

APTA Rail Conference

Grade Crossing Safety Workshop

June 11, 2023



Joe DeLorenzo

Associate Administrator for Transit Safety and Oversight
& Chief Safety Officer
Federal Transit Administration



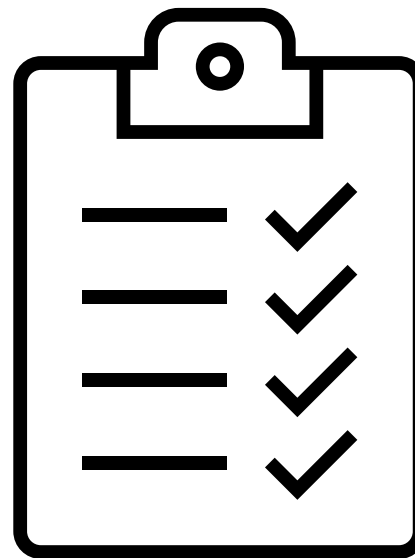
U.S. Department of Transportation
Federal Transit Administration

Presentation Overview

The purpose of this presentation is to provide an update on the current safety landscape, FTA grade crossing initiatives and partnerships.

Agenda

- Current Safety Landscape
- Data Trends
- Available Resources
- Partnerships
- Stay Connected

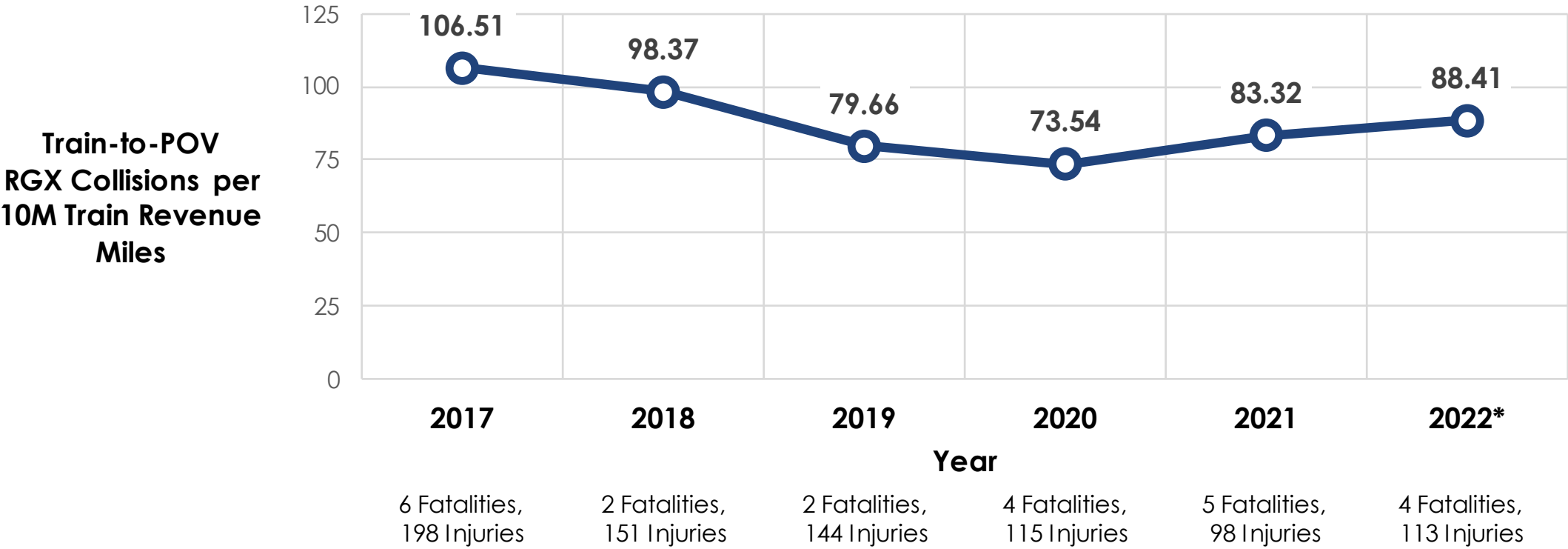


Current Safety Landscape

- FTA National Transit Database Data – 2022
 - 592 grade crossing collisions
 - 19 fatalities and 133 injuries
- Rail Safety Data Report
 - Increasing trend since at least 2007
 - <http://bit.ly/3E9gora>



Train-to-POV RGX Collision Trends



Source: National Transit Database (NTD)
Data as of: May 2, 2023

**2022 data are preliminary*

Train-to-POV Collisions at RGX Safety Risk Management Analysis



FTA onboarded Train-to-POV Collisions at RGX as a Safety Risk Management topic in February 2023



