

# FTA

FEDERAL TRANSIT ADMINISTRATION

## **FAST Act Review of Transit Safety Standards**

**Office of Transit Safety and Oversight  
Office of Research, Demonstration and Innovation**

**May 26, 2016**



U.S. Department of Transportation  
Federal Transit Administration

# Purpose of Webinar

This is an informational session. We will discuss the following:

- Statutory requirements
- Inventory of Transit Standards and Protocols
- Submission of public comments
- Outreach

# **“Review of Standards and Protocols” FAST Act Section 3020**

# FAST Act Requirements: Section 3020

## Review of Standards and Protocols

1. Requires the Secretary to conduct a review of the safety standards and protocols used in public transportation systems to examine the efficacy of existing standards and protocols;
2. Requires the Secretary to consult with representatives of the transit industry to evaluate the need to establish additional Federal minimum transit safety standards; and
3. Requires the Secretary to issue a Final Report on the findings of the review, with a comprehensive set of recommendations and further actions needed to improve the safety of the transit industry by establishing additional Federal minimum safety standards.

# Minimum Contents of Review

- a) Developed by the industry
- b) In use by rail fixed guideway public transportation systems
  - i. Written emergency plans and procedures for passenger evacuations
  - ii. Training programs to ensure personnel compliance and readiness in emergencies
  - iii. Scheduling of regular field exercises
  - iv. Maintenance, testing, and inspection programs
  - v. Coordination plans with local emergency responders
  - vi. Certification requirements for operators/control center personnel
  - vii. Consensus-based standards, practices, or protocols available

# Minimum Contents of Review

- c) Rail and bus safety standards, practices, or protocols:
  - i. Rail and bus design and the workstation of rail/bus operators
    - i. Reduction of blind spots
    - ii. Protection of rail and bus operators from assaults
  - ii. Scheduling with adequate time/access for operators to use restroom facilities
  - iii. Fatigue management
  - iv. Crash avoidance/crashworthiness

# Inventory of Transit Safety Standards

# What Is the Compendium?

- A method of documenting public transportation safety standards and protocols
- A tool for gathering existing standards and protocols, not identified
- An approach for gathering industry knowledge related to the efficacy of standards
- An initial step in the development of the FAST Act Report documenting existing standards, and the review and evaluation of those standards in accordance with Section 3020 (c) of the Act



# What Is the Compendium?

- Includes standards or protocols applicable to or used in transit modes listed in the NTD, including all rail and non-rail modes
- Sources:
  - Federal regulations and laws
  - State/SSO regulations and laws
  - SDO Standards
  - Industry Standards


# Compendium of Public Transportation Safety Standards

	A	B	C
	Standard Title	Mode (Potential Application)	Standard Category
1			
2	Evacuation and Rescue of Elderly and Disabled Passengers from Paratransit Vans and Buses (FTA)	All Modes	Operations
3	Disaster Recovery Institute (DRI) Professional Practices for Business Continuity	All Modes	Operations
4	Federal Emergency Management Agency - National Incident Management System (NIMS)	All Modes	Operations
5	Federal Emergency Management Agency - Incident Command System (ICS)	All Modes	Operations

Mode Definition: BUS MODE, RAIL MODE, OTHER MODES, ALL MODES

# Compendium of Public Transportation Safety Standards

	F	G	H
1	<b>Standard Development Entity</b> <b>Federal Agency / Standard Development Organization / State / State Safety Oversight Agency / Industry</b>	<b>Standard Type</b>	<b>Link</b>
2	Federal Agency Federal Transit Administration	Guide	<a href="https://www.fta.dot.gov/regulations-and-guidance/safety/publications">https://www.fta.dot.gov/regulations-and-guidance/safety/publications</a>
3	Industry Association Disaster Recovery Institute	Guide	<a href="https://www.drii.org/certification/professionalprac.php?lang=EN">https://www.drii.org/certification/professionalprac.php?lang=EN</a>
4	Federal Agency Federal Emergency Management Agency	Guide	<a href="https://www.fema.gov/national-incident-management-system">https://www.fema.gov/national-incident-management-system</a>
5	Federal Agency Federal Emergency Management Agency	Guide	<a href="https://www.fema.gov/incident-command-system-resources">https://www.fema.gov/incident-command-system-resources</a>


