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**Transportation Secretary Anthony Foxx Announces New Federal Committee on Automation**

*Committee to Hold First Meeting on January 16, 2017*

WASHINGTON – Transportation Secretary Anthony Foxx announced today that the U.S. Department of Transportation (U.S. DOT) is establishing a new advisory committee focused on automation across a number of modes. The committee, which includes leading professionals and experts in their field, will hold its first meeting on January 16th, 2017 to immediately begin work on some of the most pressing and relevant matters facing transportation today, including the development and deployment of automated vehicles, and determining the needs of the Department as it continues with its relevant research, policy, and regulations.

“During my time at the Department, we have fostered some of the most significant technological changes to ever take place in transportation, and we did so while keeping our focus on the safety of the American people,” said U.S. Transportation Secretary Anthony Foxx. “I’m proud to announce this new automation committee, and look forward to seeing its members advance life-saving innovations while boosting our economy and making our transportation network more fair, reliable, and efficient.”

**The new committee members are:**

1. **Co-Chair:** Mary Barra- General Motors, Chairman and CEO
2. **Co-Chair:** Eric Garcetti- Mayor Los Angeles, CA
3. **Vice Chair:** Dr. J. Chris Gerdes- Stanford University, Professor of Engineering
4. Gloria Boyland- FedEx, Corporate Vice President, Operations & Service Support
5. Robin Chase- Zipcar; Buzzcar; Veniam, Co-founder of Zipcar and Veniam
6. Douglas Chey- Hyperloop One, Senior Vice President of Systems Development
7. Henry Claypool- Community Living Policy Center, Policy Director
8. Mick Cornett- Mayor of Oklahoma City, OK
As technology develops, automation may play a larger role in a number of modes of transportation, including cars, buses, trains, planes, and UAS (drone) systems. This committee will play a critical role in sharing best practices, challenges, and opportunities in automation, and open lines of communication so stakeholders can learn and adapt based on feedback from each other.

As found in the Department’s Beyond Traffic 2045 Report about the future of transportation, the nation’s population is expected to grow by 70 million more people in the next three decades, and face an increase of more than 40 percent in freight volume. This committee will play a needed role in helping the country prepare for its infrastructure needs in the coming years.

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