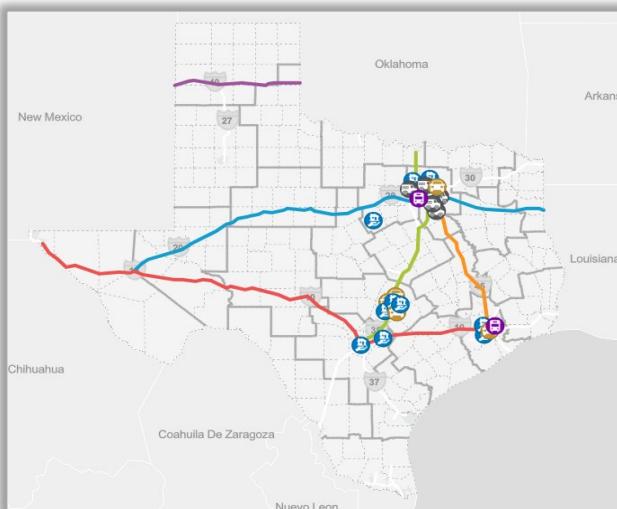


Welcome to Texas!

Thank you for your interest in operating autonomous vehicles in the State of Texas. Texas is home to a robust automated vehicle ecosystem that continues to expand. With a business-friendly economic engine, understandable regulatory framework, robust research facilities, and more than 314,600 miles of public roads, Texas provides an optimal environment for technologies to succeed. In 2017, the Texas Legislature authorized the operation of automated vehicles (AVs) in Texas.

Interested in learning about the current landscape of AVs, click on the map link below or scan the QR code to view ongoing AV deployments in Texas. The map is updated on a regular basis as new companies come into the state.



[Texas CAV Deployments Dashboard \(arcgis.com\)](http://arcgis.com)



Why Texas? The state of Texas continues to invest in its infrastructure, including a 10-year, \$83B commitment to new state roadway projects. *

Air

There are more than 380 airports throughout Texas, including six heliports, 26 commercial airports and two intermodal facilities. Texas is home to six of the busiest airports in the country, the corporate headquarters for two international airlines and a major hub for a third. *

Land

Texas has more than 314,600 miles of public roads and 10,500 miles of freight rail, more than any other state. Texas is also home to the #1 inland port along the U.S.-Mexico border—the Port of Laredo. *

Sea

With 19 seaports, including 11 deepwater ports, Texas is built for global trade. The largest Gulf Coast container port, the Port of Houston, has led the nation in waterborne foreign trade, allowing the Lone Star State to continue leading the nation in shipment value. *



Texas Connected and Automated Vehicle Laws

SB 2205, 85th Legislature (2017)

SB 2205 creates a legal framework for the operation of automated motor vehicles in Texas and explicitly allows an automated motor vehicle to operate on highways in the state, with or without a human operator, under certain circumstances.

HB 1791, 85th Legislature (2017)

HB 1791 authorizes an operator of a vehicle equipped with a connected braking system that is following another vehicle equipped with that system to be assisted by the connected braking system to maintain a clear distance or "sufficient space."

SB 969, 86th Legislature (2019)

SB 969 governs the operation of a personal delivery or mobile carrying device in a pedestrian area or on the side or shoulder of a highway.

HB 3026, 87th Legislature (2021)

HB 3026 allows that when an ADS (AV) is designed to be completely operated without a human driver, then certain items are no longer required, such as mirrors, steering wheels.

Current [CAV Texas Laws](#)

Who Should You Talk To?

Texas offers an array of opportunities for companies entering the state, and we are here to assist you through the process. Below are a few key resources that may assist you in navigating the state's landscape and make informed decisions for your business success.

State Resources:

[Texas Department of Public Safety, Captain Bart Teeter, Texas Highway Patrol](#)
[Texas Department of Motor Vehicles, Jimmy Archer, Director, Motor Carrier Division](#)
[Texas Department of Insurance, Mark Worman, Deputy Commissioner](#)
[Texas Department of Licensing and Registration, Jeff Copas, Senior Government Relations Officer](#)
[Texas Secretary of State](#)
[Texas Economic Development & Tourism](#)

Local Offices:

[Metropolitan Planning Organizations \(MPOs\)](#)
[Texas Council of Governments \(COGs\)](#)
[TxDOT District Offices](#)
TxDOT Strategic Initiatives and Innovation Division, [Zeke Reyna](#), Emerging Technology Team Lead.

Helpful Tips!

As you get started in Texas, there are a few helpful tips that may be beneficial to your operations. None of these are mandated but could be critical information to have in certain situations.

Communications Plan

- Transparency is key to success for public-facing businesses. It is important that you have a plan on how to interact with public officials and the general public in preparation for launch.
- Be prepared on how to educate the public on your emerging technology and how they can use your vehicle.
- What is the best way for the public and state/local officials to connect?
- Plan how to be part of the community at all age levels and accessibility needs.

Incident Response Plan

- Texas is home to vibrant cities and an ever-growing population. In fact, according to the U.S. Census Bureau, Texas is one of two states to now have populations of over 30 million people! Inevitably, autonomous vehicles may be involved in an incident on Texas roads
- Have a list of stakeholders to contact in the event of an incident with an automated vehicle. It is important to consider who at the state and local level to immediately contact should an incident occur.

First Responder Plan

- Transportation emerging technologies are becoming more prevalent across Texas. These vehicles are seen on the roads, sidewalks, and even in the air. How should these vehicles communicate with first responders? Consider how first responders can interact with each vehicle. In a state with nearly 2,800 law enforcement agencies, having easy, understandable options for first responders to communicate with your vehicles is vital when seconds count.

CAV Task Force

- To prepare Texas for future technology advancements, Governor Greg Abbott directed TxDOT in 2019 to establish a CAV Task Force. This statewide task force is composed of members from TxDOT, local governments and transportation officials throughout Texas, community members and industry. The task force provides Texas with a single, unified source of information regarding the coordination and advancement of CAV and CAV technologies across the state. Interested in attending a CAV Task Force meeting? Contact [Zeke Reyna](#).

We invite you to participate in the [CAV Task Force](#) and contribute to the discussion. Please reach out to Zeke Reyna zeke.reyna@txdot.gov for more information.