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<u>AOT Seeks Public Comment on Automated Vehicle Testing Permit Guidance and Application</u>

Barre, Vt. – The Vermont Agency of Transportation (AOT) is seeking comments on the draft of the Automated Vehicle Testing Permit Guidance and Application. The document outlines the process to approve the testing of automated vehicles, often referred to as self-driving cars, on public roads in Vermont in accordance with the Automated Vehicle Testing Act signed into law by Governor Scott on June 14, 2019 (23 VSA Chapter 41).

This guide is intended for use by applicants who are seeking a permit to test automated vehicles on public roads in Vermont and for municipalities that are considering allowing testing on town highways under their jurisdiction. It also serves as a guide to the Vermont Traffic Committee, whose approval is required for all automated vehicle test permits in the state, in its deliberations over specific permit applications.

The guide and information about automated vehicles are available at the **AOT** website.

The Agency is requesting comments by Tuesday, June 30, 2020. The comment period may be extended, if requested, due to challenges of the Covid-19 pandemic and state of emergency. AOT staff will provide an overview of the draft guidance and answer questions during an online meeting on Friday, June 19th from 1-3 p.m. Those interested in participating in the on-line meeting must register through the website or by calling Katharine Otto at 802-917-3451.

AOT will post responses to comments and a final draft on its website. The final draft will be considered for adoption by the Vermont Traffic Committee during a public meeting at a date, time, and location to be determined.

Public comments may be submitted by mail or email to: Joe Segale, PE/PTP, Policy, Planning and Research Bureau Director Joe.Segale@vermont.gov

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