

APTA Rail Conference

Rail Safety Committee Meeting

June 5, 2022



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Review, Office of Transit
Safety and Oversight, FTA



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U.S. Department of Transportation
Federal Transit Administration

Presentation Overview

The purpose of this presentation is to provide updates on FTA's Risked-Based Inspections requirements, FTA's Safety Risk Management program, transit safety data analysis and research, and other recent transit safety initiatives.

Agenda

- Welcome
- Risk-Based Inspections Update
- Safety Data Analysis Update
- Safety Initiatives Update
- Questions

Risk-Based Inspections Update

Dr. Melonie Barrington

Director, Office of Safety Review, Office of
Transit Safety and Oversight, FTA



Background

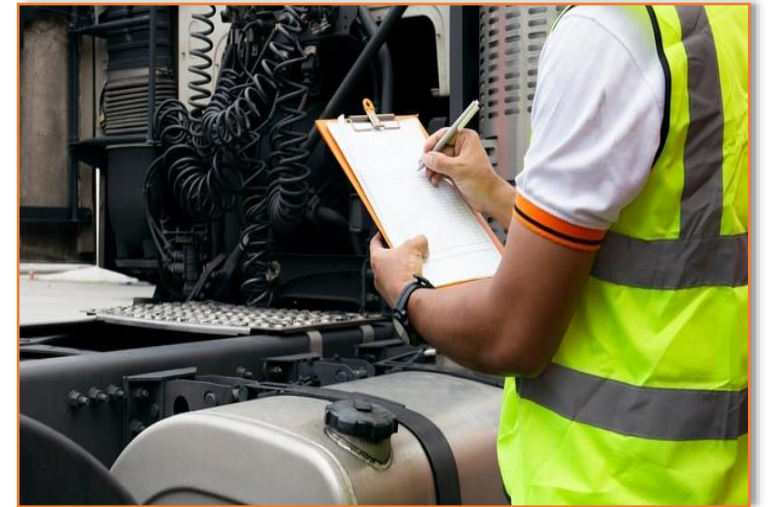
- In 2021, Congress passed the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law, which amended FTA's Public Safety Transportation Program to require SSOAs to develop and implement risk-based inspections as part of SSOA oversight.
- The Bipartisan Infrastructure Law directs FTA to assess the capability of an SSOA to conduct risk-based inspections of the transit agencies they oversee.
- Congress has directed FTA to issue *Special Directives* to each SSOA requiring them to *develop and implement* a risk-based inspection program of the RFGPTS's they oversee.

BIPARTISAN INFRASTRUCTURE LAW

[Sign up](#) to receive updates
about the Bipartisan
Infrastructure Law

Risk-Based Inspection Definition

- A Risk-based inspection (RBI) program uses an analysis methodology and process of qualitative and quantitative data to inform continuous inspection activities.
- RBI programs are designed to identify the highest risk elements and prioritize inspections to address the highest risk safety conditions.



Major Provisions 49 U.S.C. § 5329(k)

Requirements Applicable to SSOAs:

- ✓ Has authority to enter the facilities of each rail transit agency that the SSOA oversees to inspect infrastructure, equipment, records, personnel, and data
- ✓ Has policies and procedures created in consultation with each RTA to conduct RBIs, including access for inspections that occur without advance notice
- ✓ Has policies and procedures created in consultation with each RTA for data collection
- ✓ Has inspection practices that are risk-based and commensurate with the number, size and complexity of the RFGPTS
- ✓ Incorporates policies and procedures for inspection access and data collection into Program Standards

