# **ENERGY THOUGHT SUMMIT AUTONOMOUS VEHICLE DEMONSTRATION** INVITATION TO PARTICIPATE

## I. OVERVIEW

## I. PURPOSE OF THIS INVITATION TO PARTICIPATE (ITP)

Energy Thought Summit 2017 (ETS17) and Rocky Mountain Institute<sup>1</sup> (RMI) are seeking proposals from qualified autonomous vehicle providers to operate self-driving vehicle(s) along a demonstration route during the ETS17 opening celebration on March 27th, 2017 and/or display their vehicle technologies at the event. The vehicle demonstration will serve as entertainment and an educational tool to promote understanding and acceptance for autonomous vehicle technology from the public and serve as a platform for autonomous vehicle companies to showcase their products and receive press and recognition. Participating companies will also be given space to display their vehicle(s) and interact with attendees.

Energy Thought Summit 2017 brings together the top influencers in the energy industry to address the energy transformation that is upon us. ETS17 seeks to address how we envision, design, and produce the ideas and technologies to shape the energy of tomorrow. The redesign of the mobility sector is one of the key energy transformations of this century, led by the mass implementation of the electric, autonomous vehicles combined with new mobility business models.

Multiple autonomous shuttle vehicle companies and vehicle types may be selected to fully showcase the current capabilities of autonomous mobility. Companies may request to be sole participants if their level of participation warrants. Responses must be received by 5pm PST Friday, February 24th, 2017.

# PURPOSE OF THIS DEMONSTRATION

The purpose of this demonstration is to demonstrate autonomous vehicles in an on-road setting and to educate the energy sector and community about autonomous technology through displays and interaction with the vehicles and their providers. This event is one pilot in RMI's larger goal to demonstrate electric, autonomous mobility services in Austin, TX with scalable results. In this pilot, high ranking government officials, senior officers from foundations, VPs, and CXOs of the energy industry will be coming together to celebrate and discuss energy transformation, giving a unique opportunity to display new technology to those who will embrace, encourage, and fund its future.

# II. ETS17 DEMONSTRATION RIDE: SERVICES REQUESTED BY THIS ITP

## 1. "ETS17 DEMONSTRATION"

Rocky Mountain Institute is partnered with the City of Austin, Texas in a multi-year mobility transformation initiative. Rocky Mountain Institute is an independent, non-partisan nonprofit that drives the efficient and restorative use of resources. RMI advances market-based solutions, engaging businesses, communities, and institutions to cost-effectively shift to efficiency and renewables. http://www.rmi.org/

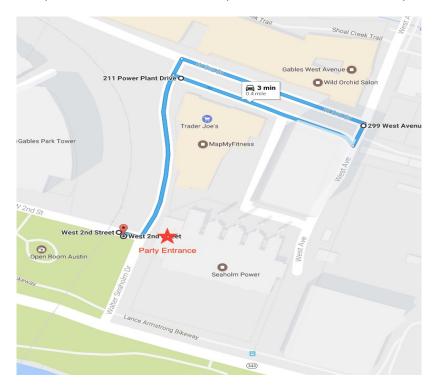


## Description

Demonstration and/or rides in autonomous vehicles for distinguished guests and speakers including Mayor Adler, leading thinkers/regulators in the EV/AV space, and other high profile figures from the energy sector. Vehicles will offer short demonstration rides to conference attendees or demonstrate their capabilities in other ways.

#### **Operation Route and Timing**

The proposed demonstration route will start at the Seaholm Power Plant entrance, the party location, and take them along Walter Seaholm Drive, West 3rd Street, and Power Plant Drive. The route will be on open roads with light, mixed traffic and pedestrians except for the E-W stretch of Power Plant Drive which will be completely blocked off from traffic (pending final approval) in order to allow vehicles to operate, demo features, and/or provide rides in a controlled space.



