

Driving Change – Autonomous Vehicles' Big Impact

National Economic Education Delegation Jon Haveman, Ph.D.

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National Economic Education Delegation



Vision

 One day, the public discussion of policy issues will be grounded in an accurate perception of the underlying economic principles and data.

Mission

 NEED unites the skills and knowledge of a vast network of professional economists to promote understanding of the economics of policy issues in the United States.

NEED Presentations

 Are nonpartisan and intended to reflect the consensus of the economics profession.



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Honorary Board: 54 members

- 2 Fed Chairs: Janet Yellen, Ben Bernanke
- 6 Chairs Council of Economic Advisers
 - o Furman (D), Rosen (R), Bernanke (R), Yellen (D), Tyson (D), Goolsbee (D)
- 3 Nobel Prize Winners
 - o Akerlof, Smith, Maskin

• Delegates: 652+ members

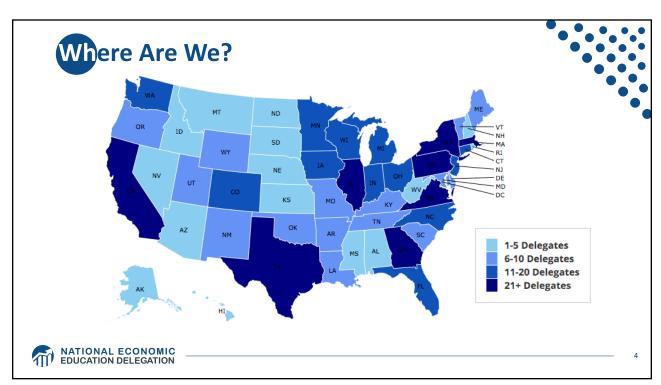
- At all levels of academia and some in government service
- All have a Ph.D. in economics
- Crowdsource slide decks
- Give presentations

• Global Partners: 48 Ph.D. Economists

• Aid in slide deck development



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Available NEED Topics Include:

- Healthcare Economics
- Climate Change
- Economic Inequality
- Economic Mobility
- US Social Policy
- Trade and Globalization
- Minimum Wage

- The U.S. Economy
- Immigration Economics
- Housing Policy
- Federal Budgets
- Federal Debt
- Black-White Wealth Gap
- Autonomous Vehicles



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Credits and Disclaimer



- Jon Haveman, NEED
- This slide deck was reviewed by:
 - Ronald Fisher, Michigan State University
 - William F. Fox, University of Tennessee, Knoxville
- Disclaimer
 - NEED presentations are designed to be nonpartisan.
 - It is, however, inevitable that the presenter will be asked for and will provide their own views.
 - Such views are those of the presenter and not necessarily those of the National Economic Education Delegation (NEED).



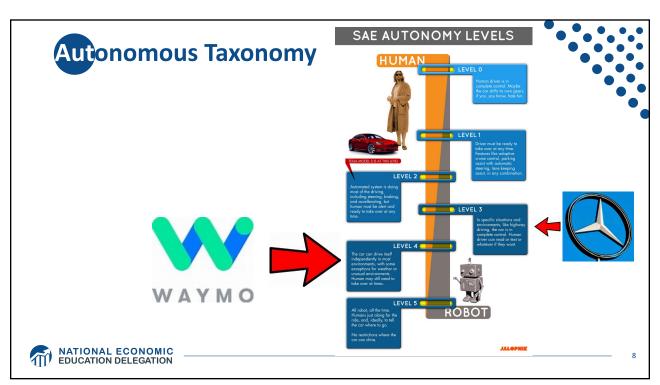
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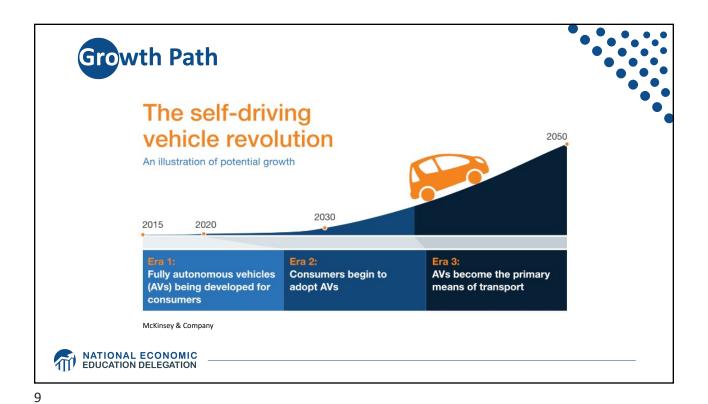
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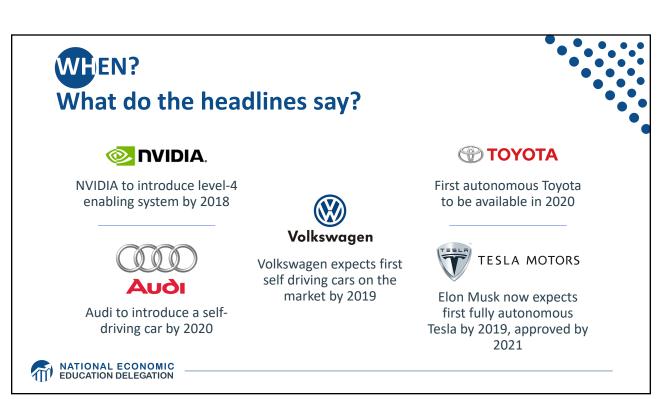


