

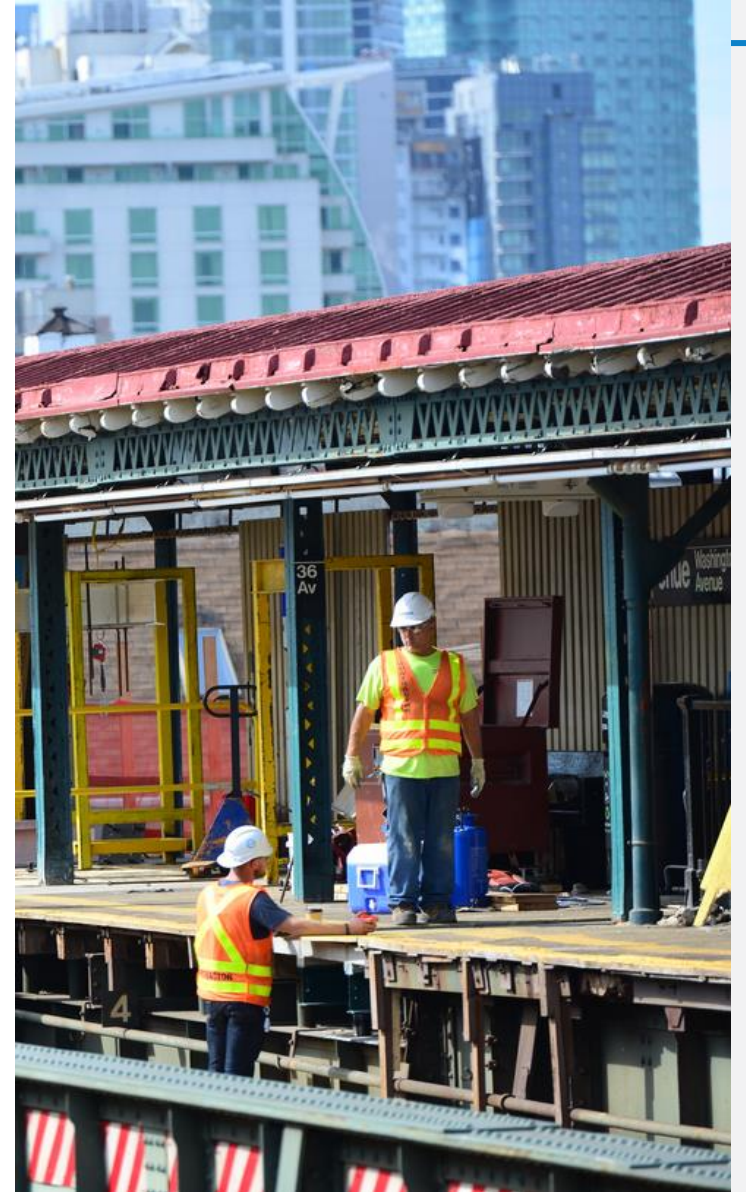
Rail Transit Roadway Worker Protection

Mia Veltri

Program Analyst, Office of Transit Safety and Oversight (TSO)
Federal Transit Administration



U.S. Department of Transportation
Federal Transit Administration



Agenda

- Why Roadway Worker Protection (RWP)?
- Recent Events
- Open National Transportation Safety Board (NTSB) Recommendations
- Safety Risk Management (SRM) of RWP
- Overview of the Notice of Proposed Rulemaking Timeline (NPRM)



Why Roadway Worker Protection?

- Rail Transit Agencies (RTAs) and jurisdictions currently manage roadway worker risks using a variety of approaches
 - For example, in California, roadway workers have been protected by General Order 175A – a statewide RWP program – since 2016
- Many existing RWP programs also include modified elements from the Federal Railroad Administration's (FRA's) RWP regulations (49 CFR Part 214)

However...