From 2015 to 2021, ninety-nine percent (99%) of the rail collisions with POV reported to the National Transit Database involved light rail, hybrid, streetcars and cable car vehicles

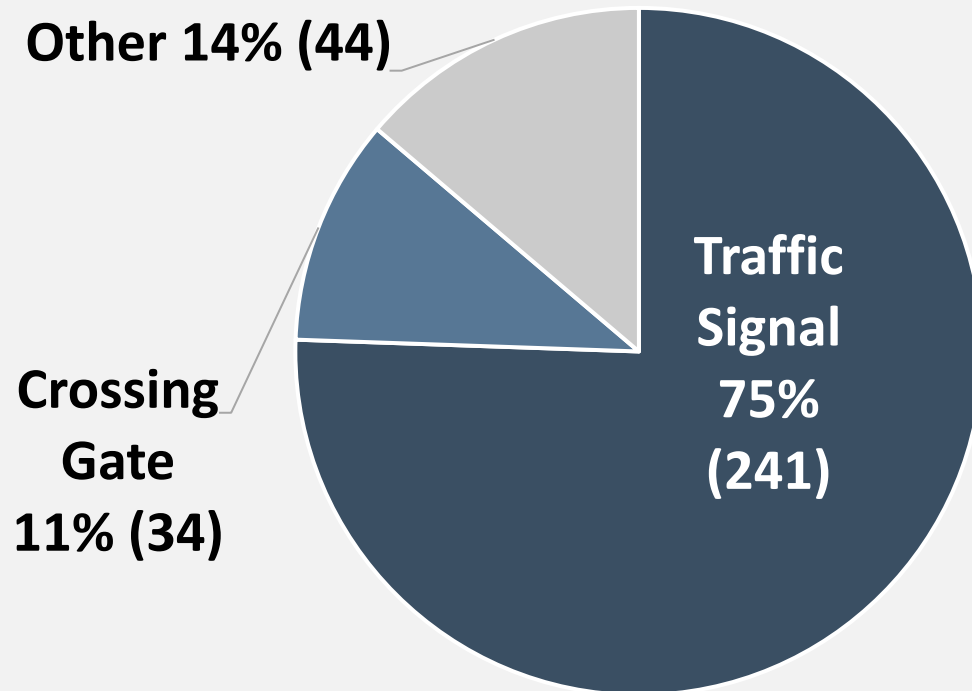


Rail transit agencies reported **211** rail-to-POV collisions resulting in a fatality, injury, or significant property damage per year from 2015 to 2021; of these, **184** per year, or **87%**, occurred at **RGX**

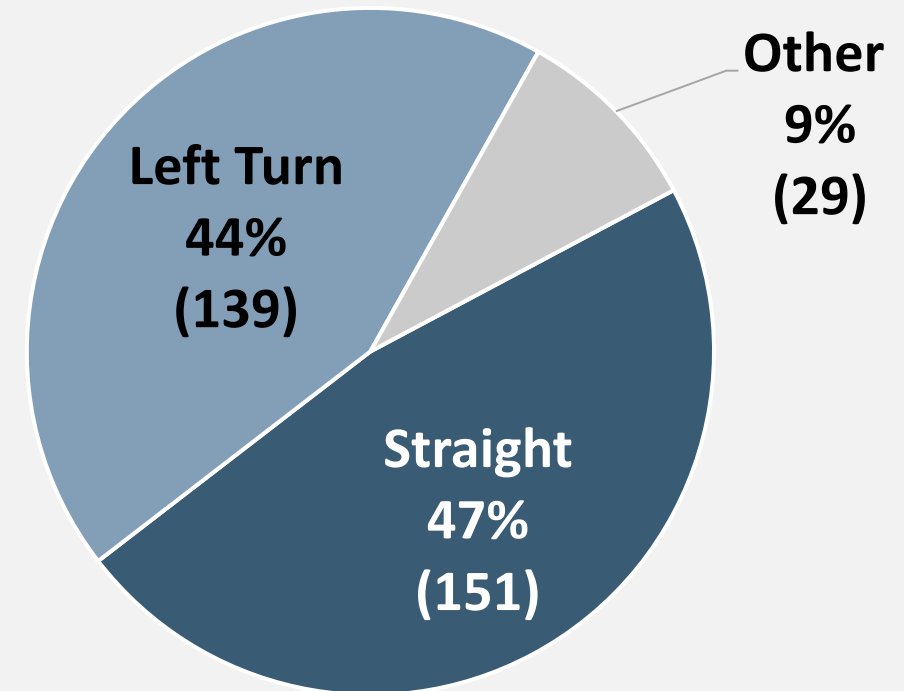
Train-to-POV at RGX Analysis Findings (1 of 2)

