SELF DRIVING CARS
Policy Issues and Considerations
September 18, 2012

Stephen Finnegan
Government Affairs and
Public Policy
Automobile Club of
Southern California (AAA)
Automobile Club of Southern California

Technology

- Fully autonomous
  - Drive themselves
- Semi autonomous
  - Lane-keeping
  - Enhanced navigation
  - Adaptive cruise control
  - Electronic braking
  - Self parking
  - Blind zone monitoring
- Next
  - Traffic jam assist
  - Pedestrian detection

Now

Next
AAA Technology Safety Studies

- Speech-based Interactions with In-Vehicle Technology
  - AAA Foundation for Traffic Safety and University of Utah
  - Study of cognitive distractions caused by a variety of behaviors and technologies

- Driver Use of In-Vehicle Technologies
  - AAA, AAA Foundation, and MIT
  - Benefits and risks associated with the use, misuse, and over reliance on semi-autonomous technologies among motorists of all ages
  - Develop rating system to compare and contrast the effectiveness of a wide range of in-vehicle technologies intended to improve safety
Fully Autonomous Technology

- Cost: $150,000
- $70,000 for laser scanner alone
Laws and Regulations

- **States**
  - Nevada, Florida enacted laws
  - Arizona, Hawaii, and Oklahoma considered, but did not enact
  - California law pending

- **Federal role**
  - NHTSA

- **Liability**
  - Who bears responsibility?
  - Insurers/manufacturers/developers/owners/operators
Potential Impacts

- Safety
- Mobility
- Vehicle ownership and use
- Insurance
- Auto-related industries
- Infrastructure (roads and transit)
Policy Questions

- How and who determines if technology is safe/legal?
- What technologies will be used?
  - Sensor-based (Google car)
  - Communication-based (V2I/V2V)
- Will needed infrastructure changes be made?
- How will mixed fleets function?
- How fast will technologies be adopted?
- Who is liable when things go wrong?
- Who gets a ticket when vehicle breaks the law?
- Who owns/has access to the data?
- What will we do with all the buses, trains, and roads?