- Approaches vary and weaknesses in current programs leave workers at risk
- Roadway events resulted in **22 worker fatalities and 120 worker serious injuries** between January 2008 and October 2022

Recent Events

Events under investigation by the NTSB:



October 2022: Two Port Authority Transit Corporation (PATCO) workers were struck and killed by a revenue service vehicle traveling through a close-clearance area.



November 2023: A New York City Transit (NYCT) passenger train struck and fatally injured an NYCT employee working as a flagger on a cleaning crew of the D line near the 34th Street-Herald Square Station in Manhattan, New York.



November 2023: Two SEPTA workers were injured (one suffered serious injuries) in an incident on the tracks near the County Line Road Station along the Norristown High-Speed Line. The accident involved a vehicle performing rail tie removal work.

Open NTSB Recommendations to FTA on RWP

R-13-039	Roadway Worker Protection : Redundant protection requirement	Issue a directive to require redundant roadway worker protections
R-13-040	RWP: Lone worker requirement	Issue a directive to require review and revision of wayside worker rules to eliminate roadway worker sole authorization practices
R-14-036	RWP: Hazard training requirement	Require initial and recurring training for roadway workers in hazard recognition and mitigation
R-14-038	RWP: Rules requirement	Establish roadway worker protection rules
R-14-039	RWP: Rules requirement implementation	Once R-14-038 is completed, update the State Safety Oversight (SSO) program
R-14-040	RWP: National inspection program	Establish a national inspection program that specifically includes roadway worker activities
R-14-041	RWP Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) requirements	Require all federally funded rail transit properties to comply with OSHA health and safety standards

Safety Risk Management of RWP

To assess and mitigate roadway worker safety risks, FTA developed:



Safety Advisory 14-1 (2013) to request that SSOAs direct RTAs to

- a) inventory current practices
- b) perform a formal hazard analysis of worker's access to ROW



SRM analysis of RTA Worker Fatalities by Event Type (2008-2020) using National Transportation Database (NTD) data (used to estimate benefits for the RWP NPRM)



Additional analyses of potential roadway workplace hazards, organizational hazards, and roadway access hazards

Safety Risk Assessment and Mitigation Strategy

Overall RWP safety topic risk rating:

- **4E – Mitigation Required** due to the likelihood and severity of hazards found through the SRAs

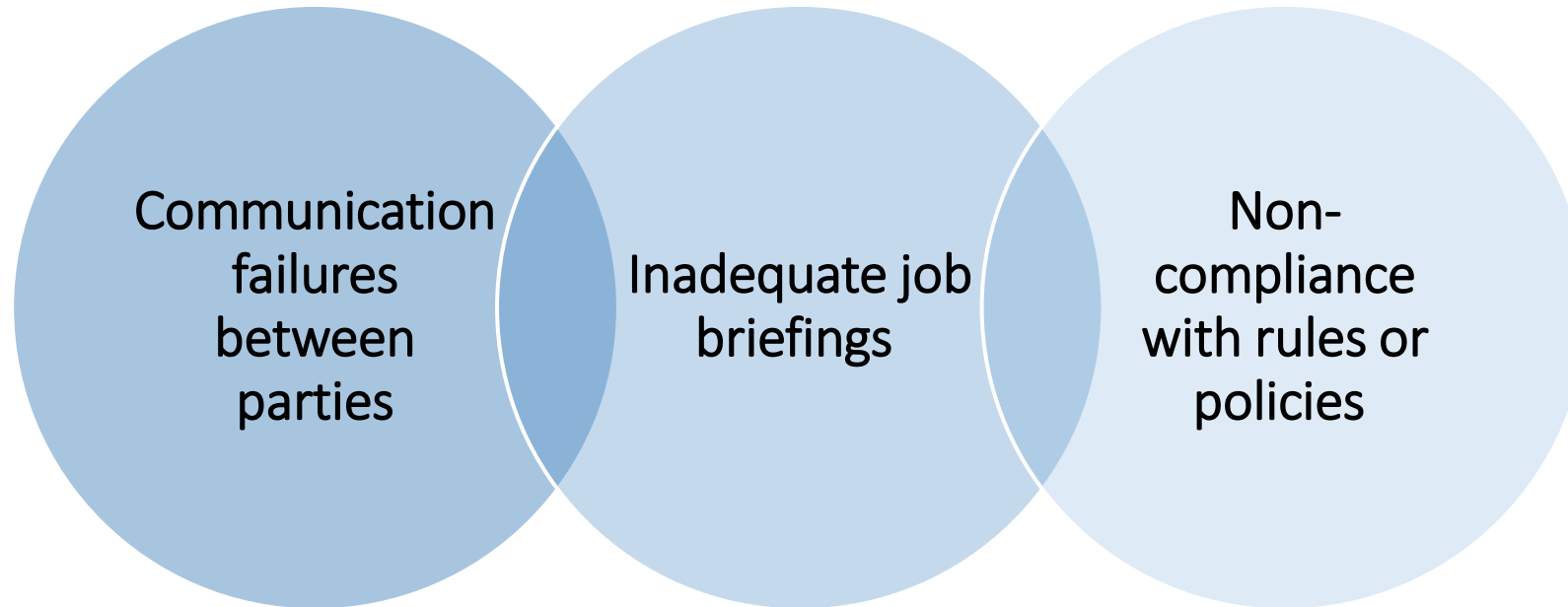
Recommended mitigation strategy:

