Washington State Autonomous Vehicle Work Group Subcommittee Recommendation Form

Subcommittee	Health & Equity Subcommittee – AV TESTING LOCATION ASSESSMENT PROPOSAL
Date of Meeting	Presented to Executive Committee, Sept. 23rd, 2020

Instructions:

1) List subject of discussion
2) Write a detailed description of the recommendation, including the timeframe recommended for adoption, the agencies and stakeholders affected, and any fiscal implications. Identify potential challenges, including funding, regulation, legislation, education, etc. List recommended remedies to address identified challenges.
3) Check all required changes, and write in any that are not listed. Provide a brief explanation of the change needed
4) Check all impact areas affected and list recommendations for addressing identified impacts. Write in any impact areas not listed.
5) If the recommendation has been voted on, please list votes in favor and against If no vote was taken, please note why.

1) RECOMMENDATION

AV Testing Location Assessments to Ensure Public Health, Equity & Safety

Amend RCW 46.30 to require AV Testing Location Assessments focused on topics such as demographics, traffic safety, and area characteristics, be provided to the state prior to permitting pilot testing or operating AVs on Washington streets and roadways.

2) RECOMMENDATION DESCRIPTION, CHALLENGES, AND MITIGATION

The AV Health and Equity Committee proposes, an amendment to RCW 46.30 establishing a public private partnership with AV companies for the purpose of developing Testing Location Assessments. This amendment would make Assessments part of minimum requirements for testing or operations (in addition to proof of adequate insurance prior pilot testing or operating on Washington streets and roadways). The Assessments would provide information about health, equity and safety for testing locations to inform future decisions and are not intended to be regulatory.

BACKGROUND:

HB 2676 passed by the State Legislature in 2019 establishes minimum requirements for the testing of autonomous vehicles and adds a new section to chapter 46.30 RCW and new chapter to Title 46 RCW. This bill established four (4) basic requirements necessary for a company to begin testing autonomous vehicles on Washington streets and roadways including: (1) Provision of contact information for the company; (2) Identification of the city or county where the testing is occuring; (3) Provision of vehicle ID numbers; (4) Proof of insurance as specified in the law.

References:

    Letter to Congress from NTSB and 40 National Transportation Safety and Advocacy Organizations - https://drive.google.com/file/d/13KWUzJz3xiinIs3U-EggOeWVTNNtLP2U/view

    Public Poll from Advocates for Highway Safety - https://saferoads.org/2020/02/10/press-release-on-new-opinion-poll-on-autonomous-vehicles-avs/

    National Transportation Safety Board Recommendations - https://www.ntsb.gov/news/press-releases/Pages/NR2020-0225.aspx

3) REQUIREMENTS IDENTIFIED

"X" or blank	Type of Change Required	Brief Description of Change Needed
	Cost impact mitigation	
X	Legislative change	Amend RCW 46.30 to require Testing Location Assessments
	Regulatory change	
	Other	

4) IDENTIFIED IMPLICATIONS AND IMPACTS

"X" OR BLANK	Impact Area	Description of Implication / Impact
X	Infrastructure	Gather information about where testing is occurring and what infrastructure is present in testing areas
X	Safety	Share available public agency information to improve safety in testing areas prior to full operation

4) IDENTIFIED IMPLICATIONS AND IMPACTS

"X" OR BLANK	Impact Area	Description of Implication / Impact
	Insurance	
X	Health and livability	Through public private partnership, improve understanding of areas where testing is occurring to better support public health and livability
	Environmental	
	Economic	
	Workforce	
X	Equitable Access	Share available public information to improve equitable access in testing areas prior to full operation
	Other	

5) VOTES

	Aye
	Nay
	Abstained