Analysis Sample 2020 – 2021 (319 events with investigation reports or narratives)

Train-to-POV Collisions by Control Device



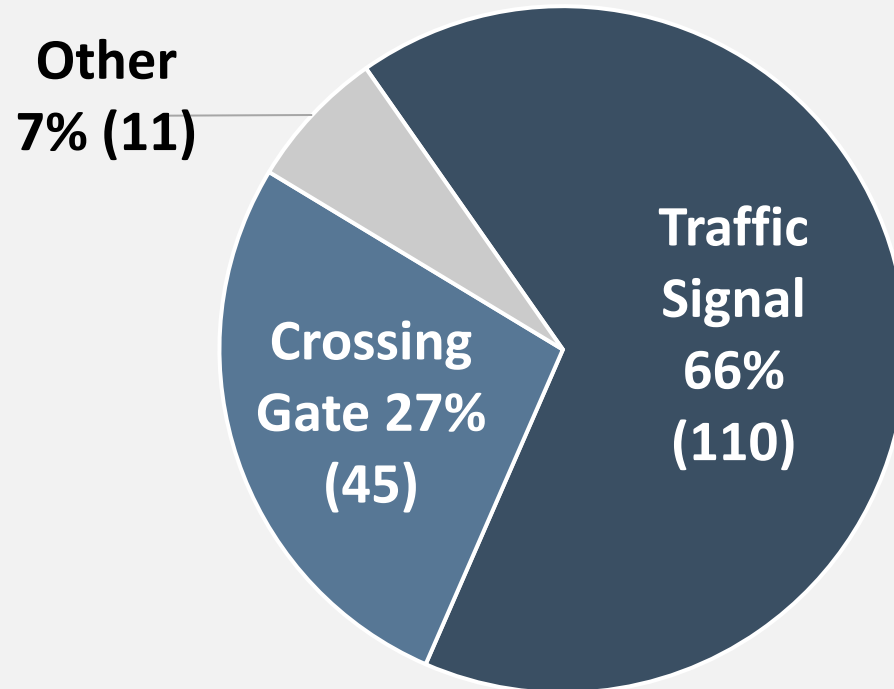
Train-to-POV Collisions by POV Direction



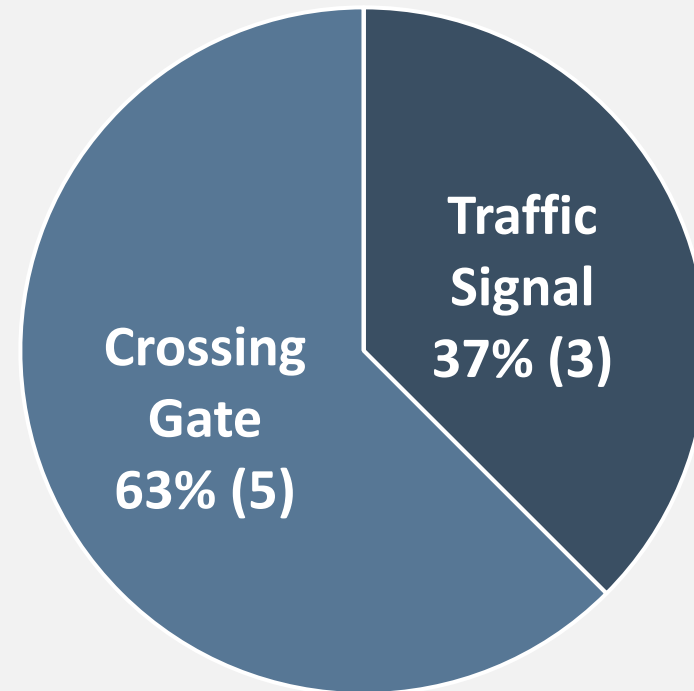
Train-to-POV at RGX Analysis Findings (2 of 2)

Of the 319 events in the analysis sample, 101 events (32%) resulted in injuries and fatalities

Injuries by Control Device

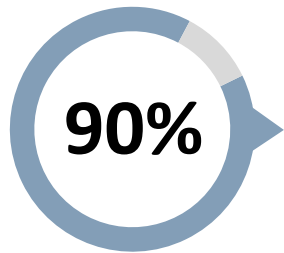


Fatalities by Control Device



Train-to-POV at RGX Causal Analysis

Of the analysis sample from 2020-2021, 214 events had supporting State Safety Oversight Reporting (SSOR) investigation reports allowing for further causal investigation.



