

CLAIMS:

1. ~~— An amusement park attraction system, comprising: a ride path of an attraction;
a dispatch area of the attraction separated from the ride path;
a plurality of autonomous vehicles configured to accommodate one or more guests and
located in the dispatch area, wherein an individual autonomous vehicle of the plurality of
autonomous vehicles comprises:
a vehicle controller comprising a memory storing instructions and a processor configured
to execute the instructions, the instructions configured to cause the vehicle controller to:
receive an indication that the individual autonomous vehicle is loaded at capacity
within the dispatch area; and
drive autonomous operation of the individual autonomous vehicle from the
dispatch area to enter the ride path.~~
2. ~~— The system of claim 1, wherein the vehicle controller of the individual autonomous
vehicle is configured to cause the individual autonomous vehicle to travel along an adaptive path
to enter the ride path, wherein the adaptive path is adapted to avoid dynamic obstacles.~~
3. ~~— The system of claim 1, wherein the vehicle controller of the individual autonomous
vehicle is configured to cause the individual autonomous vehicle to be spaced a predetermined
distance apart from other autonomous vehicles of the plurality of autonomous vehicles within the
dispatch area until receiving the indication.~~
4. ~~— The system of claim 1, wherein the vehicle controller of the individual autonomous
vehicle is configured to cause the individual autonomous vehicle to roam within the dispatch area
until receiving the indication.~~
5. ~~— The system of claim 1, wherein the ride path is a predetermined path within a ride-
environment, and wherein the dispatch area is outside of the ride environment.~~
6. ~~— The system of claim 1, wherein the indication that the individual autonomous vehicle is
loaded at capacity is based on a status or throughput of the attraction.~~

~~7. — The system of claim 1, wherein the vehicle controller of the individual autonomous vehicle is configured to cause the individual autonomous vehicle to travel an adaptive path to the dispatch area subsequent to traversing the ride path of the attraction.~~

~~8. — The system of claim 1, wherein the vehicle controller of the individual autonomous vehicle is configured to cause the individual autonomous vehicle to travel to the dispatch area subsequent to traversing the ride path of the attraction.~~

~~9. — The system of claim 1, wherein the vehicle controller of the individual autonomous vehicle is configured to cause the individual autonomous vehicle to travel an adaptive path within the attraction.~~

~~10. — The system of claim 1, wherein the vehicle controller of the individual autonomous vehicle is configured to identify a vehicle malfunction of the individual autonomous vehicle and cause the individual autonomous vehicle to exit the ride path.~~

~~11. — The system of claim 1, wherein the vehicle controller of the individual autonomous vehicle is configured to identify one or more obstacles along the ride path and cause the individual autonomous vehicle to temporarily exit the ride path to avoid the one or more obstacles.~~

~~12. — The system of claim 1, wherein the vehicle controller of the individual autonomous vehicle is configured to cause the individual autonomous vehicle to travel to a location on the ride path to cause one or more features of the attraction to interface with one or more complementary features of the individual autonomous vehicle.~~

~~13. — An amusement park transportation system, comprising:
an autonomous vehicle, wherein the autonomous vehicle is configured to accommodate one or more guests; and
a controller configured to communicate with the autonomous vehicle, wherein the controller comprises a memory storing instructions and a processor configured to execute the~~

instructions, the instructions configured to cause the controller to:

- access a reservation or a return time of a guest for an attraction in an amusement park;
- determine or access a location of the guest within a predetermined time window preceding the reservation or the return time;
- provide instructions to the autonomous vehicle to go to the location;
- provide an alert to a guest device related to the autonomous vehicle;
- receive an indication from the autonomous vehicle that the guest is on or in the autonomous vehicle; and
- provide instructions to the autonomous vehicle to travel to the attraction with the guest after receiving the indication.

14. — The system of claim 13, wherein the autonomous vehicle is selected from a plurality of autonomous vehicles having different themes based on a theme of the attraction.

15. — The system of claim 13, wherein the controller is configured to receive a signal from the autonomous vehicle related to a guest identity and send the instructions to the autonomous vehicle to travel to the attraction only after verifying that the guest identity is associated with the guest.

16. — The system of claim 15, wherein the signal comprises biometric data or data provided by the guest device.

17. — The system of claim 13, wherein the instructions are configured to cause the controller to update the reservation or the return time based on an estimated arrival time of the autonomous vehicle with the guest to the attraction.

18. — The system of claim 13, wherein the location is determined using one or more of location information from the guest device, facial recognition data, or sensor data.

