



Good morning Chairman Green, Vice Chairman Patton, Ranking Member Sheehy, and members of the House Transportation and Public Safety Committee. I'm pleased to appear today in my role as President and CEO of the Transportation Research Center Inc., the largest independent and most comprehensive proving ground in North America.

We have been fortunate to host some of you at TRC and share the great work being done right here in Ohio. For those of you who have not had the opportunity to visit, I invite you to join us for a tour of our facilities. In the meantime, I'd like to introduce TRC Inc. through this brief video...

[Video]

TRC Inc. is a 501c3 corporation and an affiliated entity of The Ohio State University. Through the surplus generated by our on-going operations, we have spun off \$61.3M in funding directly to transportation related endowments at the University.

Since TRC opened in 1972, we have been on the leading edge of testing, evaluation, and validation of all forms of transportation safety research. In the past, this included innovations such as seat belts, air bags, and Anti-lock Braking Systems. Much of the work on development of the Federal Motor Vehicle Safety Standards occurred at TRC led by dedicated TRC engineers and researchers working alongside Federal agencies such as NHTSA.

As we look toward tomorrow with the great opportunity and promise offered by automated and connected technologies – and this promise is great as 94% of all accidents are caused by driver error – TRC is uniquely stationed, in experience and location, at the heart of the Ohio's developing ecosystem to keep Ohio positioned as a leader in transportation innovation, technology, and, most importantly, safety. To this end, we will shortly be breaking ground on a 540-acre campus dedicated to automated and connected technologies. The Smart Mobility Advanced Research and Test Center, or SMART Center, will allow stakeholders such as NHTSA and our client base of over 800 transportation related companies to realize the promise associated with these technologies.

Now, you'll notice when I've referenced the technologies of tomorrow, I've referenced "automated" and "connected" jointly. This is because

automation without connectivity will only get us part of the way to the promise of zero collisions and zero injuries. This is particularly true when we take into consideration the rate of adoption of technology. To this end, we applaud the approach the state has already taken to bringing connectivity online.

TRC Inc. is in the middle of a transformation itself, not only physical in nature with projects like the SMART Center, but also in its client base. Through our Applied Research vertical, we are currently conducting research for companies and industries that only a few years ago would have probably never imagined conducting research at an automotive proving ground. This speaks to the truly transformative nature of our times. The reach of these technologies and their promise cut across industries and require a truly holistic approach from all stakeholders.

We are fortunate to be in the midst of an incredible pool of forward leaning partners and resources such as The Ohio State University, SMART Columbus, the 33 SMART Mobility Corridor, municipalities such as Marysville and Dublin, JobsOhio, ODOT – and its spinoff, DriveOhio, as well as, the numerous private sector entities driving technology forward on a daily basis. We must make no mistake though, to keep Ohio at the center of this transformation we must continue and foster this collaborative, holistic approach.

Thank you for your time this morning and your work on this committee. We at TRC Inc. look forward to serving as a partner, resource, and thought leader as we work through this critical time for the public, the State of Ohio, and all stakeholders invested in this space.