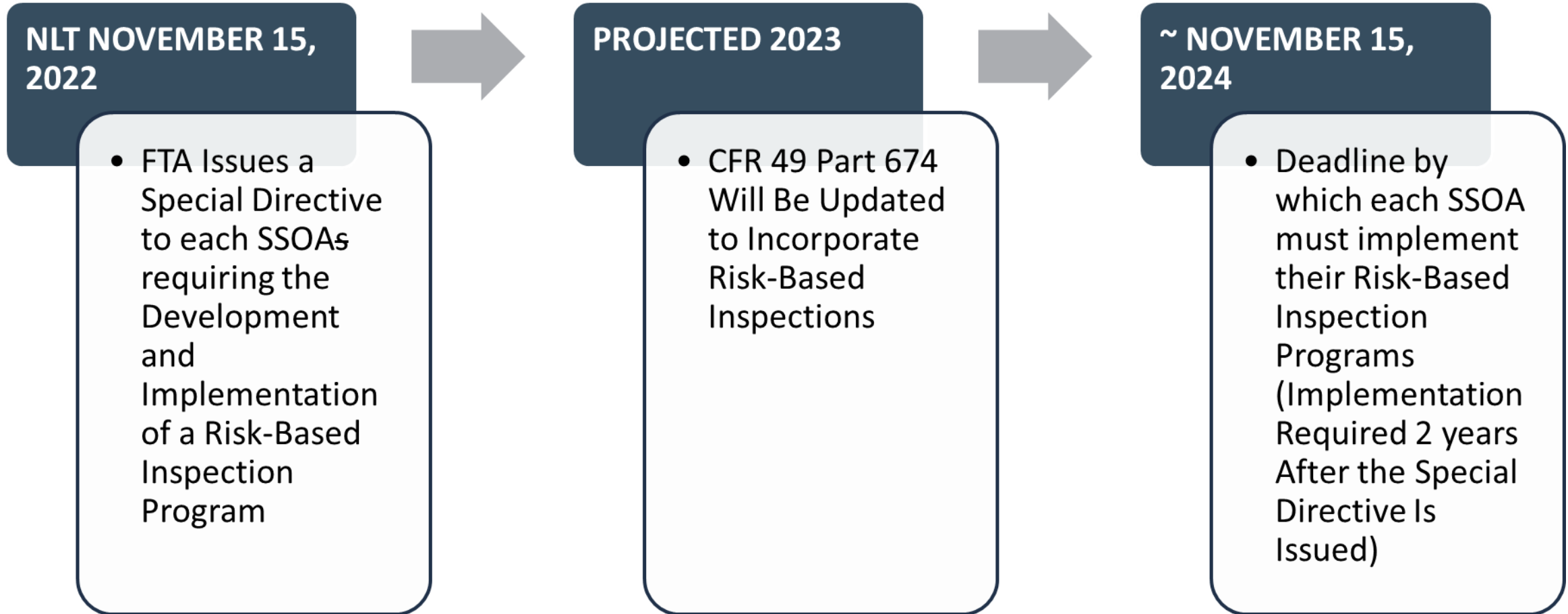
Major Provisions 49 U.S.C. §5329(k)

Requirements Applicable to RTAS:

- ✓ Has policies and procedures created in consultation with the SSOA regarding access to the RFGPTS to conduct risk-based inspections, including access with and without advance notice
- ✓ Has policies and procedures created in consultation with the SSOA for collecting and sharing data the RTA uses when identifying and evaluating safety risks.
- ✓ Incorporates policies and procedures for inspection access and data collection and sharing into the ASPs



Risk-Based Inspections Implementation Timeline



Safety Data Analysis Update

Ray Biggs, II

Division Chief, Safety Assurance & Risk
Management, Office of System Safety, FTA



Current and Future Safety Topics

Current Safety Topics

Roadway Worker Protection

Transit Worker Assault Prevention

Signal System Safety

End-of-Railcar Door Messaging

Future Safety Topics

Bus-to-Pedestrian Collisions

Fitness for Duty

**Light Rail/Streetcar/Hybrid Collisions with
Pedestrians**

Rider Safety/Assault Prevention

**Train-to-POV Collisions at Rail Grade
Crossings**



End-of-Railcar Door Messaging RFI Overview

Quick Facts

Date Open: January 7, 2022

Date Closed: April 7, 2022

Relevant NTSB Recommendations:
R-19-039 and R-19-040

Audience: State Safety Oversight
Agencies (SSOAs)

Response Rate: 100%; 32 SSOAs
covering 63 Rail Transit Agencies (RTAs)

Scope of Questions:

- Current status of end-of-railcar doors and signage
- Plans for signage in new cars
- Monitoring techniques
- Signage design and consistency
- Standards used to develop signage

Distribution Method: Direct Solicitation to SSOAs

Purpose: Solicit info on the current status of end-of-railcar door messaging at each RTA and RTA's plans to procure new cars with end-of-railcar door safety signage.

