

1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE Washington, DC 20590



Federal Transit Administration

## **SENT VIA EMAIL**

April 15, 2025

Mr. Scott Sauer Interim General Manager/Chief Executive Officer Southeastern Pennsylvania Transportation Authority 1234 Market Street, 10th Floor. Philadelphia, PA 19107

Subject: Action Plan and Implementation Schedule for Required Action FTA-24-3-003

Dear Mr. Sauer:

The Federal Transit Administration (FTA) issued Special Directive (SD) 24-3 to the Southeastern Pennsylvania Transportation Authority (SEPTA) on July 5, 2024. FTA issued SD 24-3 to direct SEPTA to address findings documented in a July 5, 2024, report on a Safety Management Inspection (SMI) of SEPTA and the Pennsylvania Department of Transportation (PennDOT). The required actions associated with Finding 3 of SD 24-3 (tracking number FTA-24-3-003) requires SEPTA to conduct an analysis of the adequacy of its training resources and submit it to FTA for review and approval. SEPTA submitted the analysis on November 1, 2024, and FTA approved it on November 5, 2024.

FTA-24-3-003 also requires SEPTA to develop an action plan and an implementation schedule to address operator training deficiencies noted by FTA. SEPTA submitted these documents on February 3, 2025. FTA has reviewed SEPTA's action plan, implementation schedule, and supporting documents and approves SEPTA's action plan and implementation schedule to address FTA-24-3-003.

## Approval of Action Plan and Implementation Schedule for Required Action FTA-24-3-003

FTA finds that SEPTA's submission demonstrates a dedicated approach to addressing the adequacy of training resources. The implementation schedule outlines clear timelines and responsible parties for each action item.

## Conclusion

SEPTA should proceed with implementing the approved plan according to the approved schedule. FTA will monitor SEPTA's progress and conduct ongoing verification activities.

The attached Evaluation Matrix includes information on some of the verification activities FTA anticipates conducting. These activities will allow FTA to comprehensively assess SEPTA's

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implementation of individual action items, ensuring they meet the commitments outlined in the action plan and implementation schedule. FTA may conduct additional verification activities as needed.

We greatly appreciate SEPTA's commitment to the safety of the SEPTA system and its transit workers and passengers. Should you have any questions, please contact Special Directive Coordinator Syed Ahmed at (202) 603-6765 or <a href="mailto:Syed-Ahmed@dot.gov">Syed-Ahmed@dot.gov</a>.

Sincerely,

Joe DeLorenzo
Associate Administrator and
Chief Safety Officer

Office of Transit Safety and Oversight

Attachment: FTA-24-3-003 Action Plan and Implementation Schedule Evaluation Matrix

cc: Ms. Sarah Powell, Deputy Chief Transformation Officer – Safety Culture, SEPTA

Mr. Brad Okoniewski, Chief Safety Officer, SEPTA

Mr. David Hunter, Deputy Chief Safety Officer - Safety Management Systems, SEPTA

Mr. Erik Johanson, Senior Director of Budgets & Transformation, SEPTA

Ms. April Dorcak, Director of Regulatory Compliance, SEPTA

Ms. Julie Bender, Director of QA/QC & Interagency Coordination, SEPTA

Mr. Gino Benedetti, General Counsel, SEPTA

Ms. Meredith Biggica, Deputy Secretary for Multimodal Transportation, PennDOT

Ms. Elizabeth Bonini, Director, State Safety Oversight Office, PennDOT

Ms. Terry Garcia Crews, Regional Administrator, FTA Region 3

Mr. Tony Tarone, Deputy Regional Administrator, FTA Region 3

Mr. David Burns, General Engineer, FTA Region 3