193 events (90%) were due to **POV failure to obey signs/signals**, including:



165 (77%) POVs disregarded street-running traffic signals

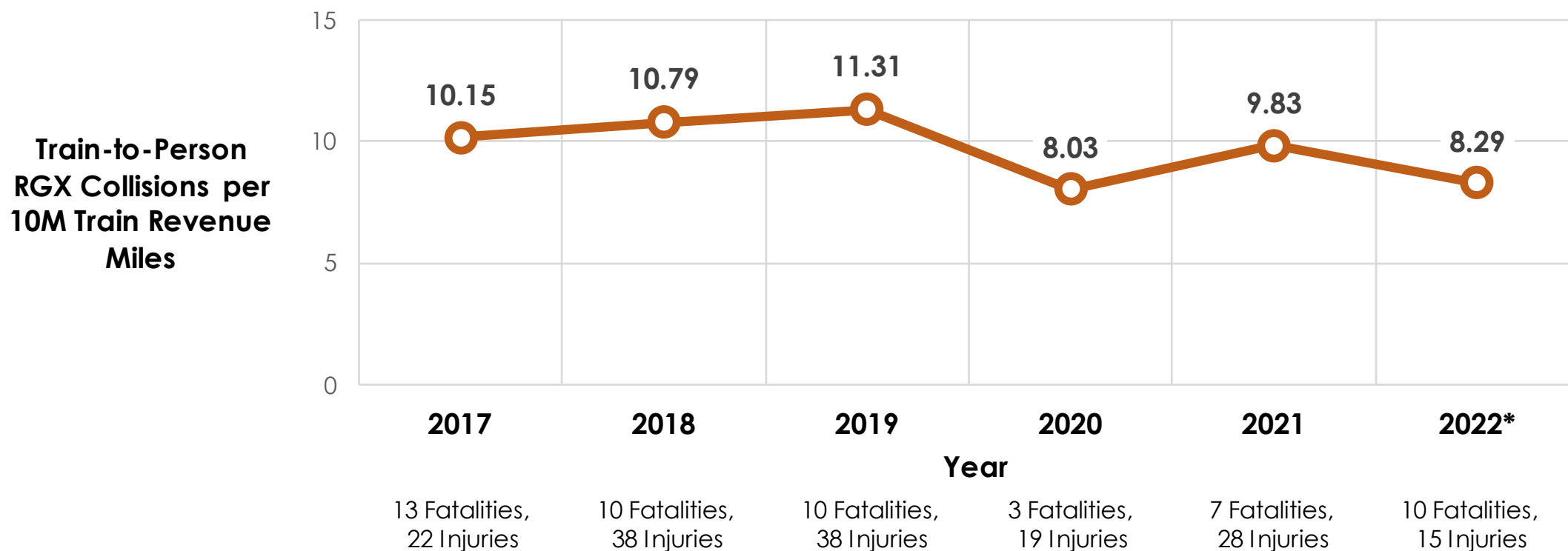


20 (9%) POVs disregarded crossing gates



8 (4%) POVs disregarded stop signs, yield signs, or flashing lights only

Train-to-Person RGX Collision Trends



Source: National Transit Database (NTD)

Data as of: May 2, 2023

**2022 data are preliminary*



Rail Grade Crossing (RGX) Collision Fatalities and Injuries

RGX Collision Fatalities and Injuries by Collision Type, 2022*



Source: National Transit Database (NTD)

Data as of: May 2, 2023

*Data are preliminary

Available Resources

FTA Safety Advisory 22-04

- Recommends transit agencies use suicide prevention signage best practices to reduce events and encourage mental health intervention bit.ly/3VUBdPo

FTA Safety Bulletin 19-03

- Includes Federal actions taken, data analysis and resources <http://bit.ly/3A0wja6>

FTA Research

- FTA Rail Transit Roadway/Pedestrian Grade Crossing Exploratory Report <http://bit.ly/3ErldfJ>

DOT Safety Action Team

- Formed in March 2022 to reduce serious and fatal injuries

FEMA Transit Security Grants

- Funding to increase transportation infrastructure safety and resilience <http://bit.ly/3TCOZnj>



Partnerships



Operation Lifesaver

- Non-profit dedicated to improving safety around railroad tracks and highway-rail grade crossings
- Competitive grant program
- <https://bit.ly/3g7XBV2>



