Autonomy and Accessibility
Introduction to the CPUC’s Efforts and Involvement
Presentation to UC Davis’ 3Rs Policy Conference

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About Me

• Joined CPUC in December 2020

• Former transportation consultant at Nelson\Nygaard
  • Emerging and shared mobility
  • Paratransit and specialized transportation
  • TDM

• Live and travel with my spouse and daughter primarily by bike and foot in San Francisco

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TNC Access for All

Implementation of SB 1376
TNC Access for All

A first-in-the-nation statewide program to provide on-demand wheelchair-accessible vehicle (WAV) transportation service

- Implementation of SB 1376 (2018)
- Establishes a revenue stream for funding improvements to on-demand WAV service in CA
- Invests in WAV service provided by TNCs and other access providers
- Defines “wheelchair accessible vehicle”
- Defines “on-demand transportation”
- Sets targets for demonstrating improved levels of service over time
Environmental and Social Justice

CPUC Action Planning
Environmental and Social Justice at CPUC

Nine Goals of the ESJ Action Plan

1. Consistently integrate equity and access considerations throughout CPUC proceedings and other efforts.

2. Increase investment in clean energy resources to benefit ESJ communities, especially to improve local air quality and public health.

3. Strive to improve access to high-quality water, communications, and transportation services for ESJ communities.

4. Increase climate resiliency in ESJ communities.

5. Enhance outreach and public participation opportunities for ESJ communities to meaningfully participate in the CPUC's decision-making process and benefit from CPUC programs.

6. Enhance enforcement to ensure safety and consumer protection for ESJ communities.

7. Promote economic and workforce development opportunities in ESJ communities.

8. Improve training and staff development related to ESJ issues within the CPUC's jurisdiction.

9. Monitor the CPUC's ESJ efforts to evaluate how they are achieving their objectives.
Autonomous Vehicle Permit Programs

Focus on Passenger Safety
CPUC’s Autonomous Vehicle Permit Programs

- Drivered Pilot
- Drivered Deployment
- Driverless Pilot
- Driverless Deployment

Testing → Commercialization
Autonomous Vehicle Permit Program Goals

Passenger Safety
• Protect passenger safety

Accessibility
• Expand the benefits of AV technologies to all of Californians, including people with disabilities

Equity
• Improve transportation options for all, particularly for disadvantaged communities and low-income communities

Environment
• Reduce greenhouse gas emissions, criteria air pollutants, and toxic air contaminants, particularly in disadvantaged communities