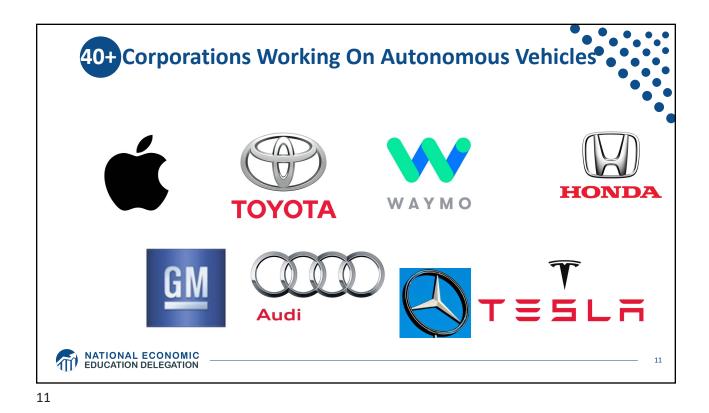
- Where does the AV path lead?
- Policy/Planning Issues
- Major Economic/Development Changes













- By 2025 (?)
- Potentially 95% of VMT by 2035.
 - Last 5% may be very difficult to achieve.
- Is this possible?
 - Horses to cars: 10 years early 1900s
 - But adoption of EVs is so slow!
 - Adoption of AVs will be rapid.





Waymo's self-driving cars are now available on Lyft's app in Phoenix



Lyft and Motional's all-electric robotaxi service is now live in Las Vegas

Singapore's self-driving cars can now be hailed with a smartphone

NuTonomy joins forces with 'the Uber of Southeast Asia'

Cruise is now charging for rides in its driverless vehicles in San Francisco

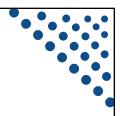


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Trucking – Highly Fertile Ground

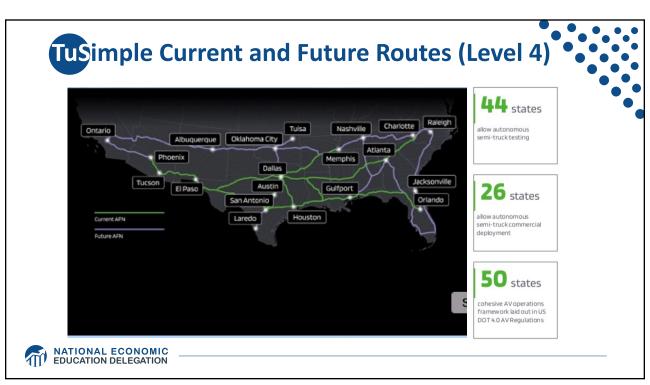


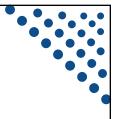
- Long haul trucking is likely the first place we will see it adopted.
 - Reduces costs associated with drivers.
 - End run around limits on hours of driving.
- Where does it stand?
 - Lots of trials underway.
 - TuSimple actively building a long haul network.
 - Waymo focused more on last mile/local delivery.



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What will the future look like?



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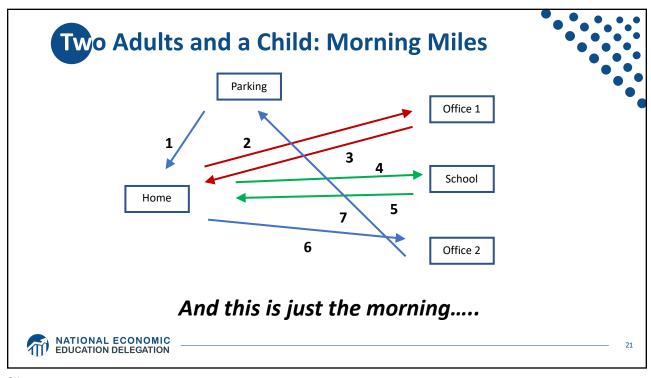




- Primarily individual private car ownership
 - Much as today.
- Internal combustion engines
- Why Hell?
 - Dramatically increased VMT and pollution.
 - Potentially increased congestion.
 - Parking











- Not only autonomous, but:
 - Connected

 - Green

Shared

- Far fewer cars in existence.
 - Better resource utilization.
- VMT could go up or down, but more productive than in Hell.
- Congestion effects unclear, but likely reduced.
 - Right-sized vehicles, platooning, sharing, V2V communication
- Minimal need for parking.