Mode Definitions
BUS MODE
RAIL MODE
OTHER MODES
ALL MODES

# Compendium of Public Transportation Safety Standards

	G	H	I
1	Standard Type	Link	Standard Description
2	Guide	<a href="https://www.fta.dot.gov/regulations-and-guidance/safety/publications">https://www.fta.dot.gov/regulations-and-guidance/safety/publications</a>	Effective methods and equipment useful in evacuating those persons with insufficient ability to manage self-evacuation. It also identifies accident rates for various vehicles, a study of vehicle characteristics, and needed equipment. Not available electronically on FTA website.
3	Guide	<a href="https://www.drii.org/certification/professionalprac.php?lang=EN">https://www.drii.org/certification/professionalprac.php?lang=EN</a>	Provides a 10 step guideline for developing and implementing a business continuity program that includes risk analysis, emergency response, training, exercises, audits, communications and coordination with external agencies. Referenced on FEMA website. DRI also provides
4	Guide	<a href="https://www.fema.gov/national-incident-management-system">https://www.fema.gov/national-incident-management-system</a>	The National Incident Management System (NIMS) is a systematic, proactive approach to guide departments and agencies at all levels of government, nongovernmental organizations, and the private sector to work together seamlessly and manage incidents involving all threats and hazards—regardless of cause, size, location, or complexity—in order to reduce loss of life, property and harm to the environment. FEMA also provides online training resources.
5	Guide	<a href="https://www.fema.gov/incident-command-system-resources">https://www.fema.gov/incident-command-system-resources</a>	The Incident Command System (ICS) is a management system designed to enable effective and efficient domestic incident management by integrating a combination of facilities, equipment, personnel, procedures, and communications operating within a common organizational structure. FEMA also provides online training resources.

# Vehicle Standard Subcategories

- Vehicle Components and Passenger Equipment Safety Standards
- Vehicle Crashworthiness
- Vehicle Interface/Communication Systems
- Vehicle Safety Standards (not related to design or construction)

# Infrastructure and Related Items

## Subcategories

- Fixed Structures (includes elevators and escalator safety standards and recommended practices)
- Bridge Safety Standards
- Track and Roadbed
- Signals and Grade Crossings

# Operational Standards

- Operating Rules and Practices
- Personnel Communications/Communication Procedures
- Standards and Practices for Route Planning/Scheduling

# Personnel Standards

- Operator and Fatigue Management
- Hours of Service Standards
- Worker/Workplace Safety
- Qualifications and Certifications of Operators and Engineers
- Medical Examination Certification
- Drug and Alcohol Testing
- Training and Certifications



# Asset Management Standards

- Preventative Maintenance
- Maintenance Recordkeeping
- Vehicle Safety Inspections

# Emergency/Incident Management Standards

- Emergency Preparedness/Management (drills and exercises)
- Accident/Incident Investigation
- Accident/Incident Reporting and Data Collection
- Continuity of Operations (system recovery)

# Example: Industry Standard

Reflects APTA's Bus Transit System Standards

They are vehicle standards related to vehicle components and passenger equipment, specific to bus brake and chassis systems

They are recommended practices

	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H
	Standard Title	Mode (Potential Application)	Standard Category	Standard Sub-Category	Standard Sub-Functional Category	Standard Development Entity Federal Agency / Standard Development Organization / State / State Safety Oversight Agency / Industry	Standard Type	Link
1								
2	APTA Bus Transit System Standards (Bus Brake and Chassis System)	Bus Modes	Vehicle Standards	Vehicle Components and Passenger Equipment	Bus Brake and Chassis System	Standard Development Organization American Public Transportation Association	Recommended Practices	<a href="http://www.apta.com/resources/standards/bus/Pages/default.aspx">http://www.apta.com/resources/standards/bus/Pages/default.aspx</a>

