



U.S. Department
of Transportation

**Federal Transit
Administration**

Headquarters

1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE
Washington, DC 20590

SENT VIA EMAIL

May 7, 2025

Ms. Meredith Biggica
Deputy Secretary for Multimodal Transportation
Pennsylvania Department of Transportation
Keystone Building
400 North St., Fifth Floor
Harrisburg, PA 17120

Subject: Response to Closure Request for FTA-24-5-003 (Expedited Oversight for SEPTA's Roadway Worker Protection Program)

Dear Ms. Biggica,

On April 1, 2025, the Pennsylvania Department of Transportation (PennDOT) requested that the Federal Transit Administration (FTA) close Required Action FTA-24-5-003, which is associated with Finding 4 of Special Directive 24-5: "Required Actions to Strengthen Safety Oversight of the Southeastern Pennsylvania Transportation Authority's [(SEPTA)] Rail Transit System."

Required Action FTA-24-5-003 requires PennDOT to "conduct an audit of SEPTA's on-track safety program PennDOT must issue findings requiring corrective action as necessary and submit the audit report (and corrective actions if applicable) to the FTA for review, approval, and implementation monitoring."

Response to Closure Request

While we appreciate PennDOT's efforts in conducting a thorough and well-documented audit of SEPTA's Roadway Worker Protection program and working collaboratively with SEPTA to address the identified issues and improve safety oversight, we are unable to close this required action at this time. The required action associated with FTA-24-5-003 specifies that FTA will conduct implementation monitoring for any resulting corrective actions. As PennDOT's audit identified 13 findings of non-compliance and 18 additional safety-related items that may result in corrective action in the future, FTA will observe PennDOT's oversight of SEPTA's progress addressing the approved corrective actions.

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FTA will complete verification activities for FTA-24-5-003 and inform PennDOT when the required action is eligible for closure.

Conclusion

FTA is unable to close this required action at this time. FTA will observe PennDOT's oversight of SEPTA's progress addressing the approved corrective actions and inform PennDOT when the required action is eligible for closure.

If you have any questions, please contact Special Directive Coordinator Syed Ahmed at (202) 603-6765 or syed.ahmed@dot.gov.

We appreciate your continued cooperation and commitment to safety oversight.

Sincerely,



Joe DeLorenzo
Associate Administrator and
Chief Safety Officer
Office of Transit Safety and Oversight

cc: Elizabeth Bonini, Director, State Safety Oversight Office, PennDOT
J.M. McLaughlin, State Safety Oversight Regional Manager, PennDOT
Terry Garcia Crews, Regional Administrator, FTA Region 3
Tony Tarone, Deputy Regional Administrator, FTA Region 3
Jonathan Wohlhagen, General Engineer, FTA Region 3