opportunities and challenges for AV deployment and pilot projects.
- Prioritize next steps for implementing local agency lead AV Strategic Plan initiatives, including funding recommendation criteria.

Project Timeline



- Phase 1 (Summer 2023): Identify the existing AV programs at the county, state, and federal levels through research and conversation with stakeholders, and local and state agencies.
- Phase 2 (Fall 2023): Using stakeholder and public feedback, develop a framework for AV pilot programs, projects, and activities that align with County policies, plans, and funding opportunities.
- Phase 3 (Summer 2024): Prepare the draft Plan with input from the public, stakeholders, and agencies; final Plan adoption by C/CAG.

Key Project Benefits

The AV Strategic Plan will:

- Help transportation agencies and the public in San Mateo County plan and prepare for future AV deployment.
- Develop a cohesive strategy for the implementation of AV pilots and programs.
- Set a vision for shared and connected AV infrastructure.
- Position the county to strategically compete for funding and economic development opportunities related to future AV programs.
- The project is coordinating with potential future partners including local jurisdictions, San Mateo County, Emergency Services, and SamTrans.





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FAQ

What are AVs?

AVs perform the primary driving functions of vehicles (i.e. steering, acceleration, and braking) with varying degrees of human intervention. These systems can assist with sensing, communicating, monitoring, navigating, and decision-making, depending on the level of automation (illustrated below).



Society of Automotive Engineers (SAE) Automation Levels Full Automation

What are some of the impacts of AVs in San Mateo County?

AVs have the potential to impact traffic safety, highway and road congestion, efficiency and movement of people and goods, and even introduce transportation options for individuals who have physical limitations or disabilities.

What are some practical applications for AV?

There are several modes under the umbrella of AV including personal vehicles, ride hailing vehicles, transit, and freight.