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Economics Drives Transition: Private



- Adoption dividend for private individuals
 - Eliminate car ownership
 - Ave annual cost of owning a car: \$10,728 (2022)
 - o Cost per mile will fall: \$0.72 to \$0.19
- Average Ownership Costs Per Mile

- Repurpose your garage
 - \$50,000 from transition to bedroom
- Miles per Year Average Cost 76¢ 70¢
- Time recovery (pre-pandemic)
 - 50% of the SF Bay Area workforce has a commute in excess of 30 minutes.



Economics Drives Transition: Public

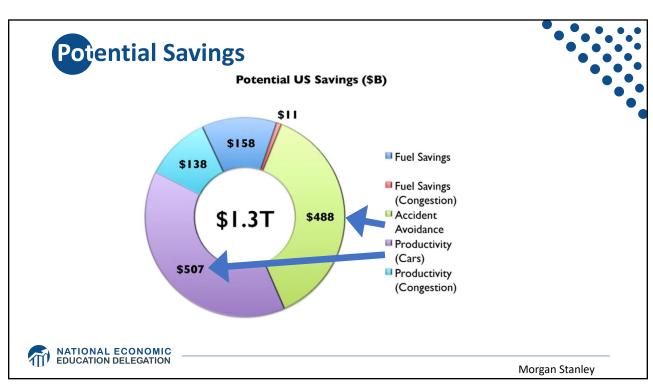
- Economic and social costs associated with human drivers are enormous:
 - ACCIDENTS:
 - o Drive 25% of congestion.
 - o Result in 40,000 deaths.
 - o And 2 million injuries.
 - o 90+% caused by human error.
 - Increased productivity from not driving.
 - Costs of human drivers estimated at up to \$1.3 TRillion each year







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Encourage Change



- Mobility and equity considerations
 - Elderly/disabled/impoverished
- Safety: only way to reduce traffic fatalities is by coordinated effort
- Productivity: reduced congestion
- Environment: speed transition to electric vehicles

These are all societal benefits that come about too slowly if the private market is left to itself.



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Environmental Implications Depends: Heaven or Hell

- Improved resource utilization
- More efficient travel
 - Right sized vehicles
 - Optimized routes
 - Reduced congestion
 - No searching for parking
- Increased VMT

- Cleaner technologies
 - Electric
 - Lighter vehicles
- Energy use of onboard electronics
 - Weight and functional
- Increased urban sprawl

Bottom line: push governments at all levels to embrace and to implement policies deterring private vehicle ownership and zero passenger miles



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What Changes Will This Bring?

- Disposable income
- Government finances
- Transportation demand
- Infrastructure

- Housing
- Public transportation
- Employment
- Parking

Potentially dramatic improvements in infrastructure planning and maintenance -Data sharing and integration



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- · Housing is suddenly easier to build
 - Issue of traffic congestion is significantly reduced.
 - Space for new housing is available where parking lots used to be.
- Existing houses can now accommodate more people: garage to bedroom conversions.

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- Ambiguous implications for public transportation
- Demand may:
 - Shrink because of low cost of TaaS
 - Grow because last mile problem is solved
- Extensions may be added through contract with TaaS company



Employment

- Massive job displacement/relocation (Millions!):
 - Drivers of all varieties: truck, taxi, delivery...
 - Car production jobs, car parts production jobs
 - Gas station, vehicle repair, and body shop
 - Police and fire
 - Health care workers
 - And so on...





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Parking

- Greatly reduced demand for parking lots.
- Service providers will own parking lots in strategic places.
 - Where the cost of land is low.
- Street parking will largely be a thing of the past.
 - More green space in cities.
- Shopping mall parking will be converted to:
 - More shopping mall? Housing?
- Apartment complexes will convert parking.





Freeing Up Urban Space from Parking



- Los Angeles: 14% of incorporated land area
 - 200 Square miles
- San Francisco: 275,450 on-street parking spaces
 - Enough to parallel-park a line of cars 60 miles longer than California's entire 840-mile coastline
- Nationwide: (estimate) 500 million spaces
 - That's larger than Delaware and Rhode Island combined.
 - Could be as many as 2 billion (add in Connecticut and Vermont).



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Summary of Change



- Massive employment upheaval.
- Local government finances will look very different.
- Housing will be easier to build and more plentiful.
- Parking conversions will be commonplace.
- Demand for transportation infrastructure will likely decline.
 - Transportation infrastructure technology will be a booming business.
- Demand for public transportation may well decline.
- Coming likely sooner rather than later!



Potential Problems and Concerns



- Expansion of the electric grid to provide sufficient capacity.
- Mining for rare earth minerals for batteries.
- Hacking of autonomous vehicles for nefarious purposes.
- Competition in service provision in some markets.
- And many more...



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Any Questions?



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