

# What States & Transit Agencies Need to Know: FTA Safety Programs

August 30, 2022



#### **Angela Dluger**

Deputy Associate Administrator, Transit Safety and Oversight

Federal Transit Administration



U.S. Department of Transportation

Federal Transit Administration

### **Presentation Overview**

The purpose of this presentation is to provide an update on FTA's recent transit safety initiatives and highlight available resources and training.

### Agenda

- Bipartisan Infrastructure Law Updates
- Cybersecurity Resources for Transit Agencies
- Mental Health Resources for Transit Workers
- Enhanced Crime Prevention Initiative
- Available Safety Training

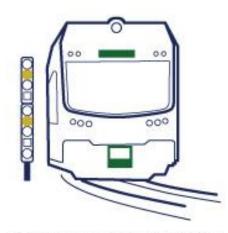
### **Bipartisan Infrastructure Law Overview**



- Increases total funding by 72 percent
- Increases average community transit funding by 30 percent
- Enhances State Safety Oversight programs by strengthening rail inspection practices to protect transit workers and riders from injuries and ensure safe access to transit

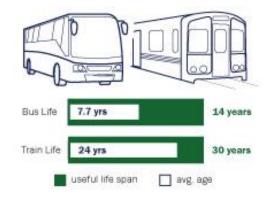
## **Bipartisan Infrastructure Law: Four Key Priorities**

#### **Improving Safety**



- More inspection authority for state oversight agencies
- · Requiring risk-based inspections
- Better engagement between workers and management for safer systems

#### Modernizing Bus & Rail Fleets



- \$1.5B for New Rail Vehicle Replacement Program
- Transit infrastructure in the U.S. needs more than \$105 billion in repairs
- 17% of U.S. transit buses are considered older than their useful life

#### Low or No Vehicle Emissions Competitive Program

#### TOTAL \$5.3B



Cleaning the air and saving our planet by building bus fleets that create less or even NO pollution

#### All Stations Accessibility Program



Funding to improve accessibility at stations nationwide for those with physical disabilities

# Public Transportation Agency Safety Plan Requirements

- Dear Colleague Letter
- The Bipartisan Infrastructure Law added new PTASP requirements:
  - ✓ Create safety committees comprised of representatives of both management and frontline employees (agencies receiving 5307 funds and serving large UZAs)
  - ✓ Develop an Agency Safety Plan (ASP) in cooperation with frontline employee representatives (agencies serving small UZAs)
  - ✓ Address through their ASP, strategies consistent with the CDC or State health authority guidelines to minimize exposure to infectious diseases

U.S. Department	Administrator	1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE	
of Transportation Federal Transit Administration	Administrator	Washington, DC 20590	
	February 17, 2022		
Dear Colleague:			
On November 15, 2021, President Biden signed into law the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law, which authorizes \$108 billion over the next five years for public transportation – the most significant federal investment in transit in the nation's history. The Bipartisan Infrastructure Law amends FTA's safety program at 49 U.S.C. § 5329(d) (Section 5329(d)) by adding to the public transportation agency safety plan (PTASP) requirements. These changes include the requirement that certain transit agencies establish a Safety Committee. I am writing to inform you of these changes to Section 5329(d), which are included here. These new requirements apply to those transit agencies that must have an Agency Safety Plan (ASP) in place under the PTASP regulation (49 CFR part 673). Transit agencies should review their ASP to determine if it meets these requirements.			rgaining process to esti- rats of Section 5329(d) ititee, that committee v rgets for a risk reduct he National Public res required by the Bip msportation and FTA, in the Bipartisan Infras
The Bipartisan Infrastructure Law requires transit agencies to address strategies to minimize exposure to infectious diseases, consistent with Centers for Disease Control and Prevention or State health authority guidelines. Each transit agency should consider identifying mitigations or strategies related to exposure to infectious diseases through the safety risk management process described in the agency's ASP.			uture FTA may issue g TA updates related to t gov/BIL. For any furth , please contact us at F
Changes to PTASP require fewer than 200,000 (small	ements for agencies serving an urba urbanized area)	nized area with a population of	
frontline employee represe with frontline employee re	small urbanized area must develop entatives. If the agency's ASP was presentatives, FTA expects the tran employee representatives by Decer	not developed in cooperation sit agency to update its ASP in	
Changes to PTASP requirements for Urbanized Area Formula Funding (49 U.S.C. § 5307) recipients serving an urbanized area with a population of 200,000 or more (large urbanized area)			of law and are not mea de clarity to the public es and subgrantees sho
establish a Safety Commit established, the Safety Con practicable. If a transit ag expects the Safety Commi	ves Section 5307 funding and serve tee compliant with 49 U.S.C. § 532 mmittee should begin work to meet ency is not yet compliant with the m tee to approve an update to the age ments in 49 U.S.C. § 5329(d), by D	9(d)(5) by July 31, 2022. Once its responsibilities as soon as we PTASP requirements, FTA ency's ASP, incorporating	
	_		

