

Department of Motor Vehicles

Invitation to Public Workshop
Autonomous Vehicles – Light-Duty Motortrucks (Delivery Vehicles)

Pursuant to Government Code section 11346.45, the Department of Motor Vehicles (department) has set the time and place for the public to participate in discussions to facilitate the development of proposed regulations related to the operation of Autonomous Vehicles.

The department invites all interested parties, including manufacturers, individuals with technical and subject matter expertise in the design, development, and verification of autonomous vehicle technology, consumer and public interest groups, local governments, potential end-users of autonomous vehicle technology, and academic/research institutions, to attend our upcoming public workshop.

Public Workshop – Autonomous Light-Duty Motortrucks (Delivery Vehicles)

Friday, October 19, 2018

10:00 a.m.

Capitol Room 4203

1315 10th St, Sacramento, CA 95814

Senate Bill 1298 (Chapter 570; Statutes of 2012) enacted Vehicle Code Section 38750 which requires the department to adopt regulations establishing certain vehicle equipment requirements, equipment performance standards, safety certifications, and any other matters that the department concludes is necessary to ensure the safe operation of autonomous vehicles on public roads, with or without the presence of a driver inside the vehicle. The department initially adopted regulations to allow for testing of autonomous vehicles with a driver behind the wheel in 2014. Regulations to allow testing without a driver (driverless testing) and deployment (public use) of autonomous vehicles were subsequently adopted and became effective in April 2018.

The department's current regulations exclude certain vehicles from testing or deployment on public roads, including vehicles over 10,001 pounds and motortrucks. As defined in Vehicle Code Section 410, a "motortruck" is "a motor vehicle designed, used, or maintained primarily for the transportation of property." This public workshop will focus on topics related to testing and deployment of autonomous motortrucks (delivery vehicles) with a gross vehicle weight rating of less than 10,001 pounds. This workshop will allow the department to receive input from interested parties and gain better knowledge of policy considerations related to autonomous delivery vehicles, to inform future regulations.

To ensure public participation, the department requests that you send notice to the e-mail address provided at the bottom of this notice, indicating that you will be participating in the workshop. At the workshop, any interested person may present statements, arguments, or contentions (orally, in writing, or both) that are relevant to the development of the regulations required by Vehicle Code Section 38750 as described above. A full agenda will be provided prior to the workshop and will be available on the department's web site. Those planning to attend and participate in the workshop should notify the department of their attendance at the contact e-mail listed below by October 3, 2018. Failure to provide notification **does not** preclude any interested parties from participating in this workshop.

Invitation to Pre-Notice Discussions
Autonomous Vehicles

Participation in the workshop will be in addition to, and not in substitution for, any participation in the formal rulemaking process. This invitation does not constitute Notice of Proposed Action under the Administrative Procedure Act. Consequently, comments (oral or written) received in connection with the workshop will not be included in the formal rulemaking file. Similarly, the department is not required to respond to comments received in connection with the workshop. Therefore, if you wish to have comments included in the rulemaking file, or to require the department to respond to them as part of the process by which it adopts the regulations, you must present your comments during the formal public comment period according to the procedures outlined in the Notice of Proposed Action at the time that document is issued, regardless of whether the comments have been made in connection with the workshop.

If you have any questions, please contact Randi Calkins at (916) 657-6469 or by e-mail at LADRegulations@dmv.ca.gov.