



U.S. Department of Transportation  
Federal Transit Administration



PTASP TAC Update  
April 2022

## Learn. Share. Engage.

This issue of the Public Transportation Agency Safety Plan (PTASP) Technical Assistance Center (TAC) Update focuses on Safety Risk Assessment in practice.

## Featured Resources

**New!** Safety Risk Assessment in Practice Webinar:  
[Presentation](#) | [Video Recording](#)

The Sample Safety Risk Assessment Matrices for [Bus Transit Agencies](#) and [Rail Transit Agencies](#) can help agencies establish a Safety Risk Assessment matrix appropriate to the agency's operations.

The [PTASP Hazards and Consequences Self Guided Learning Tool](#) can help individuals distinguish between hazards and consequences.

Implementing Safety Risk Assessment Approaches Webinar:

[Presentation](#) | [Video Recording](#)

Access the entire TAC Resource Library by visiting FTA's [PTASP TAC website](#).

## Q & A Highlights

### Question 1:

Who at the agency is supposed to perform the risk assessment for hazards? Should this be done by our safety planning team or the Chief Safety Officer?

### FTA Response:

Your transit agency will determine who should perform Safety Risk Assessment activities and this should be consistent with the authorities, accountabilities, and responsibilities documented in your agency's Agency Safety Plan. This decision may be guided by your agency's size and operating characteristics.

### Need Assistance?

Contact the PTASP TAC at  
[PTASP-TAC@dot.gov](mailto:PTASP-TAC@dot.gov)



Contact the TAC for **one-on-one technical sessions** for ASP development and implementation support.

## Bipartisan Infrastructure Law Resources

[The FTA Bipartisan Infrastructure Law web page](#)

[Dear Colleague Letter: Bipartisan Infrastructure Law Changes to PTASP Requirements](#)

[Bipartisan Infrastructure Law changes to PTASP requirements at 49 U.S.C. 5329\(d\)](#)

**New!** [Frequently Asked Questions](#)

*Have questions about the Bipartisan Infrastructure Act?*

Email [FTA-IIJA@dot.gov](mailto:FTA-IIJA@dot.gov)

## Upcoming Webinar

### Developing and Monitoring Safety Risk Mitigations

**When:** Thursday, May 26,  
2:00 p.m. EST

[Register Here](#)



When determining who will perform Safety Risk Assessment activities, agencies may consider centralized or decentralized approaches. In a centralized approach, for example, the Safety Department may lead assessments with input from subject matter experts in operations and maintenance. In a decentralized approach, for example, operations and maintenance personnel may conduct the assessments with assistance from the Safety Department. Your agency may also choose to have a cross-functional team with various skills perform assessments.

Regardless of how your agency or who at your agency conducts Safety Risk Assessments, your agency must lay out your process for Safety Risk Management in the Agency Safety Plan.

### Question 2:

For our Safety Risk Management (SRM) process, what types of incidents should we track and monitor? Should our agency review things such as vehicle accidents, thefts, and potential terror events?

### FTA Response:

Investigations of accidents and the other events that you mention may be valuable sources of information for identifying hazards and supporting your Safety Risk Assessment process. You must develop and implement an SRM process for your entire system and establish methods to identify hazards and their consequences ([§ 673.25\(b\)](#)). Consequences include events that could occur as a result of a hazard.

Agencies may also use other data sources such as:

- Incident logs, employee reporting, maintenance information systems, and operations monitoring systems;
- Service information, employee hours, route information, and fleet data to support the calculation of exposure metrics; and
- Subject matter expertise.

Your agency's SRM process should define how you will assess the likelihood and severity of consequences to determine if and how your agency will allocate resources to mitigate the assessed safety risk.

### Transit Safety and Crime Prevention

See train-the-trainer course offerings of [Assault Awareness and Prevention for Transit Operators](#) and [Violence in the Transit Workplace](#) on the [National Transit Institute's course schedule](#).

Visit [FTA's website](#) for more information on the Enhanced Transit Safety and Crime Prevention Initiative.