### **PTASP TAC Links and Contact Information**

#### **Technical Assistance Center:**

www.transit.dot.gov/PTASP-TAC

#### **Frequently Asked Questions:**

www.transit.dot.gov/PTASP-FAQs



# National Public Transportation Safety Plan (NSP)

- Guides the national effort to manage safety risk in the nation's public transportation systems following SMS principles
  - Establish safety performance measures by mode to address new risk reduction program requirements;
  - ✓ Update voluntary safety standards; and
  - ✓ Include precautionary and reactive actions required to ensure public and personnel safety and health during an emergency



#### **Bipartisan Infrastructure Law Resources and** Questions **Bipartisan Infrastructure Law**

- **Bipartisan Infrastructure Law Webpage:** 
  - o https://www.transit.dot.gov/BIL
- **Program Fact Sheets:** ٠
  - <u>https://www.transit.dot.gov/funding/grants/fta-program-fact-sheets-</u> under-bipartisan-infrastructure-law
- **PTASP FAQs for Bipartisan Infrastructure Law Requirements:** 
  - <u>https://www.transit.dot.gov/safety/public-transportation-agency-safety-</u> program/public-transportation-agency-safety-plan-faqs
- **Bipartisan Infrastructure Law Changes to PTASP Requirements Webinar** ٠
  - https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QYL1BoCCn5E
  - o https://www.transit.dot.gov/regulations-and-programs/safety/bipartisaninfrastructure-law-changes-public-transportation-agency



**Questions?** 

Email: FTA-IIJA@dot.gov

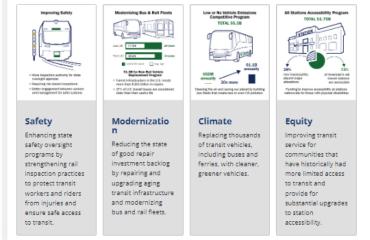
#### BIPARTISAN INFRASTRUCTURE LAW

The Bipartisan Infrastructure Law, as enacted in the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act, authorizes up to \$108 billion for public transportation - the largest federal investment in public transportation in the nation's histor

#### What's New

- Public Transportation Agency Safety Plan FAQs for New Bipartisan Infrastructure Law Requirements
- <u>Bipartisan Infrastructure Law Disposition Requirements FAQs</u>
- Bipartisan Infrastructure Law Hiring Preference. In 2021, FTA announced an initiative, implemented as a pilot program, to permit transit agencies to use hiring preferences on FTA-funded construction projects to promote equitable creation of employment opportunities and workforce development activities, particularly for economically or socially disadvantaged workers. The initiative has transitioned in response to the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law, which includes hiring preferences related to the use of labor for transportation construction projects. Section 25019 provides an express authorization for FTA grant recipients and subrecipients to use a geographical or economic hiring preference for the construction of federally supported transit projects. See the Federal Register Notice

The legislation will advance public transportation in America's communities through four key priorities:





# **Cybersecurity Resources for Transit Agencies**

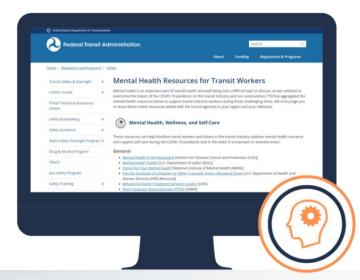
FTA published cybersecurity resources to support transit agencies during a time of unprecedented ransomware attacks targeting the transportation sector.

www.transit.dot.gov/regulations-and-programs/safety/cybersecurity-resources-transit-agencies

- National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST): NIST resources include a Cybersecurity Framework, voluntary guidance based on existing standards, and guidelines and practices for organizing to better manage and reduce cybersecurity risk.
- **Transportation Security Administration (TSA):** TSA resources include a Surface Transportation Cybersecurity Toolkit that provides cybersecurity information to surface transportation operators with fewer than 1,000 employees.
- **Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency (CISA):** CISA resources include a Cyber Essentials Starter Kit and how to report cyber incidents such as phishing and malware to CISA.

## **Mental Health Resources for Transit Workers**

- FTA published <u>Mental Health Resources</u> to support transit industry workers. We encourage you to share these resources widely with your networks.
  - Mental Health, Wellness and Self-Care: These resources help transit stakeholders address mental health concerns and support self-care during the COVID-19 pandemic and in the wake of a traumatic or stressful event.
  - Suicide Prevention: These resources highlight free and confidential support for people in emotional distress and offer potential interventions for organizations.
  - Active Shooter Preparedness: These resources offer information to help transit stakeholders recognize indicators of potential workplace violence and understand actions to take when confronted by an active shooter.





# **Enhanced Transit Safety and Crime Prevention Initiative**

- Safety is a top priority for the Biden-Harris Administration and the U.S. Department of Transportation.
- FTA's Enhanced Transit Safety and Crime Prevention Initiative provides information and resources to help transit agencies prevent and address crime in their systems to protect transit workers and riders.