Applicable to the bus mode

Source is APTA

# Example: State Standard

Identifies Florida's standard for rollover crashworthiness assessments of cutaway buses

It is a vehicle standard related to crashworthiness, and the focus is structural integrity

	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H
	Standard Title	Mode (Potential Application)	Standard Category	Standard Sub-Category	Standard Sub-Functional Category	Standard Development Entity Federal Agency / Standard Development Organization / State / State Safety Oversight Agency / Industry	Standard Type	Link
1 110	Rollover Crashworthiness Assessment for Cutaway Buses Acquired by the State of Florida (FL-Standard)	Bus Modes	Vehicle Standards	Vehicle Crashworthiness	Structural Integrity	State of Florida	Standards	<a href="http://www.nrd.nhtsa.dot.gov/pdf/esv/esv21/09-0261.pdf">http://www.nrd.nhtsa.dot.gov/pdf/esv/esv21/09-0261.pdf</a>

Applicable to the bus mode

Source is Florida's DOT

# Public Evaluation and Comment

# Your Input is Critical

- Compile all applicable standards
- Prioritize transit safety standards
- Establish the effectiveness of standards
- Ensure the thoroughness of the FAST Act review and analyses performed
- Support future standard development activities

# Questions in the Federal Register Notice

- Are there standards not reflected for which you must observe/comply?
- Are these mandated by a Federal or state agency, SSOA, regional body or other?
- Do you have observations or data driven evidence demonstrating the effectiveness of any of these standards?
- Are there specific areas of concern for which FTA should establish minimum standards?
- Are there modes or specific areas of risk that require heightened focus from FTA?

# Questions in the Federal Register Notice

- If standards were established based on risk, how should those areas of risk and any related standards be prioritized?
- Should standards be based on the exposure of the mode, number, or rate of injuries or fatalities?
- Are there standards not reflected in the Compendium that should be evaluated by FTA?
- Are you aware of standards within other industries that could be used in the public transportation industry to reduce risks?



# Questions in the Federal Register Notice

- Are you aware of existing safety standards that may address any of these areas of risk? If so, please identify each standard by its reference and source.
  - Reduce blind spots
  - Protect rail and bus operators from assaults
  - Allow sufficient time within route schedules for operators to use restroom facilities

# Learn More

- Transit Safety Standards Website
  - <https://www.transit.dot.gov/regulations-and-guidance/safety/transit-safety-standards>
- Compendium of Transit Safety Standards
  - <https://www.transit.dot.gov/regulations-and-guidance/safety/compendium-transit-safety-standards>
- FAST Act Review of Transit Safety Standards Webinar PowerPoint
  - <https://www.transit.dot.gov/regulations-and-guidance/safety/fast-act-review-transit-safety-standards>

# Submitting Public Comments

- The Federal Register Notice for Comment can be found here: <https://federalregister.gov/a/2016-11585>
- Comments must be made on or before **June 16, 2016**
- Public comments must identify the following information:

Federal Transit Administration

Compendium of Public Transportation Safety Standards

Docket Number: FTA-2016-0024

# Submitting Public Comments

- **Electronically:** <http://www.regulations.gov>
- **U.S. Mail:**
  - Docket Operations
  - USDOT
  - 1200 New Jersey Avenue SE,
  - West Building
  - Room W12-140
  - Washington, DC 20590-0001
- **Hand Deliver:** Docket Operations in Room W12-140 of the West Building, Ground Floor, at 1200 New Jersey Avenue SE, Washington, DC (M-F, 9:00 am – 5:00 pm)
- **Fax:** 202-493-2251

# Comments

- Please direct comments to:

Brian Alberts  
Lead Program Analyst  
Office of Transit Safety and Oversight  
[Brian.Alberts@dot.gov](mailto:Brian.Alberts@dot.gov)

Raj Wagley  
Senior Engineer  
Office of Research, Demonstration, and Innovation  
[Raj.Wagley@dot.gov](mailto:Raj.Wagley@dot.gov)