**Governor's Steering Committee on Autonomous and Connected Vehicle Testing and Deployment Issues Final Recommendations**

Last summer, Governor Walker created a Steering Committee on Autonomous and Connected Vehicle Testing and Deployment to advise him on "how best to advance the testing and operation of automated and connected vehicles in the State of Wisconsin."

This ad hoc committee was led by David Ross, Secretary of the Wisconsin Department of Transportation, and comprised of state legislators, industry representatives, business leaders, law enforcement officials and academic researchers. The steering committee met monthly between the fall of 2017 and summer of 2018 to gather input and information from industry groups, vehicle manufacturers, technology firms, state agencies, research groups and Wisconsin businesses.

The steering committee issued its [final report](http://wisconsindot.gov/Documents/about-wisdot/who-we-are/comm-couns/av-final-report-062918.pdf) and made the following recommendations to the Governor:

* The Wisconsin Department of Transportation should be Wisconsin's lead state agency to support connected and automated vehicle (CAV) testing and deployment, respond to emerging issues and engage the public and business community on CAV topics.
* Create a working group with the ongoing responsibility of responding to CAV technology and deployment, promoting CAV research development, providing policy advice and coordinating the state's response.
* Work with the Wisconsin State Legislature to generate and formally authorize a CAV testing framework that defines expectations for manufacturers which test automated vehicle technologies on Wisconsin roads.
* Follow the lead of the United States Department of Transportation with respect to CAV-related regulatory responsibilities of the federal government and the State of Wisconsin.
* Support legislative and administrative efforts to update and clarify state statute and administrative rules regarding CAV operation and liability.
* Promote the entire State of Wisconsin as "Open for CAV deployment."
* Highlight and pursue existing, near-term strategic partnerships while continuing to explore new strategic social, economic, and environmental partnerships through the creation of a CAV working group.

The steering committee rightly noted that the CAV industry is emerging from its infancy and growing quickly. State policymakers must respond accordingly. The committee's recommendations are a good starting point.