## **Vehicle Features**

Vehicles offering demonstration rides need to have capacity to safely transport one or more passengers the extent of the route at an autonomy level of 4 or 5 (of 5). The vehicles must be able to safely operate in light, mixed traffic on open roads. Although not required, vehicles with electric drivetrains and/ or ADA-compliant features will be given preference. Vehicles should respect NHTSA Federal Autonomous Vehicles Policy, published in September 2016. For example, vehicles must follow guidelines with regard to minimum levels of object and event detection and response (OEDR) and safety features. Companies should also define their vehicle's operational design domain (ODD) according to the guidelines listed by NHTSA and share that ODD with RMI and ETS17 to insure vehicles are prepared for the conditions of the pilot.

#### Attendant or Safety Driver

Due to the desire to make this an educational and enjoyable opportunity for guests to experience autonomous technology, an attendant or safety driver is requested to be present on all vehicles that have passengers. The role of this attendant is to assist guests with boarding and exiting as



well as provide information about the technology and answers any questions. The attendant is also expected to ensure seamless operation of the vehicle. Attendants will also provide to guests and manage all necessary waivers and liability forms prior to passenger rides taking place and administer a survey, made by RMI, about the experience.

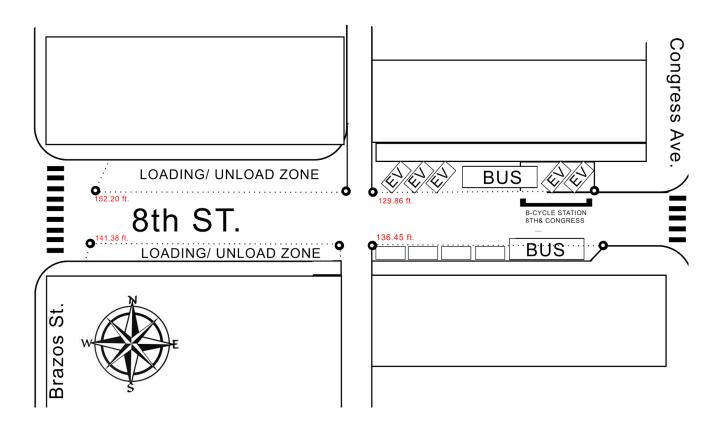
#### 2. "ETS17 VEHICLE DISPLAYS"

#### Description

Throughout the ETS17 conference (March 27th - 30th) there are opportunities to showcase autonomous vehicles. Vehicles may have an opportunity to be featured along 2nd street during Mayor Adler's speech and ribbon cutting ceremony for "Electric Drive" and the new DCFC station and solar kiosk. For the rest of the conference, March 28th - 30th, vehicles can be displayed directly in front of the conference venues on 8th Street between Congress Avenue and Brazo Street.

## **Vehicle Display Locations**

Vehicles on display during the "Electric Drive" ribbon cutting ceremony and mayor's speech will be positioned along 2nd Street facing the Seaholm Power Plant and along Walter Seaholm Drive in front of the power plant. Vehicle display locations on 8th Street are shown in the image below. Along with the vehicle itself, companies have the opportunity to set up an informational booth along the sidewalk on 8th Street. Vehicles can remain on 8th Street from March 27th at 9am until March 30th at 12pm.





#### **Vehicle Features**

Vehicles displayed need to represent autonomous technology at an autonomy level of 4 or 5 (of 5). Although not required, vehicles with electric drivetrains and/ or ADA-compliant features will be given preference.

# III. RESPONDING TO THIS ITP

## ITP ELIGIBILITY

This ITP is open to any mobility provider or service operator that:

- 1. is able to comply with all insurance provisions and provide certificates of insurance at the time of contract approvals;
- 2. will have in their possession (and on premises), prior to commencing service, all applicable and valid business licenses, certificates or certifications as appropriate, or any other required permits or documents required by local, state, or federal law or any other lawful authority; and
- 3. agrees to the terms and conditions in this ITP.