- **Minimum safety standards** to address high number of roadway worker injuries and fatalities

Likelihood	5	Very High					Mitigation Required	Risk Rating
	4	High						
	3	Moderate				Consider Mitigation		
	2	Low	No Mitigation Required					
	1	Very Low						
			Negligible	Could cause minor first aid treatment	May cause minor injury, or minor property damage	May cause severe injury, or major property damage	May cause death or permanent injury or destruction of property	
			A	B	C	D	E	
Severity								

Common Causes for Concern

A review of close-call reports for a major U.S. RTA found that recurrent themes across reports included:



[FTA Standards Development Program: Rail Transit Roadway Worker Protection \(dot.gov\)](#)

Best Practices

An RWP program should be clearly defined by policy. Best practices may include (but are not limited to) procedures and policies on:



Overview of the Notice of Proposed Rulemaking (NPRM) Timeline

FTA published RWP NPRM
in *Federal Register*:
[FTA-2023-0024](#)

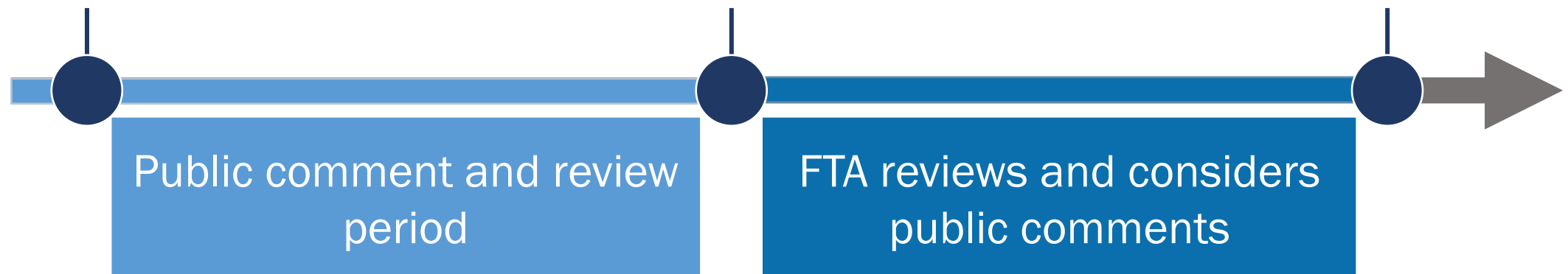
March 25, 2024

End of public review
and comment
period

May 24, 2024

FTA prepares for next
steps in accordance with
responses received

TBD



Thank you!

Mia Veltri

Margaretta.Veltri@dot.gov



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