Next Steps:

- FTA will use the findings and the SRM process to analyze the risk associated with the topic and implement mitigations, if warranted.



NTSB Recommendations Closed in 2022

R-15-007: Subway Tunnels

Description: Audit all RTAs with subway tunnels to check the ventilation systems, create emergency procedures for smoke, and train and verify employees use best industry standards for maintenance and emergency response.

Date Closed/Closure status: March 9, 2022 – Closed, Acceptable Action

Report: <https://www.nts.gov/investigations/Pages/DCA15FR004.aspx>

R-12-034: Roadway Worker Protection

Description: Advise transit agencies and SSOAs on how to effectively implement, oversee, and audit Roadway Worker Protection in accordance with 49 CFR § 659.19.

Date Closed/Closure status: April 1, 2022 – Closed, Acceptable Action

Report: <https://www.nts.gov/investigations/Pages/DCA10FR003.aspx>

R-12-035: Roadway Worker Protection

Description: Emphasize implementation of 49 CFR § 659.19 in safety oversight program audits.

Date Closed/Closure status: April 1, 2022 – Closed, Acceptable Action

Report: <https://www.nts.gov/investigations/Pages/DCA10FR003.aspx>



Recently Published FTA Research Reports



Rail Transit Roadway Worker Protection | February 2022

Description: Contains research reviewing existing standards and best practices. Presents use cases and high-level concepts of operations for roadway worker protection.



Effective Practices in Bus Transit Accident Investigations | November 2021

Description: Documents practices that were developed to provide bus transit agencies leading transit industry practices for performing investigations.



Effective Practices in Rail Transit Accident Investigations | November 2021

Description: Documents practices that were developed to provide rail transit agencies leading transit industry practices for performing investigations.



Inward – and Outward – facing Audio and Video Recordings for Transit Rail Vehicles | August 2021

Description: Documents the research necessary to assist APTA in developing a recommended practice for the industry to install inward- and outward-facing cameras and audio recorders, consistent with NTSB recommendation R-17-13.



Emergency Lighting and Signage for Rail Transit Passenger Vehicles | August 2021

Description: Includes the results of a study that collected information necessary to issue recommendations, voluntary standards, or guidance documents related to emergency lighting and signage for rail transit passenger vehicles.



Safety Initiatives Update

Joseph P. DeLorenzo

Associate Administrator for Transit Safety and
Oversight & Chief Safety Officer, FTA