19. — An amusement park transportation system, comprising:

~~an autonomous vehicle holding personal belongings of a guest; and
a controller configured to communicate with the autonomous vehicle, wherein the
controller comprises a memory storing instructions and a processor configured to execute the
instructions, the instructions configured to cause the controller to:~~

~~receive a request from the guest for the personal belongings; determine or access a
location of the guest;~~

~~provide instructions to the autonomous vehicle to go to the location of the
guest;~~

~~provide an alert to the guest related to the autonomous vehicle; and~~

~~receive an indication that the guest has retrieved the personal belongings.~~

20. ~~The system of claim 19, wherein the request is from a guest mobile device.~~

1. An amusement park attraction system, comprising:

a ride path of an attraction;

a dispatch area of the attraction separated from the ride path;

a plurality of autonomous vehicles configured to accommodate one or more guests and
located in the dispatch area, wherein an individual autonomous vehicle of the plurality of
autonomous vehicles comprises:

a vehicle controller comprising a memory storing instructions and a processor configured
to execute the instructions, the instructions configured to cause the vehicle controller to:

drive autonomous operation of the individual autonomous vehicle within the
dispatch area to load the one or more guests;

generate an indication that the individual autonomous vehicle is loaded at
capacity within the dispatch area;

send the indication to a central controller; and

drive autonomous operation of the individual autonomous vehicle from the
dispatch area to enter the ride path based on the indication, wherein the vehicle controller
of the individual autonomous vehicle is configured to cause the individual autonomous
vehicle to roam within the dispatch area until generating the indication and wherein the
instructions further cause the vehicle controller of the individual autonomous vehicle to

receive a signal that the attraction is underserved and, upon receiving the signal, drive autonomous operation of the individual autonomous vehicle to areas outside of the attraction to load one or more guests from the areas outside of the attraction and to return to the dispatch area when the individual autonomous vehicle is loaded with the one or more guests from the areas outside of the attraction.

2. The system of claim 1, wherein the vehicle controller of the individual autonomous vehicle is configured to cause the individual autonomous vehicle to travel along an adaptive path to enter the ride path, wherein the adaptive path is adapted to avoid dynamic obstacles.

3. The system of claim 1, wherein the vehicle controller of the individual autonomous vehicle is configured to cause the individual autonomous vehicle to be spaced a predetermined distance apart from other autonomous vehicles of the plurality of autonomous vehicles within the dispatch area until generating the indication.

4. The system of claim 1, wherein the ride path is a predetermined path within a ride environment, and wherein the dispatch area is outside of the ride environment.

5. The system of claim 1, wherein the indication that the individual autonomous vehicle is loaded at capacity is based on a status or throughput of the attraction.

6. The system of claim 1, wherein the vehicle controller of the individual autonomous vehicle is configured to cause the individual autonomous vehicle to travel an adaptive path to the dispatch area subsequent to traversing the ride path of the attraction.

7. The system of claim 1, wherein the vehicle controller of the individual autonomous vehicle is configured to cause the individual autonomous vehicle to travel to the dispatch area subsequent to traversing the ride path of the attraction.

8. The system of claim 1, wherein the vehicle controller of the individual autonomous vehicle is configured to cause the individual autonomous vehicle to travel an adaptive path within the attraction.

9. The system of claim 1, wherein the vehicle controller of the individual autonomous vehicle is configured to identify a vehicle malfunction of the individual autonomous vehicle and cause the individual autonomous vehicle to exit the ride path.

10. The system of claim 1, wherein the vehicle controller of the individual autonomous vehicle is configured to identify one or more obstacles along the ride path and cause the individual autonomous vehicle to temporarily exit the ride path to avoid the one or more obstacles.

11. The system of claim 1, wherein the vehicle controller of the individual autonomous vehicle is configured to cause the individual autonomous vehicle to travel to a location on the ride path to cause one or more features of the attraction to interface with one or more complementary features of the individual autonomous vehicle.

12. The system of claim 1, wherein a vehicle capacity threshold is adjusted based on a ride status.

13. The system of claim 1, wherein the vehicle controller of the individual autonomous vehicle is configured to:

determine that the individual autonomous vehicle is loaded at capacity based on a signal from one or more on-board sensors of the individual autonomous vehicle, the signal being indicative of a presence of the one or more guests; and
generate the indication based on the determination.

14. The system of claim 13, wherein the one or more on-board sensors comprises a pressure sensor, a weight sensor, an optical sensor, a camera, or a combination thereof.