

The Honorable Heidi King
Deputy Administrator
National Highway Traffic Safety Administration
1200 New Jersey Avenue SE
West Building
Washington, DC 20590

Re: Docket No. NHTSA-2019-0016

Dear Deputy Administrator King:

The Coalition for Future Mobility – a group of key stakeholders that represents a wide cross section of auto manufacturers, suppliers, repairers, technology companies, mobility providers, state and local governments, safety and national security groups, consumers, seniors, and persons with disabilities – was created to highlight the critical need for a federal framework that allows for the safe development, testing, and deployment of self-driving vehicles here in the United States. The exciting developments in this field are leading to a revolution in personal transportation and reshaping how the world thinks about mobility.

Self-driving vehicles hold promise across a broad range of societal benefits, including greater mobility access for underserved populations and enhanced roadway safety. Nationwide, more than 37,000 people died in 2017 due to car crashes, and more than 90% of crashes are caused by human choice or error. Most importantly, self-driving vehicles may help save lives by eliminating errors such as distracted, impaired, or drowsy driving.

To truly unlock the benefits of self-driving cars, however, updates to existing vehicle safety standards are needed. Until then, this petition represents an opportunity for U.S. leadership in the development of critical lifesaving technology and the advancement of transportation innovation.

As NHTSA considers this petition we hope you will support innovation, help enable the safe development and deployment of this technology across the country, and ensure the United States remains a leader in this critical arena.

Sincerely,

The Coalition for Future Mobility