Bipartisan Infrastructure Law Overview

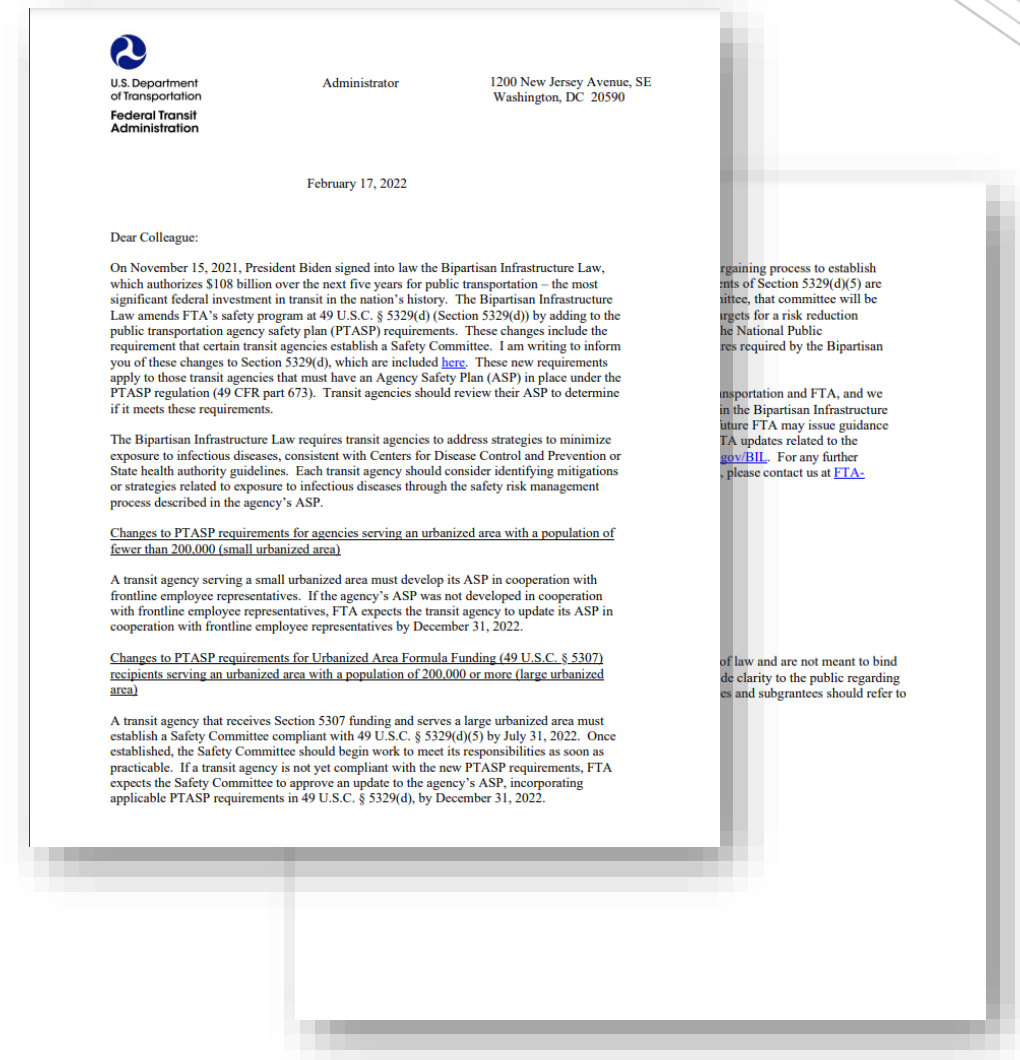
72%
increase in funding

- The Bipartisan Infrastructure Law includes a funding increase of 72-percent
- Average community transit funding increased by 30-percent
- Enhances State Safety Oversight programs by strengthening rail inspection practices to protect transit workers and riders from injuries and ensure safe access to transit



Public Transportation Agency Safety Plan Requirements

- Dear Colleague Letter
- The Bipartisan Infrastructure Law added new PTASP requirements:
 - ✓ Create safety committees comprised of representatives of both management and frontline employees (agencies receiving 5307 funds and serving large UZAs)
 - ✓ Develop an Agency Safety Plan (ASP) in cooperation with frontline employee representatives (agencies serving small UZAs)
 - ✓ Address through their ASP, strategies consistent with the CDC or State health authority guidelines to minimize exposure to infectious diseases



National Public Transportation Safety Plan (NSP)

- Guides the national effort to manage safety risk in the nation's public transportation systems following SMS principles
 - ✓ Establish safety performance measures by mode to address new risk reduction program requirements;
 - ✓ Update voluntary safety standards; and
 - ✓ Include precautionary and reactive actions required to ensure public and personnel safety and health during an emergency



Bipartisan Infrastructure Law Resources and Questions

•Bipartisan Infrastructure Law Webpage:

- <https://www.transit.dot.gov/BIL>

•Program Fact Sheets:

- <https://www.transit.dot.gov/funding/grants/fta-program-fact-sheets-under-bipartisan-infrastructure-law>

•PTASP FAQs for Bipartisan Infrastructure Law Requirements:

- <https://www.transit.dot.gov/safety/public-transportation-agency-safety-program/public-transportation-agency-safety-plan-faqs>

•Bipartisan Infrastructure Law Changes to PTASP Requirements Webinar

- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QYL1BoCCn5E>
- <https://www.transit.dot.gov/regulations-and-programs/safety/bipartisan-infrastructure-law-changes-public-transportation-agency>



