# FTA

# Experiences in Developing an Agency Safety Plan (ASP)

# November 21, 2019

U.S. Department of Transportation
**Federal Transit Administration**

# Webinar Overview

- Panelist Introductions

- Safety Management Policy and Safety Promotion

- Employee Safety Reporting Programs

- Safety Risk Management and Assurance

- Lessons Learned

- Questions

FTA
FEDERAL TRANSIT ADMINISTRATION

# Ronald (Ron) Ester
# Chief Safety & Security Officer
# Chicago Transit Authority

- A multi-modal transit system that operates fixed-route bus and rail transit services

- Operates the nation's second largest public transportation system and the third busiest heavy-rail transit system in the country

- On an average weekday, 1.6 million rides are taken on Chicago Transit Authority (CTA)

- CTA serves 35 suburbs, in addition to the City of Chicago

- Provides 81% of the public transit trips in the six-county Chicago metropolitan area

- 1864 buses that operates 129 routes and 1536 route miles

- 1492 rail cars that operates eight routes and 224.1 miles of track with two routes operating 24 hour service every day

FTA
FEDERAL TRANSIT ADMINISTRATION

# James (Jim) Hickey
## Section Manager
## Illinois Department of Transportation

- Effective July 1, 2016 IDOT assumed all State Safety Oversight Agency (SSOA) responsibilities from the Regional Transportation Authority with regards to oversight of CTA

- On January 1, 2017 IDOT assumed all SSOA responsibilities from the St. Clair County Transit District with regards to MetroLink

- On August 29, 2018 IDOT became FTA-approved and certified SSO Program

# Josh McCormack
## Director, Light Rail Link Operations
## Maryland Department of Transportation
## Maryland Transit Administration

- The Maryland Transit Administration (MTA) is a division of the Maryland Department of Transportation

- MTA is one of the largest multi-modal transit systems in the United States. MTA operates Local Buses (CityLink and LocalLink), Commuter Buses, Light RailLink, Metro SubwayLink, Maryland Area Regional Commuter (MARC) Train Service, and a comprehensive Paratransit (MobilityLink) system

- MTA also manages the Taxi Access system, and directs funding and statewide assistance to Locally Operated Transit Systems (LOTS) in each of Maryland's 23 counties, Baltimore City, Annapolis and Ocean City

- Our Mission is to provide safe, efficient and reliable transit across Maryland with world-class customer service

# Timothy (Tim) Tyran
# Chief Safety Officer
# Maryland Department of Transportation
# Maryland Transit Administration

- Six Modes of Transportation
- ~100 million rides a year
  - Local Bus: 66.3 million
  - Metro: 10.2 million
  - MARC Train: 9.2 million
  - Light Rail: 7.2 million
  - Commuter Bus: 3.8 million
  - Mobility: 2.9 million

- 12th largest transit system in US
  - 5th largest commuter bus system
  - 6th largest paratransit system
  - 11th largest local bus system
- Oversees $140 million in funding and technical assistance to Locally Operated Transit Systems

# Public Transportation Agency Safety Plans (PTASP) Regulation at 49 C.F.R. Part 673

- Innovative approach to improving transit safety:
  - Based on Safety Management System (SMS) principles and methods
  - Risk and performance-based
  - Flexible and scalable
- Compliance deadline: <u>July 20, 2020</u>

# SAFETY MANAGEMENT POLICY AND
# SAFETY PROMOTION

# Safety Management Policy Requirements

- Safety **management** policy, <u>not all safety policy</u>

- Include information **relevant to** developing and carrying out the **other SMS components**

- Consider how you will **develop**, **maintain,** and **make available** required documents

**§ 673.23**

a) Written statement, with safety objectives

b) Employee safety reporting program

c) Safety management policy communication

d) Authorities, accountabilities, and responsibilities

# Safety Promotion Requirements

- Includes **all safety topics**, not just safety management

- **Separate requirement** from the Public Transportation Safety Certification Training Program rule at 49 C.F.R. Part 672

  – No requirements for bus transit in Part 672

**§ 673.29**

a)   Competencies and training

b)   Safety communication

# EMPLOYEE SAFETY REPORTING PROGRAM

# Employee Safety Reporting Program
## § 673.23(b)

- Must establish and implement a process that allows **all employees**—including relevant contract employees—to **report safety conditions to senior management**

- Intended to help the Accountable Executive and other senior managers get important safety information from across the transit agency

- The program can be an agency's most important source of information

- Part 673 does not specify which methods should be used—transit agencies may consider:



- Hotline
- Paper form
- Safety meetings or toolbox talks

- SharePoint site or form
- Phone or tablet app
- Third party information collection service

FEDERAL TRANSIT ADMINISTRATION

# SAFETY RISK MANAGEMENT AND ASSURANCE

FEDERAL TRANSIT ADMINISTRATION

# Safety Risk Management Definition

- Enables a **proactive approach** to managing safety

- Helps **allocate resources to** areas of **highest safety risk** and/or unacceptable safety risk

