



## **OLD CARS AND NEW LAWS**

### **PLUS WHATSUUP HERE AND THERE**

**Not all of the following state bills are laws at this time. They have recently been introduced and are currently under consideration by the respective legislatures.**

#### **ALABAMA**

**The state says \$39 million is available for cities and counties across Alabama to use on road and bridge projects.**

**The city of Decatur is limiting the number of vehicles allowed in funeral processions after local authorities said they became “large and dangerous.”**

#### **ARKANSAS**

**The state has started working on multimillion construction projects to complete its section of Interstate 49.**

#### **ARIZONA**

**A major construction project to widen Interstate 17 north of Phoenix will start in 2021 and should be completed by 2023. The project has received a \$90 million federal grant.**

**The city of Phoenix plans to temporarily restrict access to a popular spot at the Dreamy Draw Recreation Area for parts of 2021 for construction of a \$300 million water project.**

#### **CALIFORNIA**

**In the first week of October, state officials quietly moved funds from the gas tax fund which was supposed to be used to fix the roads, to fund environmental concerns**

#### **D.C. – WASHINGTON**

**Beach Drive has reopened after a major rehabilitation project of a six-mile section of the road.**

#### **HAWAII**

**Maui will prohibit commercial activity like tours and sessions in the island’s parks on Sundays and holidays.**

## **INDIANA**

The state DMV is putting on hold, a policy allowing nonbinary gender designations on driver's licenses while officials develop new formal regulations for gender changes on state-issued IDs.

## **KENTUCKY**

The state Transportation Cabinet said a bridge-replacement project on Kentucky 1944 in northwest Bath County over White Creek just east of Cow Creek Road has started.

## **MARYLAND**

Gov. Hogan says he has ordered expedited work on the repairs to the Chesapeake Bay Bridge that are causing major traffic backups, but work can't be delayed without a risk to safety.

## **MASSACHUSETTS**

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers has recommended replacing the two narrow and often backed-up bridges that carry vehicular traffic across the Cape Cod Canal.

## **NEBRASKA**

Work is expected to start this winter on a pedestrian-bicycle bridge over the Platte River Bridge southeast of Omaha that was battered during flooding earlier in the year.

## **MISSISSIPPI**

The state's blue guitar license plates are disappearing and any vehicle that still wears one come January will be an easy target for a traffic ticket, but many people in the state aren't crazy about the "dirty brown" color and design of the new plate. Sales of specialty plates are up 10% from January through August compared to last year.

## **NEVADA**

The state Dept. of Transportation has concerns about a system that uses propane powered blasts to trigger controlled avalanches on the Mount Rose (near Reno and Lake Tahoe) Summit mountain pass, but it's making contingency plans.

## **NORTH CAROLINA**

A state House panel supports a \$660 million fix for cash-flow problems at the Department of Transportation attributed to disaster recovery spending and litigation losses.

## **RHODE ISLAND**

The state DMV wants people to pay \$15 just to walk in the door. The agency plans to pitch a \$15 "in person" customer service fee to Gov. Raimondo in its annual budget

request, estimating that would increase DMV revenue by \$1 million per year and cut wait times.

## **SOUTH CAROLINA**

A group of state Senators is studying what the state needs to do if it wants to increase widening interstate highways. A Special Interstate Subcommittee was formed to study the problem.

## **UTAH**

ATVs will be allowed on certain roads in five national parks in Utah under a new rule from the National Park Service.

## **VERMONT**

The city of Newport has voted to allow ATVs on its streets next year.

## **VIRGINIA**

Transportation officials are seeking public input of a study of Virginia's 179 miles of the Interstate 95 corridor,

Great News – Save money! Roanoke County has reversed a ban on sleeping in cars overnight.

## **WYOMING**

Snowfall has closed a road in Yellowstone National Park, the road over Dunraven Pass. The road closed a week earlier than planned.

## **WHAATSUUP HERE AND THERE**

*Electric bikes cost from \$650 for an entry level model, but most popular ones cost from \$1,500 to \$2,500. The high end model costs up to \$10,000. To be deemed as an electric bike, top speed is usually 20 mph and can travel 10 to 20 miles on a charge depending on how much you pedal. Recharges usually take 2 to 6 hours depending on the make. The motor and battery are usually hidden in the frame, but vary by make. There are two sizes with one that folds up for traveling. Rules on use vary from city to city.*

*USA TODAY reports that GM may be losing as much as \$25 million a day due to the strike by the UAW and this was as of the third week of the strike. Striking GM workers and other workers at GM suppliers have lost \$266 million so far. That translates into an estimated \$68 million in lost federal income and payroll taxes. The strike was resolved in the third week of October.*

*The top selling SUVs of the third quarter of 2019 starting with #1 are: Kia Telluride, VW Atlas, Ford Transit Connect, GMC Sierra Denali and the Porsche Cayenne. This list is USA Today's hottest selling vehicles of the third quarter based on analysis of sales.*

**GM has announced that the new redesigned Corvette Stingray will be delayed going on sale due to the ongoing United Auto Workers strike.**

**Most new cars have pedestrian alert devices on their vehicles, but a new study found that are problems with some systems. Most testing of the devices were done during daylight hours, but not all systems altered the driver of pedestrians crossing in front of their vehicle in bight time hours. Many vehicles did not work properly when the vehicle was making a turn or a child dashing out from parked cars. New and improved systems should be standard equipment by 2023.**

**On October 12th, Harley Davidson halted production and deliveries on electric motorcycles due to a glitch in the final quality control check.**

**The U.S. road safety agency says that traffic deaths fell by a small amount for the second straight year. The National Highway Traffic Safety Administration attributed 2.4% drop partially to technology that can prevent crashes. A total of 36,550 people died on U.S. roads last year. ( A survey a few months ago said traffic deaths were increasing. All depeds who does the survey).**

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