Questions?
Email: FTA-IIJA@dot.gov

Bipartisan Infrastructure Law

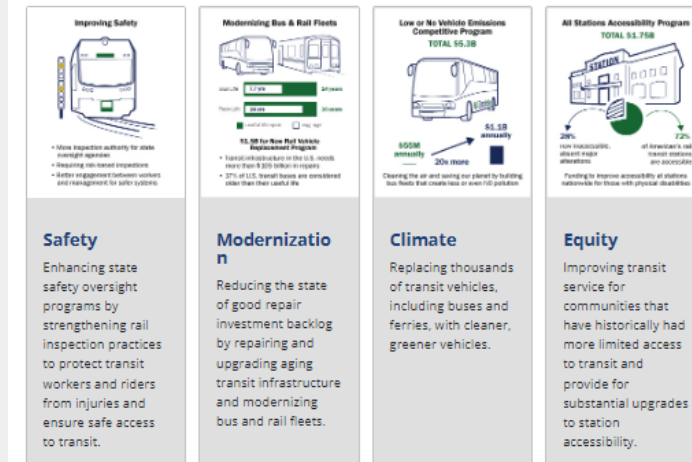
BIPARTISAN INFRASTRUCTURE LAW

The Bipartisan Infrastructure Law, as enacted in the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act, authorizes up to \$108 billion for public transportation – the largest federal investment in public transportation in the nation's history.

What's New

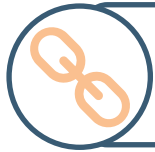
- [Public Transportation Agency Safety Plan FAQs for New Bipartisan Infrastructure Law Requirements](#)
- [Bipartisan Infrastructure Law Disposition Requirements FAQs](#)
- **Bipartisan Infrastructure Law Hiring Preference:** In 2021, FTA announced an initiative, implemented as a pilot program, to permit transit agencies to use hiring preferences on FTA-funded construction projects to promote equitable creation of employment opportunities and workforce development activities, particularly for economically or socially disadvantaged workers. The initiative has transitioned in response to the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law, which includes hiring preferences related to the use of labor for transportation construction projects. Section 25019 provides an express authorization for FTA grant recipients and subrecipients to use a geographical or economic hiring preference for the construction of federally supported transit projects. See the [Federal Register Notice](#).

The legislation will advance public transportation in America's communities through four key priorities:



Cybersecurity Resources for Transit Agencies

FTA published cybersecurity resources to support transit agencies during a time of unprecedented ransomware attacks targeting the transportation sector.

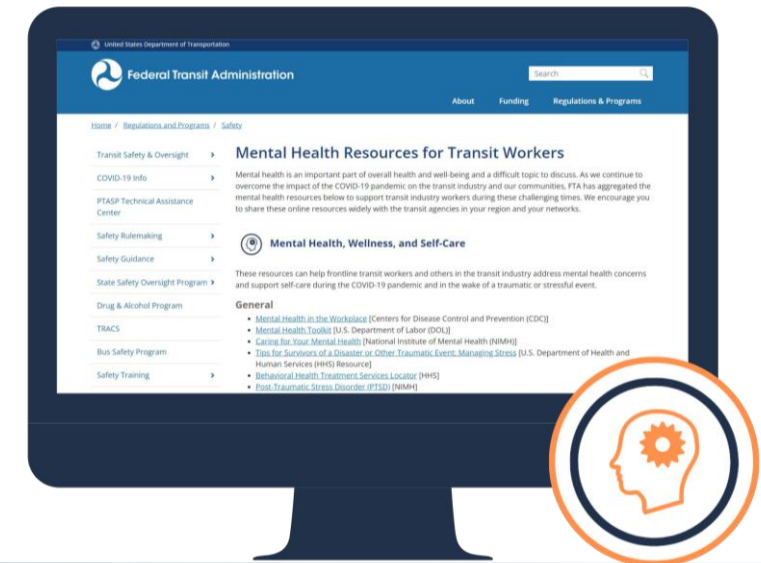


www.transit.dot.gov/regulations-and-programs/safety/cybersecurity-resources-transit-agencies

- **National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST):** NIST resources include a Cybersecurity Framework, voluntary guidance based on existing standards, and guidelines and practices for organizing to better manage and reduce cybersecurity risk.
- **Transportation Security Administration (TSA):** TSA resources include a Surface Transportation Cybersecurity Toolkit that provides cybersecurity information to surface transportation operators with fewer than 1,000 employees.
- **Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency (CISA):** CISA resources include a Cyber Essentials Starter Kit and how to report cyber incidents such as phishing and malware to CISA.

Mental Health Resources for Transit Workers

- On February 1, 2022, FTA published [Mental Health Resources](#) to support transit industry workers. We encourage you to share these resources widely with your networks.
 - **Mental Health, Wellness and Self-Care:** These resources help transit stakeholders address mental health concerns and support self-care during the COVID-19 pandemic and in the wake of a traumatic or stressful event.
 - **Suicide Prevention:** These resources highlight free and confidential support for people in emotional distress and offer potential interventions for organizations.
 - **Active Shooter Preparedness:** These resources offer information to help transit stakeholders recognize indicators of potential workplace violence and understand actions to take when confronted by an active shooter.