**§ 673.5 Definitions**

*Safety Risk Management* means a process within a transit agency's Public Transportation Agency Safety Plan for **identifying hazards** and **analyzing, assessing, and mitigating safety risk**

# Safety Assurance Definition

- Processes for the **collection, analysis, and assessment of information**

- Help to ensure:

  - Safeguards are in place and *actually* effective

  - Early identification of potential safety issues

  - Safety objectives are met

> ## § 673.5 Definitions
>
> *Safety Assurance* means processes within a transit agency's Safety Management System that function to ensure the implementation and effectiveness of safety risk mitigation, and to ensure that the transit agency meets or exceeds its safety objectives through the collection, analysis, and assessment of information

# LESSONS LEARNED

# PTASP RESOURCES

FEDERAL TRANSIT ADMINISTRATION

# Overview

- **Now open!**
  - TAC launched on October 14, 2019
- **PTASP TAC Goal:**
  - Provide comprehensive technical assistance to help the transit industry meet Public Transportation Agency Safety Plan (PTASP) regulation requirements at 49 C.F.R. Part 673
- **Who is it for?**
  - Bus and rail transit providers, large and small
  - State Departments of Transportation (DOTs)
  - State Safety Oversight Agencies (SSOAs)

**www.transit.dot.gov/ PTASP-TAC**
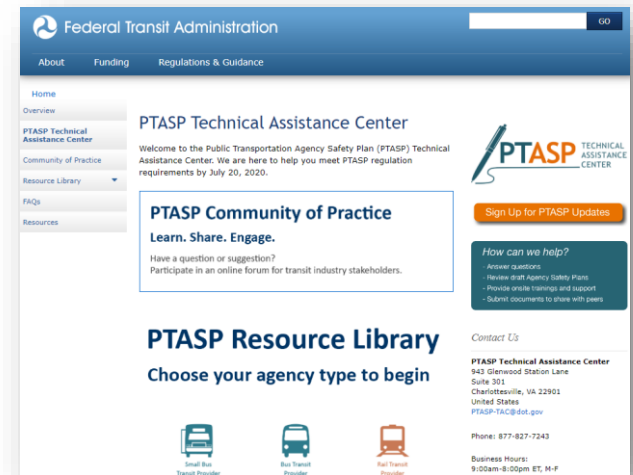
# PTASP TAC Components

## Community of Practice

- Online discussion forums to ask questions, share ideas and documents, and engage with posts
- Quick sign-up process to post
- Optional alerts when others post

## Resource Library

- Voluntary technical assistance materials organized by agency type
- Hosted on FTA's website
- Updated with new materials, based on industry needs

## One-on-One Technical Assistance

- Agency Safety Plan (ASP) reviews
- Help desk to answer questions and schedule assistance
  - Staffed 9am-8pm ET, M-F, with a dedicated phone number, email and mailing address

## Onsite Technical Assistance

- Onsite training
- Targeted onsite assistance
- Prioritized based on agency type, ASP development status, and identified needs

# Community of Practice

**Peer-to-peer sharing**

- Provides an opportunity to ask questions and request resources directly from agencies with similar characteristics or those facing similar issues/challenges.

**How it works**

- Post a question, comment, or idea, or offer or request a resource.

- Posts are moderated by FTA during business hours.

- Feel free to review "threads"– questions, comments, or ideas that others have posted.

Learn. Share. Engage.

# Resource Library

- Centralized location for voluntary technical assistance resources
- Organized by agency type and topic category
  - Categories align with PTASP requirements at 49 C.F.R. Part 673 for convenience
- Updated resources include:
  - Fact Sheets
  - Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)
  - Materials from FTA's recent workshops
  - Tools and checklists
  - Training
  - Peer materials and examples



**PTASP Resource Library**

**Choose your agency type to begin**

Small Bus Transit Provider

Bus Transit Provider

Rail Transit Provider

State Department of Transportation

State Safety Oversight Agency

Metropolitan Planning Organization

www.transit.dot.gov/PTASP-TAC

FEDERAL TRANSIT ADMINISTRATION

# Links and Contact Information

**Technical Assistance Center**

- www.transit.dot.gov/PTASP-TAC

**PTASP Community of Practice**

- www.transit.dot.gov/PTASP-COP

**Frequently Asked Questions**

- www.transit.dot.gov/PTASP-FAQs

transit.dot.gov/PTASP-TAC

1 - 877 - 827 - 7243

PTASP-TAC@dot.gov

PTASP Technical Assistance Center
943 Glenwood Station Lane, Suite 301
Charlottesville, VA 22901

# PARTICIPANT QUESTIONS

FEDERAL TRANSIT ADMINISTRATION