#### ITP TIMELINE

ITP publication	February 13, 2017
Submission deadline for proposals	5pm PST February 24, 2017
Evaluation of proposals	February 27 - March 1, 2017
Selection of services and provider notification	March 2, 2017
Development and negotiation of agreements and contracts	March 2 - 24, 2017
ETS17 Demo Event	March 27, 2017
ETS17 Vehicle Display	March 27 - 30, 2017
Event Review and Feedback	Early April 2017

## ITP PROPOSAL CONTENT

Respondents are asked to provide a written proposal with contents as detailed below. A single proposal can cover both the "demonstration" and "display" portions described below, or companies may apply to one portion and not the other. Multiple autonomous shuttle vehicle companies and shuttle types may be selected to fully showcase the current capabilities of autonomous mobility. There are, however, limited display spaces so companies should provide justification as to why their technology should get one of the limited spots. Companies may request to be sole providers of the autonomous shuttle service, but must provide participation level that justifies this.

In order to ensure basic eligibility, all respondents must submit:

- All applicable business certificates, licenses, and permits required to operate (if applicable).
- Proof of insurance.

All respondents should also include a short summary of

- Their company's background,
- · Relevant experience, and
- Any references



- I. "ETS17 Demonstration" respondents should submit a short narrative addressing:
  - Proposed vehicle(s). This ITP does not specify vehicle type. Any vehicle that meets the required vehicle features is welcome. Respondents should: provide a description of vehicles, including photographs of equipment to be utilized; address your capacity and technological capabilities; and, address whether American Disabilities Act-compliant vehicles can be procured if requested;
  - Plan to accommodate proposed route;
  - Proposed educational components including on-board attendant; and,
  - Availability of required vehicle features.
- II. "ETS17 Vehicle Displays" respondents should submit a short narrative addressing:
  - · Proposed vehicle(s). This ITP does not specify vehicle type. Any vehicle that meets the required vehicle features is welcome. Respondents should: provide a description of vehicles, including photographs of equipment to be utilized and address your vehicle size and technological capabilities
  - Proposed educational components including an attendant; and,
  - Availability of required vehicle features.

# FUTURE AUTONOMOUS MOBILITY PROJECTS

The City of Austin and RMI are working to make Austin, Texas the center for autonomous vehicle testing and deployment with several future demonstrations, services, and events. In support of this work, Austin has been given distinction as a Department of Transportation Autonomous Vehicle Proving Ground as well as a participant in the Bloomberg Aspen Initiative on Cities and Autonomous Vehicles. Respondents and participants in this pilot will be considered for future services and events in Austin.

# IV. SUBMISSION AND EVALUATION OF ITP RESPONSES

#### **ITP SUBMISSION**

Electronic submissions are requested for this ITP, preferably as a PDF file. Submissions should be sent to the following email with a subject line noting that it is a response to the ETS17 autonomous shuttle pilot ITP: acrow@rmi.org

#### ITP EVALUATION

RMI and ETS17 will evaluate all ITP responses and make a selection based on:

- The proposed service meets the request and needs of the event, including route and required vehicle features;
- Quality of services provided and proposed plan for educational engagement;
- Company background, experience, references.

# V. TERMS AND CONDITIONS

- RMI and ETS17 reserve the right to accept or reject any and all proposals and negotiate the terms and conditions of all or part of the proposals as determined to be in the their best interest and at their sole discretion.
- No submission will be accepted after the above-specified submission deadline.
- RMI and ETS17 reserve the right to request clarification of information submitted and to request additional information from a respondent.
- Any proposal may be withdrawn up until the submission deadline.



- RMI and ETS17 are not responsible for any costs incurred in preparing, submitting or presenting a response to the ITP nor shall RMI and ETS17 be held responsible, financially or otherwise, for costs incurred in preparation of providing services.
- · Failure to submit any requested information in response to this ITP could result in the rejection of any proposal for lack of compliance.
- Proposals received will be shared only with RMI and ETS17. Proposals received will not be used for any purposes other than procurement services outlined in this ITP without explicit consent from respondent.

Please submit any questions to acrow@rmi.org before the submission deadline, 5pm PST February 24th, 2017.