Enhanced Transit Safety and Crime Prevention Initiative


- **FTA's Enhanced Transit Safety and Crime Prevention Initiative** provides information and resources to help transit agencies prevent and address crime in their systems to protect transit workers and riders.
- **FEMA [Transit Security Grant Program \(TSGP\)](#)** will award \$93 million to eligible public transit systems to protect critical transportation infrastructure and the traveling public from terrorism.

Enhanced Transit Safety and Crime Prevention Initiative



Overview

Transit worker and rider safety is a top priority for the Biden-Harris Administration and the U.S. Department of Transportation. Public transit is a safe form of transportation. Transit workers should expect a safe workplace and riders should expect a safe trip.

 <https://www.transit.dot.gov/regulations-and-programs/safety/enhanced-transit-safety-and-crime-prevention-initiative>

 FTASystemSafety@dot.gov




Available Safety Training


- **NTI Safety Courses**
 - Assault Awareness and Prevention for Transit Operators
 - Violence in the Transit Workplace – Prevention, Response and Recovery
- **Upcoming PTASP Webinar**
 - Thursday, July 28, 2022: **The Safety Risk Register in Action**
- **More information in the Safety Spotlight Newsletter**
- For questions about FTA safety training offerings, contact FTASafetyPromotion@dot.gov



<https://www.transit.dot.gov/regulations-and-guidance/safety/safety-training>

United States Department of Transportation
OFFICE OF THE ASSISTANT SECRETARY FOR RESEARCH AND TECHNOLOGY
Transportation Safety Institute

 **PTASP**
TECHNICAL
ASSISTANCE
CENTER

 **NTI**
National Transit Institute

FY2022 TSI Safety Training

Registration is open for Transportation Safety Institute (TSI) safety training courses for transit personnel. These courses also support FTA grantees subject to the [Public Transportation Safety Certification Training Program \(PTSCCTP\)](#) regulation with initial training and refresher training requirements. All rail PTSCCTP courses will be delivered virtually. The [FY2022 TSI Training Schedule](#) is also available.

The availability of in-person TSI courses depend upon each host's local guidance. Please contact TSI at TSI@dot.gov or 405-954-3682 for more information. TSI can verify the status of scheduled courses and assist with any other course-related questions.

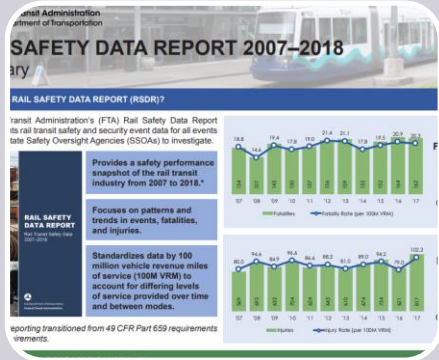
General Rail/Bus PTSCCTP Virtual Live Training Courses	
SMS Principles for Transit: Includes an introduction to the principles and four components of a Safety Management System (SMS): Safety Policy; Safety Risk; Safety Assurance (SA); and Safety Promotion.	June 22–24, 2022 July 26–28, 2022
SMS Safety Assurance: Examines the SA component within a SMS and discusses the three key subcomponents and essential SA activities and tools necessary to verify the effectiveness of safety risk mitigations and that no new safety risks have been introduced through the implementation of the mitigations or changes.	May 11, 2022 July 29, 2022
Effectively Managing Transit Emergencies: Provides participants with information on understanding the necessity, purpose, development and implementation of emergency management and how it relates to the other safety functions of a transit system.	May 31–June 3, 2022 July 19–22, 2022
Rail PTSCCTP Virtual Live Training Courses	
SMS Principles for SSO Programs: Provides participants with the knowledge, skills and tools State Safety Oversight Agencies (SSOAs) need as their Rail Transit Agencies (RTAs) move from SMS planning and implementation to SMS operation.	June 29, 2022 July 7, 2022
Transit Rail System Safety: Provides basic rail system safety and Safety Management System (SMS) principles and the required elements of FTA safety regulations.	May 2–6, 2022 June 13–17, 2022 July 11–15, 2022
Transit Rail Incident Investigation: Provides participants with the knowledge and skills to successfully investigate various types of transit incidents and comply with the requirements of the State Safety Oversight (SSO) Rule (49 CFR Part 674).	May 16–20, 2022 June 6–10, 2022

Please contact NTI at 848-932-1700 or info@nti.research.edu with any questions. For questions about FTA safety training offerings, please contact FTASafetyPromotion@dot.gov.

