



FEDERAL TRANSIT ADMINISTRATION

Public Transportation Agency Safety Plan Informational Guidance | Roles & Responsibilities 5/30/19

Background

FTA and FHWA published the final rule on Statewide and Nonmetropolitan Transportation Planning and Metropolitan Transportation Planning on May 27, 2016. On July 19, 2018, FTA published the Public Transportation Agency Safety Plan (PTASP) Final Rule, which requires certain operators of public transportation systems that receive federal funds under FTA's Urbanized Area Formula Grants to develop safety plans that include the processes and procedures to implement Safety Management Systems (SMS). The rule applies to all operators of public transportation systems that are recipients and sub-recipients of federal financial assistance under the Urbanized Area Formula Program (49 U.S.C. § 5307) and all rail transit operator recipients. FTA is deferring applicability of this requirement for operators that only receive funds through FTA's Enhanced Mobility of Seniors and Individuals with Disabilities Formula Program (Section 5310) and/or Rural Area Formula Program (Section 5311).

Metropolitan Planning Agreements

MPOs should initiate discussions with transit agencies, state DOTs and planning partners to update their Metropolitan Planning Agreements, per 23 C.F.R. § 450.314. This presents an opportunity for the MPO and its planning partners to clarify roles and responsibilities for developing and sharing performance data, setting performance targets, reporting of targets, and tracking progress towards meeting targets, through a formal agreement.

Establish Transit Safety Targets for Metropolitan Planning Areas

The MPO is required to set performance targets for each performance measure, per 23 C.F.R. § 450.306. Those performance targets must be established 180 days after the transit agency established their performance targets. Transit agencies are required to set their safety performance targets by July 20, 2020. In accordance with 49 U.S.C. 5303(h)(2)(B) and 5304(d)(2)(B), each State and transit agency must make its safety performance targets available to States and Metropolitan Planning Organizations to aid in the planning process. 49 C.F.R. § 673.15(b) requires, to the maximum extent practicable, a State or transit agency to coordinate with States and Metropolitan Planning Organizations in the selection of State and MPO safety performance targets.

Performance Measures in Transportation Improvement Programs (TIP) and Metropolitan Transportation Plans

MPOs are required to reference the safety performance targets and agency safety plans in their TIPs and Metropolitan Transportation Plans updated or amended after July 20, 2021. The planning products must include a description of the performance measures and performance targets used in assessing the performance of the transportation system, for transit asset management, safety, and the FHWA performance measures. This should also include, to the maximum extent practicable, a description of the anticipated effect of the TIP toward achieving the performance targets identified in the metropolitan transportation plan, linking investment priorities to those performance targets.



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Timeline for Public Transportation Agency Safety Plan

July 19, 2018:

- Public Transportation Agency Safety Plan (PTASP) Final Rule is published

July 20, 2019:

- PTASP Final Rule becomes effective

July 20, 2020:

- Transit providers subject to the PTASP final rule are required to have their certified agency safety plans in place, which includes safety performance targets, and share the targets with their MPO and State
- For small public transportation providers, a State must certify compliance unless the provider opts to draft and certify its own agency safety plan.

January 20, 2021 (or no more than 180 days after receipt of the agency safety plan from public transportation providers):

- MPOs are required to set their initial transit safety targets

July 20, 2021:

- Specific written provisions for the transit safety measure are jointly agreed upon and adopted by the MPO(s), State(s), and providers of public transportation
- The MPO reflects the transit safety measures and targets in all MTPs and TIPs updated or amended after this date