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"A lot of people tend to think high trust is really good, but there are some cases where having low trust is actually what's good and can keep you safe."

Human-machine interaction expert Liza Dixon on the safe use of automated driving systems. Dixon appears on the April 26 episode of "Shift: A Podcast About Mobility." Listen at **autonews.com/shiftpodcast**.

Los Angeles' mobility plan to add more utility pole-mounted, above, and streetlight chargers — such as Blink Charging's IQ 200 unit, below — is part of a push to increase the number of zero-emission vehicles.

Streetlights, utility poles pivotal to future of EVs

Curbside charging in urban areas may help drive adoption

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The push to widen the adoption of electric vehicles in the U.S. is driving the conversion of utility poles and streetlights into EV charging destinations.

Installing streetlight and pole-mounted stations is part of a growing movement to create more curbside EV charging options in urban areas. The idea is to enhance the feasibility of owning and operating electric vehicles in areas where drivers are less likely to have access to off-street garages, driveways or parking lots.

Kansas City, Mo., plans to install EV chargers on 30 to 60 streetlights or utility poles before the end of this year as it prepares for the shift from combustion-powered vehicles to EVs. The initiative, part of a federally funded pilot project with Metropolitan Energy Center, an environmental nonprofit group, is aimed at testing curbside charging of EVs at existing on-street parking locations, to expand EV access for renters, multifamily building residents and taxis.

"The use of personal EVs in Kansas City is expected to grow significantly," Kelly Gilbert, executive director of the energy center, told *Automotive News* via email. "That growth presents substantial

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A battery tech works in a lab at Clarios, which is working to develop recycling methods.

Recycling could help fill battery demand

Clarios pitches solution amid supply concerns

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Concerns are growing over the auto industry's reliance on an overseas supply chain for the raw materials needed to make the lithium ion batteries powering America's electric transportation future.

Clarios, a longtime battery supplier, says policymakers and industry executives should not overlook a homegrown solution.

Recycling could provide the materials needed to fill a substantial portion of expected battery demand. The company is one of seven to receive recent funding from an ongoing Department of Energy competition designed to spur recycling-related initiatives.

"There are issues with batteries at the end of their life causing harm in landfills, regardless of chemistry, and there's issues upstream with the realization these materials may be critical or rare-earth materials that come from unstable regions," Adam Muellerweiss, chief sustainability officer at Clarios, told *Automotive News*. "There's a real appetite for understanding how those critical minerals can be recovered or repurposed."

A report issued last week from global tech firm ABB said battery demand will outstrip production capacity six times over by 2030 and that industry plans for 80 new battery factories are insufficient to meet the need. At the same time, there's growing U.S. consternation over where the necessary raw materials are unearthed and where the industrial capacity to produce batteries is currently located.

In February, President Joe Biden ordered a review of the country's supply chains that will, among other items, "identify risks in the supply chain for high-capacity batteries, including electric-vehicle batteries."

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