The recorded versions of the AAP and VTW courses are on the [FTA Enhanced Transit Safety and Crime Prevention Initiative webpage](#).



Rail Transit Grade Crossing Safety



FTA Rail Safety Data Report

- <https://www.transit.dot.gov/regulations-and-guidance/safety/rail-and-bus-safety-data-reports>



FTA Safety Bulletin 19-03

- www.transit.dot.gov/regulations-and-guidance/safety/fta-safety-bulletins



Multi-Modal Highway-Rail Crossing Safety Action Team



Operation Lifesaver, Inc.

- www.oli.org



Stop. Trains Can't Campaign

- www.transportation.gov/stop-trains-cant



TRACS Update

- On February 2, 2022, FTA re-established TRACS via a 2022-2024 Charter.
- The member solicitation period opened on February 7 and closed on April 8 .
- FTA may select up to 25 members for the 2022-2024 Charter.
- FTA received **155 applications**.
- The FTA Administrator and DOT Secretary will be finalizing committee selections shortly.
- Visit FTA's TRACS webpage for more information or email tracs@dot.gov.

Federal Transit Administration

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Transit Advisory Committee for Safety

NEW: FTA is reviewing TRACS applications. You can review the [2022-2024 TRACS Charter](#) and [TRACS Extension Federal Register Notice](#) for more information.

About TRACS

Nationwide, public transportation is one of the safest modes of transportation, with more than 2.5 million people boarding transit vehicles in the U.S. each day. Transit agencies have fewer fatalities and injuries than any other transportation mode. Following a period in the early 2000s, the safety record of the transit industry started to deteriorate. The Transit Advisory Committee for Safety (TRACS) was one of many initiatives FTA implemented to improve transit safety. In November 2009, the U.S. Transportation Secretary authorized the establishment of TRACS.

TRACS provides information, advice and recommendations on transit safety to the U.S. Transportation Secretary and FTA Administrator. TRACS does not make determinations of fact or policy. TRACS is comprised of a diverse panel of professionals representing a variety of stakeholders and interests to cooperatively address transit safety issues by recommending solutions based on agreed-upon facts. The committee's level of expertise and balanced viewpoints enables early identification of potential problem areas and accelerated corrective actions, thereby creating greater safety and public confidence in the nation's public transportation systems.

On behalf of the U.S. Secretary of Transportation, the FTA Administrator will name an Executive Director for the committee who serves as the designated federal official responsible for ensuring compliance with the Federal Advisory Committee Act requirements.

- **Acting Committee Chair:** Vacant
- **Committee Vice-Chair:** Vacant

Subscribe to TRACS news through email updates; select "Safety & Oversight/Transit Advisory Committee for Safety (TRACS)."

Application Resources

FTA is reviewing TRACS applications. FTA will select up to 25 qualified individuals interested in serving on TRACS for a two-year term. TRACS provides information, advice and recommendations about transit safety to the U.S. Secretary of Transportation and the FTA Administrator.

- [2022-2024 TRACS Charter](#)

Notices and Participation

TRACS meets as a full committee at least twice a year. Committee meetings are announced in the Federal Register Notice (FRN) 15 days prior and are open to the public. The FRN includes the agenda, date, time, location and purpose of the meeting.

Anyone wishing to formally address TRACS or submit materials for review during the meeting must [notify the FTA](#) by the dates indicated in the FRN that announces the meeting. Materials to be reviewed at the committee's convenience may be submitted at any time to the FTA.

Related Links

- [Sign Up for Updates](#)
- [TRACS Archive](#)
- [TRACS](#)
- [Past TRACS Activities](#)

Related Documents

- [2022 TRACS Charter](#)

Contact Us

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Questions?





[TRANSIT.DOT.GOV](https://www.transit.dot.gov)