



### Biweekly Update Week of November 25, 2019

## Learn. Share. Engage.

The PTASP Technical Assistance Center (TAC) conducted outreach calls to all State Departments of Transportation (DOT) to talk about the resources and technical assistance available to support development of Agency Safety Plans (ASPs) for their small public transportation providers. Next month, the TAC will focus on calling small and large bus transit providers, State Safety Oversight Agencies, and rail transit agencies.

## **Featured Resources**

The following fact sheets highlight requirements for ASPs:

Developing the Safety Management Policy Component of a Public Transportation Agency Safety Plan

Developing the Safety Risk Management Component of a Public Transportation Agency Safety Plan

Developing the Safety Promotion Component of a Public Transportation Agency Safety Plan

FTA presented the following webinars to discuss PTASP requirements:

June 13, 2019 - Safety Risk Management - <u>Webinar</u> Presentation and <u>Webinar Recording</u>

July 11, 2019 - Safety Assurance - <u>Webinar</u> <u>Presentation</u> and <u>Webinar Recording</u>

July 31, 2019 - Employee Safety Reporting Programs Webinar Presentation and Webinar Recording

Access the entire library by visiting FTA's <u>PTASP</u> <u>Technical Assistance Center website</u>.

#### Need Assistance?

Contact a PTASP Specialist today!

PTASP-TAC@dot.gov

1-87 PTASP-AID 1 (877) 827-7243

#### **Resources for State DOTs**

Visit the <u>State DOT Resource</u> <u>Library</u> to find materials to help develop ASPs for small public transportation providers, including fact sheets, templates, and webinar slides and recordings.

#### Get Involved

What are your milestones for the development of your ASP by the July 20, 2020 compliance deadline? We want to hear from you!

Share your agency's ASP

<u>milestones</u> and learn from your transit agency peers in the PTASP Community of Practice. Start the conversation today to support your ASP development.

Join in





# Q & A Highlights

#### Question 1:

Do you have a template "opt-out" letter for transit agencies to submit to their State DOTs?

#### **FTA Response:**

FTA has not published a template; however, FTA encourages State DOTs to work with small public transportation providers to document this notification in a formal letter. The letter may notify Upcoming TSO Speaking Event:

APTA 2019 Mid-Year Safety Seminar (Seattle, WA) December 3, 2019

Seminar Website

the State DOT that the provider will develop and certify an ASP to address Part 673 and guide the implementation of its Safety Management System (SMS). The letter also may indicate that the Accountable Executive will sign the ASP and the Board of Directors (or Equivalent Authority) will approve it. The letter may confirm the provider understands that it will conduct an annual review and update of the ASP. Finally, the letter may explain that the ASP will include the provider's safety performance targets and that it will also make them available to States and Metropolitan Planning Organizations (MPO), and the provider will coordinate with the State and MPO in the selection of State and MPO safety performance targets, to the maximum extent practicable.

#### Question 2:

Is there a penalty for State DOTs if agencies that have opted-out in writing do not complete their ASP by the July 20, 2020, deadline?

#### **FTA Response:**

If a small public transportation provider opts-out of the State-develop ASP, the State DOT is not responsible for completing the ASP for that provider. Transit agencies that opt to develop their own ASPs will certify compliance using FTA's annual Certifications and Assurances process. While there are no immediate penalties associated with missing the certification deadline, the certification will be required to ensure the transit agency is eligible to receive Section 5307 funds. FTA is currently developing guidance on the PTASP certification requirement and will make that guidance available shortly.

#### Question 3:

Does our State DOT have to develop an ASP for a transit agency from another state that is providing service within our state?

#### **FTA Response:**

No. For a small public transportation provider, the location of the provider's headquarters determines which State is responsible for developing the provider's ASP.

The guidance in this document is not legally binding in its own right and will not be relied upon by the Federal Transit Administration as a separate basis for affirmative enforcement action or other administrative penalty. Compliance with the guidance in this document (as distinct from existing statutes and regulations) is voluntary only, and noncompliance will not affect rights and obligations under existing statutes and regulations.