

Appendix 1

Autonomous Vehicle Project Focus Group Questions

Introduction

Thank you for joining me today. We've come together to discuss your current transportation needs and how that affects you, your day-to-day lives, and your family. We are also going to discuss the future of transportation. There is a lot of work going on right now around autonomous cars, trucks and busses. Autonomous, or driverless, vehicles are those that do not need someone driving them to get around. I want to hear about how driverless vehicles might help you live your best life. I also want to hear about your ideas, fears and questions about driverless cars. Does anyone have any questions before we begin? (Address any questions before moving on)

I am going to read through several questions. Please feel free to respond or offer any feedback and information that you would like to as we go along. Please stop me anytime if I am moving along too quickly or if I mention something that you may want to know more about.

Opening Questions

1. **Can you tell me a little about some of the transportation-related challenges that you or your family members face while going about your day?**
 - a. Probe: How does this make you feel?
 - b. Probe: What types of supports do you use to address these challenges?

Transition Questions

2. **How often do you/your family member travel outside of their/your home?**
 - a. Probe: What types of errands do you typically leave the house to complete each day??
3. **What mode of transportation do you regularly use for these trips/errands?** (e.g. personal car, bus/public transit, Uber, taxi, etc.)
4. **Do you feel like the modes of transportation you use are adequate for your travel needs?**
 - a. Probe: Would you like to make more trips than you are currently able to?
5. **How has transportation impacted your life over the years? Has it been mostly negative, mostly positive, or a little of both?**

a. Probe: Can you give examples of positive or negative things that have happened to you because of your transportation needs?

6. How could your current transportation be better?

a. Probe: What does “accessible transportation” mean to you?

b. Probe: What are some of the ways that more accessible, reliable transportation could impact your life?

Key Questions

7. Can you tell me what you know about autonomous, or driverless, vehicles?

a. Probe: Are you familiar with how they work?

8. How do you think you would feel being driven in a driverless car or shuttle bus?

9. What excites you about driverless vehicles?

a. Probe: What are some of the positive impacts that you feel AVs may have on your life or the lives of your family members?

10. What concerns or fears do you have about using or having driverless vehicles operating in your community or town?

a. Probe: Do you worry about accidents and who would be at fault?

b. Probe: Are you worried about your safety at all?

c. Probe: Are you worried about being able to communicate with them?

11. If you decide to use autonomous vehicles, how often do you think you would do this?

a. Probe: Can you give examples of where you would travel using these vehicles?

12. Thinking of using driverless vehicles to get around town, what would need to be done to make sure they are accessible for you to use? How about for people with different disabilities (e.g.: intellectual and developmental disabilities, physical disabilities, blind or deaf passengers, Autism etc.)?

Ending Questions

13. To recap, let’s say you had to choose your top or most important thing that autonomous vehicles should incorporate into their design. What would it be?

14. Is there anything that you would like to add? Did I miss anything?

Thank you all again for your time and your opinions and information. If you have any questions after today, or want to learn more about autonomous vehicle efforts in Michigan, please feel free to email me at mikebray@wayne.edu.