



Automated Vehicles Set to Run around Our Daily Lives

Date of Release: 18 February 2025

Dept. in Charge: **Automated Driving Policy Division, MOLIT**

Contact: Annie KIM / Global Media Communicator, MOLIT / audiis2@korea.kr / +82 44 201 3056

The Ministry of Land, Infrastructure and Transport (MOLIT, Minister PARK Sang-woo) has announced that it will support the operation of automated vehicle services in several regions, including Seoul, Sejong, Gyeonggi (Pangyo, Anyang), Chungnam (Cheonan), Gyeongbuk (Gyeongju), Gyeongnam (Hadong), and Jeju with a total of 2.6 billion KRW* to integrate automated vehicle services into the public daily lives.

* (KRW) Seoul (500 million), Sejong (150 million), Gyeonggi (Pangyo 450 million, Anyang 350 million), Chungnam (Cheonan 150 million), Gyeongbuk (Gyeongju 600 million), Gyeongnam (Hadong 150 million), Jeju (250 million)m,

This initiative is based on the ‘Support Project for Automated Vehicle Pilot Operation District’, aimed at enhancing the competitiveness of the domestic automated driving industry through verification of new technologies and services in the pilot operation district and improving its convenience by minimizing underserved areas in public transportation.

The selected major automated driving services in local governments this year are as follows.

Gyeongnam Province operates route buses in rural areas with a high proportion of the elderly and poor public transportation conditions where the residents had to walk long distances to visit hospitals, markets, and welfare centers or to take taxis with luggage under greater burdensome. The introduction of rural automated



driving buses equipped with luggage compartments suitable for rural areas is expected to improve the convenience of those residents.

Seoul City is expanding the operation of automated driving services during late night and early morning hours to address taxi shortages, particularly in the Gangnam area and to promote high-difficulty verification of automated driving routes, the operation districts* will be expanded to the entire Gangnam area and the number of vehicles is going to be increased from 3 to 7 as well as the first buses for early morning commuters to be expanded from 1 to 4.

* Existing (Yeok-sam, Daechi, Dogok, Samseong, part of Seocho)
→ Expanded (Nonhyeon, Sinsa, Apgujeong, Cheongdam included)

** Existing (Dobong~Yeongdeungpo #160)
→ Newly established (Eunpyeong~Yangjae #741, Geumcheon~Sejong-ro #504, Sanggye~Express Bus Terminal #148)

Gyeonggi Province operates automated route buses for the convenience of workers commuting between Pangyo and the urban high-tech industrial complex, including Anyang City where a daytime and late-night route buses are available.

Sejong City runs an automated driving last-mile service that connects express buses (BRT stops) for wide range of areas and residential complexes.

Furthermore, Gyeongju City plans to showcase Korea's self-driving technology to the world by operating automated shuttles that runs between the conference center and accommodations during the APEC summit this year.

Lastly, Jeju Island provides convenient transportation connecting cities between Jeju and Seogwipo for tourists to strengthen accessibility between regions through automated driving buses.