



U.S. Department of Transportation
Federal Transit Administration

APTA Mobility Conference

FTA Updates on the Federal Mask Requirement

March 17, 2021



FTA's Update on the Federal Mask Requirement

FEDERAL TRANSPORTATION MASK MANDATE

On January 21, 2021, President Biden issued E.O. 13998, “to save lives and allow all Americans, including the millions of people employed in the transportation industry, to travel and work safely,” requiring immediate Federal action to mandate masks on public forms of transportation, including transit.

- The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) issued an Order on January 29, 2021, implementing E.O. 13988, to require transit agencies to use their best efforts to ensure that persons wear masks while boarding and alighting a transit vehicle, for the duration of a transit trip, and within a transit facility.
- In addition, the Transportation Security Administration (TSA) issued a Security Directive enforcing the CDC Order on January 31, 2021.

FTA's Response

- FTA Master Agreement
- FTA Industry Engagement to Support Adoption and Implementation
- FTA Transit Operator Training
- FTA Regional Support
- FTA Federal Mask Requirement Resources



FTA Master Agreement

- On February 9, 2021, FTA issued an amendment to its Master Agreement to incorporate the requirements of the CDC Mask Order. FTA's Master Agreement contains the standard terms and conditions that apply to every grant, cooperative agreement and loan authorized by federal public transportation law or administered by FTA.
- The Master Agreement, Section 49 specifically:
 - Asserts FTA's agreement to comply with the CDC Mask Order and to ensure that all of its subrecipients will comply with the Order.
 - Acknowledges FTA may take enforcement action for non-compliance with the CDC Mask Order.

FTA Industry Engagement to Support Adoption and Implementation

- Nearly **2,900** stakeholders attended these events.
- FTA received over **400** clarifying questions and follow-up emails about the mask requirement.
- FTA generated **17** new FAQs to support the implementation of the mask requirement.



Nuria Fernandez

FTA Acting Administrator Nuria Fernandez hosted a series of calls every Tuesday during February to transit industry stakeholders to support implementation of the mask requirements, including one interactive roundtable discussion where representatives from national labor unions and key officials from transit agencies nationwide took part in a discussion of best practices and best solutions.



FTA Transit Operator Training

- FTA made available a virtual training with the National Transit Institute at Rutgers University for transit bus operators on assault awareness and prevention.
- On February 26, 2021 NTI released a recorded course video to accommodate demand and provide 24/7 access to this training.
 - <https://bit.ly/3bFufZk>
- As of March 12, 2021 eight course offerings have been provided and more than 520 individuals have completed the training.



Federal Mask Requirement Resources

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/communication/social-media-toolkit.html>

www.transit.dot.gov/TransitMaskUp



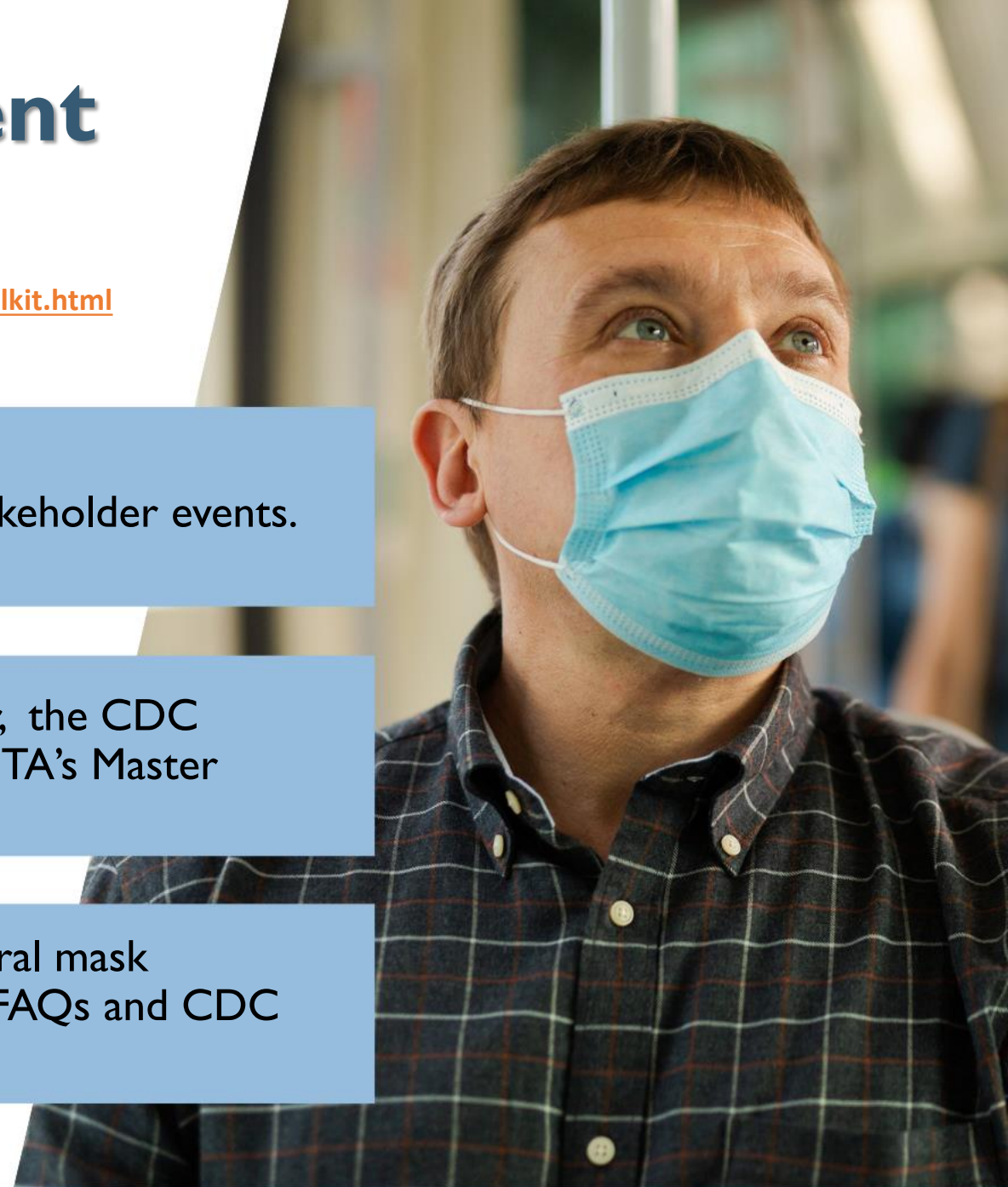
Recordings and transcripts of all of our stakeholder events.



Links the Administration's Executive Order, the CDC Mask Order, TSA's Security Directive and FTA's Master Agreement Amendment.



A comprehensive list of FAQs on the Federal mask requirement, along with links DOT modal FAQs and CDC and TSA FAQs.



Questions?

Send questions about the
Federal mask
requirement to:

TransitMaskUp@dot.gov

