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# **Fitch**Ratings

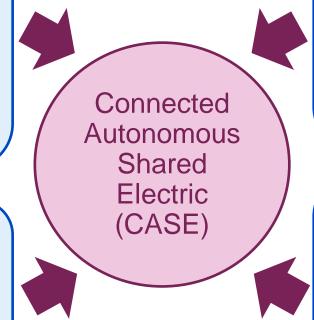
# Technological Developments Are Changing Mobility

## Vehicle to Vehicle and Infrastructure (V2V, V2I)

 Transfer of data among vehicles and from roadway infrastructure to vehicles

# Ride Sharing (RS)

- Proliferation of ride sharing apps
- Ride sharing companies testing autonomous taxis



#### **Increasing autonomy**

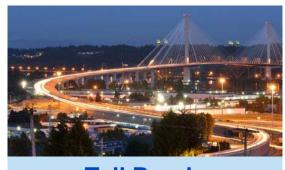
- Vehicles including aspects of autonomy (e.g. automatic breaking)
- Testing high automation with backup drivers

## **Electric Vehicles (EV)**

- Declining battery costs
- Auto manufacturers increasing EV production targets
- Most autonomous vehicle (AV) designs are electric



# CASE Will Transform Transportation Demand Profiles







**Managed Lanes** 



- Potential increase in vehicle miles travelled
- Lower value of time could reduce willingness to pay tolls
- Tolls could link to vehicle miles travelled

- Less space between vehicles reduces congestion and could dampen demand for managed lanes (ML)
- ML could be used as test lanes for initial AV adoption

- Urban areas most vulnerable to reduced demand
- RS reduces individual car ownership
- Assets could be repurposed (charging, fleet maintenance)



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# What Infrastructure is Needed to Support CASE?

#### Connected Infrastructure: V2V,V2I

- Connected traffic signals, road signs, and road side units
- Central information management system

## Bandwidth and Cyber Security

- Dedicated short range communication (DSRC),5G network
- Growing need for fiber optic cable
- Secured data processing and storage systems

### Charging Stations

- Public and Individual charging stations
- Robust grid network and power supply to meet new patterns of demand

#### Road Maintenance

- Detectable lane markings
- Precise movement of AVs requires pavement that can sustain traffic concentrated in center of lane



# Who Will Pay for New Infrastructure?

## Private Investment

 AV technology developers are investing in infrastructure and partnering with cities for pilot programs

#### **Federal Grants**

- Portion of \$1.5 billion in BUILD Transportation Grants allocated to AV projects
- In Spring 2019, U.S. DOT is awarding up to \$60 million in federal grants for safe integration of automated driving systems

## Municipalities

- Many pilot projects have been funded by a combination of state, local, and federal grant money
- Funding needs to be allocated for ongoing maintenance and operations



# New Technology and Infrastructure Already Being Implemented

#### Autonomous Vehicle Technology

- Ride sharing companies such as Uber and Lyft are actively testing AVs with backup human drivers and Waymo has tested full automation with no driver
- Major auto manufacturers are increasingly focused on production of EVs and are investing in their own AV prototypes

### • Infrastructure Development and Modification

 U.S. DOT's connected vehicle projects are being tested in multiple cities and on highways

## Charging Stations

- Tesla currently owns the biggest charging network in U.S.
- No sustainable business model for commercial charging systems yet
- More than 21 States are offering incentives for individual and commercial charging stations



# Partnership Examples

#### Panasonic and Colorado DOT (CDOT)

- Panasonic developed a Network Operations Center to manage its connected system along I-70 and installed connected roadside units and vehicle onboard units
- "Connected Vehicles as a Service" model. CDOT owns the equipment. Panasonic installs, operates, and maintains the system and provides CDOT access to data

### Alphabet and City of Toronto

- Sidewalk Labs, owned by Alphabet, is leading the development of the waterfront district in Toronto
- The new district is designed with AV and EV infrastructure built in from start
- Sidewalk Labs promises to invest billions of dollars upfront to bridge the funding gap

## • U.S. DOT and Tampa Hillsborough Expressway Authority (THEA)

- U.S. DOT grant awarded to improve traffic flow, safety, and carbon footprint
- Installation of roadside units and on-board units in buses, trolley cars, and private vehicles



# How is Fitch Addressing Effects of CASE?

#### Effects of CASE are not yet directly incorporated into Fitch forecasts

- However, Fitch accounts for risk for all credits by applying haircuts to growth projections. For credits with unproven performance, Fitch takes a conservative view
- The timing of technological developments is uncertain with widespread full autonomy not expected for over 20 years
- Advances in technology could lead to faster implementation of CASE

## Credits with long-term debt maturities (30+ years) will be exposed to changes in demand

- Monopolistic bridge systems and major arteries such as turnpikes are expected to be less vulnerable to demand erosion than congestion relievers
- Fitch performs breakeven analysis on a case-by-case basis to assess asset strength if demand erodes
- Structural elements such as cash sweep triggers and management strategy to delever with maintenance of high coverage ratios in outer years mitigate risk for credits more vulnerable to revenue declines



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