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TECHNICAL MEMORANDUM

TxDOT IAC – Technical Support to the CAV Task Force

DATE: July 16, 2020

TO: Zeke Reyna, TxDOT
 Strategic Research Analyst, CAV

COPY TO: TTI_Reports@tti.tamu.edu
 Tim Hein, Research Development Office, TTI
 Ed Seymour, Executive Associate Agency Director, TTI
 Robert Brydia, Senior Research Scientist, TTI

FROM: Beverly Kuhn Research Supervisor
 Senior Research Engineer Texas A&M Transportation Institute

RE: Licensing and Registration
 June 2, 2020 Meeting Notes

Attendees:

Zeke Reyna	TxDOT
Beverly Kuhn	Texas A&M Transportation Institute
Ed Seymour	Texas A&M Transportation Institute
Bob Brydia	Texas A&M Transportation Institute
Beverly West	TxDOT Strategic Planning
Jason JonMichael	City of Austin Smart Mobility
Maniel Vineberg	CAVWAY
Shelly Mellott	Texas DMV, Deputy Executive Director
Robert Braziel	Texas Automobile Dealers Association
Stacy Steenken	Texas DMV
Terry Martinez	TxDOT Government Affairs Division
Jeremiah Kuntz	Texas DMV Vehicle Titles Division
Marcelle Jones	Stantec

Monika Darwish	Embark Trucks
Aidan Ali-Sullivan	Nuro
Chris Miller	Uber Technologies
Sam Dreiman	Argo
Alison Pascale	Audi of America
Rachelle Celebrezze	Cruise
Brian Moen	City of Frisco
Captain Steven Rundell	DPS

I. Opening Comments/Roll Call – Zeke Reyna, TxDOT

- Zeke welcomed the group and thanked them for participating in the meeting.
- Zeke took roll call of all attendees.

II. Co-Chair Welcoming Statements – Shelly Mellott, Deputy Executive Director Texas Department of Motor Vehicles

- Shelly welcomed everyone, and went through expectations for the subcommittee, which are mainly to produce a high-quality white paper for TxDOT and the Texas Legislature. She recommended that the group meet once a month for the next few months to have a draft completed and reviewed in advance of the early December deadline. She was open to hearing from the diverse group of participants on what they feel is important.
- Still up for discussion on whether group would tackle licensing of drivers.

III. Subcommittee Scope and Mission – Zeke Reyna, TxDOT

- Zeke introduced the scope and mission.
 - Mission: To review and address challenges with CAV laws, regulations, and procedures in Texas, and then nationally.
- Main topics:
 - How to license an ADS in Texas
 - Registration concerns, do we need to identify AV capability level or connected capabilities to understand the changing fleet?
 - Details of regulations, understanding issues and resolving meaning, or identifying potential legislation considerations.
- Shelly had the legal department review the statutes to determine what might already be on the books related to AVs.
 - Statutes that are currently on the books related to ADS that have anything to do with regulating autonomous vehicles.
 - Testing
 - An automated motor vehicle may not operate on the roadways in Texas unless the vehicle is registered in the State of Texas.

IV. What Topics are Important to the Members (Round Table Discussion)

- Registration/Titles

- DMV does not need to know if CV/AV, but legislature would like to track number. (CA and PA lightweight process for tracking number of CAVs)
- Change of VINs
- Non-roadway vehicles (sidewalk delivery, etc.) don't fall under this category.
- Clarify definition of human-driving/driverless.
- Past legislation has placed responsibility on owner/operator (SB 2205). Includes insurance (being handled by other SC).
- Texas Code: Sec. 545.456. VEHICLE CLASSIFICATION. (a) Authorizes an owner as defined by Section 502.001(31)(relating to the definition of "owner") to identify the vehicle to the Texas Department of Public Safety as an automated motor vehicle or an ADS.
- Licensing
 - With regard to Level 5 Autonomy, question on whether driver's license will be necessary.
 - Manufacturer vs Retailer discussion (get around franchise dealer requirement to allow manufacturers to operate and test vehicles on roadways without selling to public).
 - Need title to operate vehicle in TX, but need to have initial point of sale to obtain title.
- Levels and designation (differences in levels of autonomy)
- Redundant systems (not sure if this is something that should be addressed)
- Safety (likely covered by safety committee)
- Other topics
 - Issue of Tesla considering moving to Texas

V. Selection of Top Priorities

- List of topics:
 - Licensing – vehicles
 - Licensing – drivers
 - Levels and designation
 - Safety
 - Ownership by manufacturers
 - Potential: Tesla talking about moving to Texas
- Plan is to clean up the list of topics and discuss during next subcommittee meeting.

VI. Next Steps (Schedule and White Paper)

- General consensus is to hold meetings once a month.
- Intent is to have full CAV Task Force meeting sometime during the summer.
- Everyone is encouraged to share any background information they feel might be of interest

VII. Closing Remarks – Shelly Mellott

- Shelly thanked everyone for their engagement and participation.