#### **Enhanced Transit Safety and Crime Prevention Initiative**



#### Overview

Transit worker and rider safety is a top priority for the Biden-Harris Administration and the U.S. Department of Transportation. Public transit is a safe form of transportation. Transit workers should expect a safe workplace and riders should expect a safe trip.





https://www.transit.dot.gov/regulations-and-programs/safety/enhanced-transit-safetyand-crime-prevention-initiative

## **Available Safety Training**

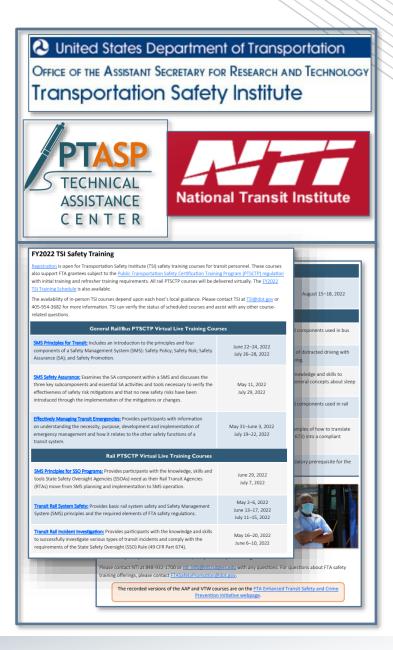
FTA has partnered with the National Transit Institute (NTI) to offer the following safety courses:

- Assault Awareness and Prevention for Transit
  Operators
- Violence in the Transit Workplace Prevention, Response and Recovery



Questions about FTA safety training offerings? Email: <u>FTASafetyPromotion@dot.gov</u>

https://www.transit.dot.gov/regulations-and-guidance/safety/safety-training



# **Available Safety Training**

FTA-sponsored Transportation Safety Institute (TSI) offers both in-person and virtual courses on the following topics:

- General Rail/Bus PTSCTP
- Bus PTSCTP
- General Transit Safety
- Transit Bus
- Transit Rail
- Transit Crime Prevention & Emergency Management

General registration for FY2023 courses opens on **September 1, 2022**.

The training schedule can be found on the FTA website at <u>https://www.transit.dot.gov/regulations-and-guidance/safety/fta-sponsored-training-courses</u>.

 $\rightarrow$ 

GENERAL RAIL / BUS PTSCTP\* COURSE

**FY 2023** 

**SPONSORED** 

LEARN MORE

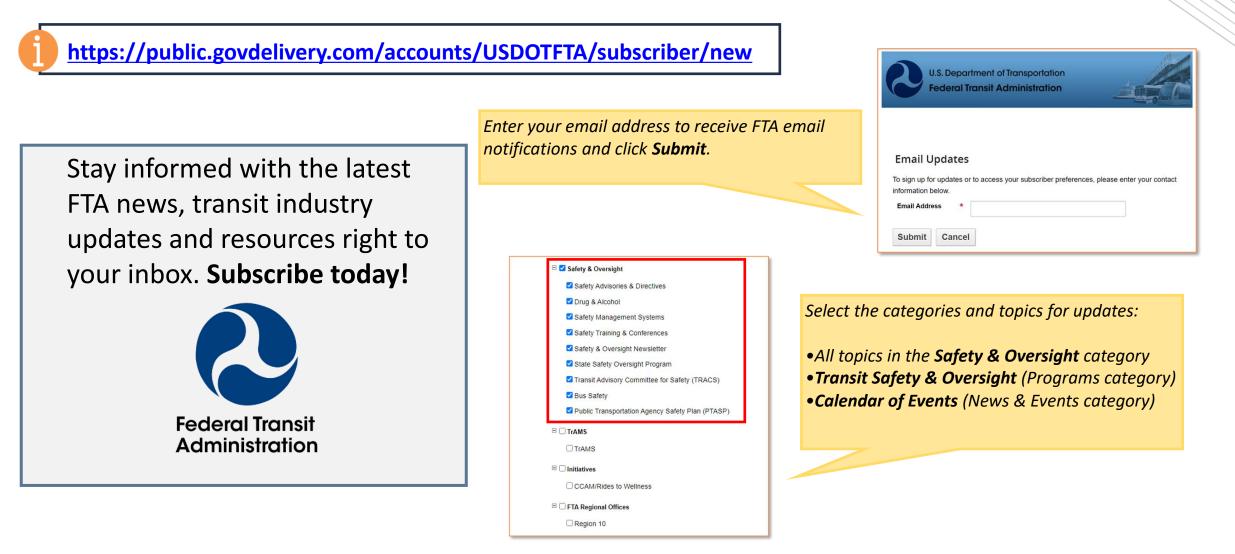
FTA-

SAFETY

TRAINING



## **Subscribe to FTA Email Updates**



#### Questions

Angela Dluger Deputy Associate Administrator for Transit Safety and Oversight Federal Transit Administration angela.dluger@dot.gov





#### TRANSIT.DOT.GOV

