

us Strawman - National Summit on AV Leadership

 June 5, 2025

 Washington, D.C. (Transportation & Infrastructure Committee Hearing Room - Rayburn Building)

 Main Program: 2:00 – 5:00 PM

Short Break to setup reception 5:00 - 5:30 PM

 Reception & Technology Showcase: 5:30 – 7:00 PM

Event Overview

In collaboration with the **U.S. Department of Transportation (US DOT)**, this National Summit on AV Leadership will convene key stakeholders from across the autonomous vehicle (AV) ecosystem—including **industry leaders, federal, state, and local government officials, Congressional staff, nonprofits**, and leading **academic researchers**—to discuss the path forward for AV deployment in the U.S.

This timely event is designed to **engage and inform policymakers, facilitate consensus among stakeholders**, and **drive continued U.S. innovation in AV technology**, particularly as Congress prepares for the upcoming **Transportation Reauthorization**.

The program will include high-impact 15-minute-long **panel discussions, keynote speeches**, and a **technology showcase reception** to foster informal collaboration and real-world exploration of emerging AV technologies.

Summit Theme:

"Invented Here, Made Here: Reclaiming U.S. Leadership in Automated Vehicles"

Main Program: 2:00 – 5:00 PM

2:00 – 2:15 PM | Opening & Welcome

- Framing remarks: U.S. AVs and the opportunity ahead
 - “Invented here” – now we must lead
Speaker: Raj Rajkumar
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2:15 – 2:30 PM | Keynote: AVs and the National Interest

- Why autonomous vehicles matter for U.S. competitiveness and security
Speaker: Senior U.S. DOT or White House official (Director of OSTP), or industry CEO
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2:30 – 2:45 PM | Lightning Panel: Clearing the Road – Regulation & Policy Alignment

- Federal/state harmonization, safety standards, and enabling innovation
Participants: U.S. DOT, State DOT leader, AV policy expert (AVIA or academic)
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2:45 – 3:00 PM | Lightning Panel: Fueling AV Progress – Investment & Infrastructure

- Funding pathways, appropriations, public-private models, R&D support
Participants: Congressional staff, investor, AV industry leader
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3:00 – 3:15 PM | AV Use Case Spotlight

- Lightning talks: What each sector needs to scale
 - Robotaxis (e.g., Waymo, Cruise, Tesla)
 - Autonomous trucking (Aurora, Kodiak)
 - Public transit/ADAS (OEMs or cities)

3:15 – 3:30 PM | Building Trust & Safety

- Cybersecurity, public acceptance, and a culture of safety

Participants: PAVE, National Safety Council, academic/cybersecurity expert

3:30 – 3:45 PM | Regional Testbeds & Local Leadership

- Smart Belt Coalition, regional pilots, weather and terrain challenges

Participants: State DOTs (OH, TX, PA), cities (Austin, Pittsburgh)

3:45 – 4:00 PM | The Federal & Congressional Role

- Upcoming reauthorization context
- How Congress can support AV innovation and deployment

Speakers: Key staff from Senate/House transportation committees

4:00 – 4:15 PM | Defining AV Success Together

- What does U.S. AV leadership *really* look like?
 - Interactive polling and brief responses from diverse stakeholders
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4:15 – 4:30 PM | Closing Keynote: What's Next in US AVs

- Why time is now and critical for U.S. to maintain its competitiveness and dominance

Speaker: Senior U.S. DOT or White House official, or industry CEO

4:30 – 5:00 PM | Closing Reflections & Call to Action

- Short closing remarks from cross-sector voices:
 - Industry leader
 - State or city rep
 - Researcher
 - Safety or labor rep
 - Final call: “We invented AVs—now let’s build them here.”
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Reception & Technology Showcase: 5:30 – 7:00 PM

Join us for an evening of **networking, innovation, and collaboration**, featuring:

Technology Showcase

Explore the future of autonomous mobility with live demos, research displays, and AV prototypes:

- **AV Companies:** Waymo, Aurora, Cruise, Tesla, others
- **Academic Innovations:** CMU, Michigan, Ohio State, Clemson, WVU
- **State Testbeds & Local Pilots:** Smart Belt Coalition, Austin, Las Vegas
- **Emerging Tech:** Cybersecurity systems, simulation tools, sensing platforms

Reception Highlights

- Light food and drinks
- Curated networking zones
- Informal conversations with public, private, and academic leaders