# Learn. Share. Engage.

This issue of the PTASP TAC Update focuses on recent questions from transit agencies about the Public Transportation Agency Safety Plan (PTASP) regulation (49 CFR Part 673).

# Featured Resources

**New!** The Rail and Bus Safety Data Reports illustrate rail and bus transit safety outcomes and present trends and patterns in safety event data. The national data in these reports may help agencies as they review and update their Safety Performance Targets (SPTs).

The Agency Safety Plan (ASP) Review Process offers an example of how an agency might choose to review their ASP. (This article originally appeared in the April 2021 *TSO Spotlight*.)

Carrying Out the Annual ASP Review (April 29, 2021): Webinar Presentation | Webinar Recording

Access the entire TAC Resource Library by visiting FTA's PTASP TAC website.
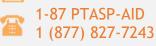
# Q & A Highlights

**Question 1:**

What training is available on Safety Management Systems (SMS)?

**FTA Response:**

FTA sponsors several free courses through the Transportation Safety Institute (TSI), such as the e-Learning course **SMS Awareness** and the virtual courses **SMS Principles for Transit** and **SMS Safety Assurance**. (See the Fiscal Year 2022 training schedule here.) SMS resources are also available in the PTASP TAC Resource Library.

## Need Assistance?

Contact the PTASP **Technical Assistance Center (TAC)** to speak with a specialist today!

PTASP-TAC@dot.gov

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

**9 a.m. to 8 p.m. EST, M-F**

Contact the TAC for **one-on-one technical sessions** for ASP support.

## ASP Implementation Workshop Recorded Version

The recorded version of the workshop and its accompanying Participant Workbook are available in the TAC Resource Library.

## Revisit Past Webinars

Looking for past webinars? Check out the PTASP webinars page.

## Question 2:

What resources are available to help agencies develop their emergency preparedness and response plans?

**FTA Response:**

FTA has worked with the American Public Transportation Association to develop voluntary standards and recommended practices that focus on emergency procedures, such as:

- Rail Transit Agency Emergency Management Requirements
- Transit Incident Drills and Exercises
- Emergency Communication Strategies for Transit Agencies

FTA also offers the **Effectively Managing Transit Emergencies** course through TSI.

Per § 673.11(a)(6), each emergency preparedness and response plan should address, at a minimum:

- Assignment of employee responsibilities, as necessary and appropriate, during an emergency;
- Integration of responses to all hazards, as appropriate; and
- Processes for coordination with Federal, State, Regional, and local officials with roles and responsibilities for emergency preparedness and response in the transit agency's service area.

## Question 3:

Our agency is currently reviewing and updating our ASP. Which sections of the ASP should we expect to update?

**FTA Response:**

Agencies will update their ASPs based on their specific circumstances. Some examples of items to review and update include the following (note, this list is NOT exhaustive):

- Processes that no longer reflect the agency's operating reality;
- System characteristics that have changed in a way that may impact the content or language of the ASP;
- New or modified SMS processes, policies, or procedures;
- Safety Performance Targets that may need to be updated; and
- Changes made due to continuous improvement activities.

Note that rail transit agencies must make sure their processes align with their State Safety Oversight Agency Program Standard requirements.