

Comment from Charles Genrich

Cameras are establish a high level of danger ... much like touch screen controls and phone use while driving. By keeping drivers' focus inside the vehicle, the driver's awareness of what is happening outside decreases. The cameras can fail; thus eliminating visibility outside ... unless backed up by a mirror. In that case - why the camera?

If the goal is to establish steps toward driverless vehicle, state that and lay out the plan. I have witnessed near accidents that I could verify were caused by the driver looking inside at a screen and using touch function on the screen. Moving the driver's gaze from the road to the inside dash of the vehicle will yield even more danger to the drivers, passengers, and others around them.

Tactile touch and mechanical knobs for stereo operation, heat/air conditioning, and other auto functions become easily committed to memory minimizing the need to look away ... but adding yet more screens below the dash takes driver's eyes off the road even more bringing about more accidents, injuries and fatalities.

By using mirrors in their present locations the eyes never leave the road. To see the side mirrors the driver's gaze scans the road AND sees the lane(s) at the side(s) of the vehicle. A simple glance back while looking at the side mirror gives vision to the blind spots as well. Peripheral vision towards existing mirrors lends even more flexibility and range of vision. Interior screens still have some level or peripheral vision but it's directed below the dash in the interior of the vehicle - virtually useless in seeing outside.

All in all I strongly disagree with removing mirrors from the driver's toolbox. It is creating even more senseless driving and teaching drivers that they don't need to see what's outside.