DOT Multimodal Stop. Trains Can't. Campaign

- Reduce collisions, deaths and injuries at freight, commuter train and rail transit train crossings
- <http://bit.ly/3UmhTJb>

OLI Transit Assets

Public Service Announcements

- Safety at Rail Transit Stations
<https://vimeo.com/738764633>
- Rail Transit Crossing Safety
<https://vimeo.com/738766138>



Find these videos and a new transit brochure in English and Spanish at:
oli.org/materials

Transit Brochure and Graphics

- Transit brochure
- Social media graphics
- 8 video PSA excerpts in English and Spanish



<http://bit.ly/3UJnr0C>

Stay Connected: Subscribe to FTA Email Updates

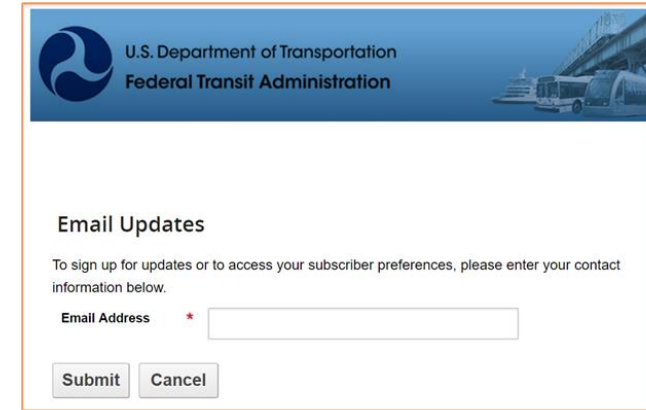
 <http://bit.ly/3hvhFkD>

Stay informed with the latest FTA news, transit industry updates and resources right to your inbox. **Subscribe today!**

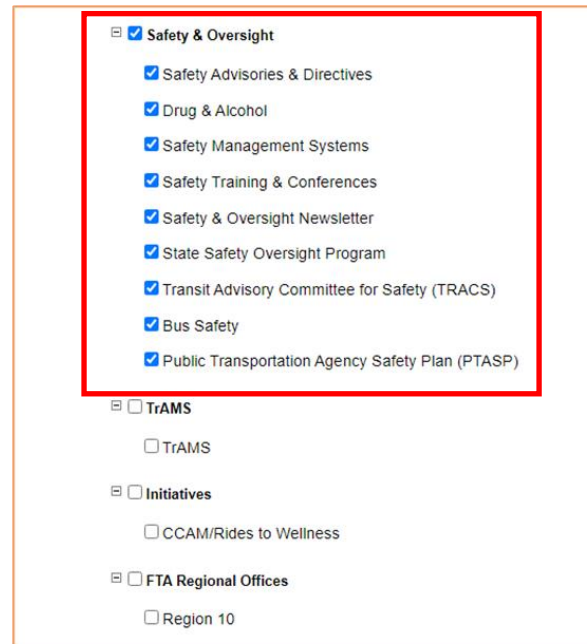


Federal Transit
Administration

*Enter your email address to receive
FTA email notifications and click
Submit.*



The screenshot shows the top of the FTA website with the U.S. Department of Transportation and Federal Transit Administration logos. Below is a section titled "Email Updates" with a subtext: "To sign up for updates or to access your subscriber preferences, please enter your contact information below." There is a text input field labeled "Email Address" with a red asterisk indicating it is required. Below the field are two buttons: "Submit" and "Cancel".



The screenshot shows a list of categories and topics for email updates. The "Safety & Oversight" category is selected and highlighted with a red box. Below it are several sub-topics, all of which are also selected. The other categories are not selected.

- ☒ **Safety & Oversight**
 - ☒ Safety Advisories & Directives
 - ☒ Drug & Alcohol
 - ☒ Safety Management Systems
 - ☒ Safety Training & Conferences
 - ☒ Safety & Oversight Newsletter
 - ☒ State Safety Oversight Program
 - ☒ Transit Advisory Committee for Safety (TRACS)
 - ☒ Bus Safety
 - ☒ Public Transportation Agency Safety Plan (PTASP)
- ☐ **TrAMS**
 - ☐ TrAMS
- ☐ **Initiatives**
 - ☐ CCAM/Rides to Wellness
- ☐ **FTA Regional Offices**
 - ☐ Region 10

Select categories and topics:

- **All in Safety & Oversight**
- **Programs: Transit Safety & Oversight**
- **News & Events: Calendar of Events**



Questions

Joe DeLorenzo

Associate Administrator for Transit Safety and
Oversight & Chief Safety Officer
Federal Transit Administration
joseph.delorenzo@dot.gov





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