U.S. Department of Transportation Federal Transit Administration

2022 FTA JOINT STATE SAFETY OVERSIGHT AND RAIL TRANSIT AGENCY HYBRID WORKSHOP

OCTOBER 25-27, 2022 WASHINGTON, D.C

Transit Worker Assault Prevention and Mitigation

Stewart Mader

Program Analyst, Office of System Safety Office of Transit Safety and Oversight Federal Transit Administration





Presentation Purpose and Agenda

The purpose of this presentation is to provide updates on the Federal Transit Administration (FTA) approach to reducing transit worker assault.

Presentation Agenda

- Transit Worker Assault: By The Numbers
- Protecting Transit Workers from Assault
 - Federal Register Notice on PTASP Regulation (49 CFR 673)
 - Enhanced Transit Safety and Crime Prevention Initiative
 - Bipartisan Infrastructure Law Requirements and Dear Colleague Letter
- Required Actions Regarding Transit Worker Assault

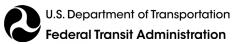
U.S. Department of Transportation Federal Transit Administration

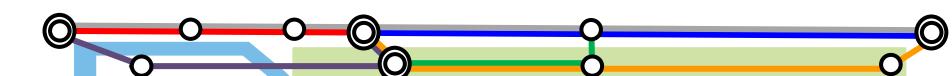
Transit Worker Assault

From 2008-2021, transit agencies reported an average of 241 worker assault events per year

- **192** per year occurring in or on transit vehicles
- **44** per year occurring in transit revenue facilities
- Five per year occurring in non-public locations, such as maintenance shops and yards

This data includes only the most serious events, and may significantly underestimate the total number of assaults





Protecting Transit Workers From Assault

Federal Register Notice: <u>Protecting Public</u> <u>Transportation Operators From the Risk of</u> <u>Assault</u>

- Address safety risk related to operator assault as determined by Safety Management System (SMS)
- Identify hazards associated with operator assault
- Use Safety Risk Management processes to assess safety risk related to operator assault
- Develop mitigations or strategies to address the safety risk





Enhanced Transit Safety and Crime Prevention Initiative

- Transit worker and rider safety is a top priority for the Biden-Harris Administration and the U.S. Department of Transportation
- FTA's <u>Enhanced Transit Safety and Crime</u> <u>Prevention Initiative</u> provides information and resources to help transit agencies
- For more information, contact <u>FTASystemSafety@dot.gov</u>



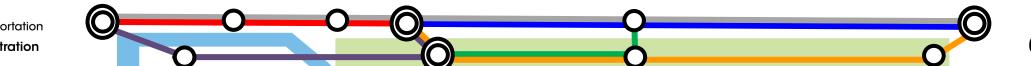
Enhanced Transit Safety and Crime Prevention Initiative



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.





Enhanced Transit Safety and Crime Prevention Initiative: Funding & Training

Federal Funding

Section 5307 and 5311 funding

Section 5337 State of Good

Repair Grants

Section 5339 Grants for Buses and Bus Facilities

COVID-19 supplemental

<u>funding</u> and <u>security operating expenses</u>

FTA safety research programs

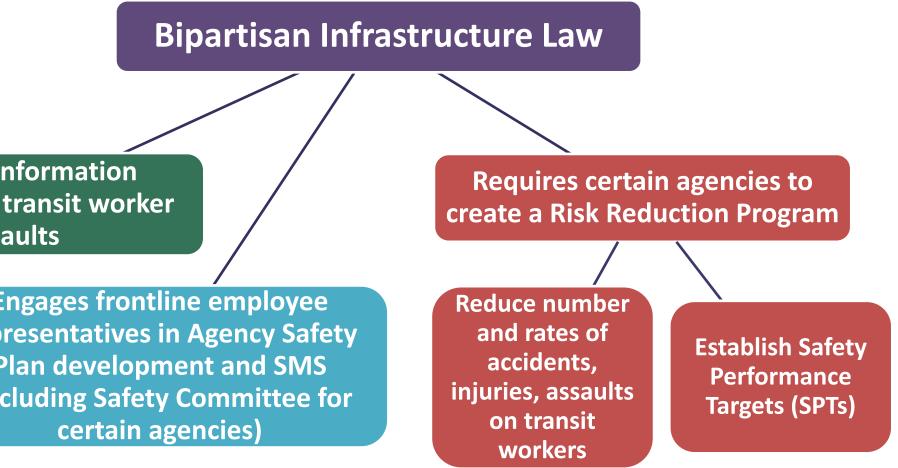
Training

Assault Awareness and Prevention for Transit Operators

Violence in the Transit Workplace

Course Registration: Contact NTI at 848-932-1700 or <u>nti info@nti.rutgers.edu</u> **Questions** about FTA safety training offerings: <u>FTASafetyPromotion@dot.gov</u>

New Requirement Relevant to Worker Assault



Expands information collected on transit worker assaults

> **Engages frontline employee** representatives in Agency Safety **Plan development and SMS** (including Safety Committee for

. Department of Transportation deral Transit Administration

Updates to PTASP Regulation and NSP

FTA is in the process of revising the National Public Transportation Safety Plan and the PTASP regulation (49 CFR Part 673) to incorporate the new Bipartisan Infrastructure Law requirements:

- NSP: establish safety performance measures to address new risk reduction program requirements
- 49 CFR Part 673: incorporate the risk reduction program and other Bipartisan Infrastructure Law requirements

Federal Transit Administration	
Search	Q
ome / <u>Regulations and P</u>	rograms / Safety / Public Transportation Agency Safety Program
PTASP Overview	Dear Colleague Letter: Bipartisan
PTASP Technical Assistance Center	Infrastructure Law Changes to PTASP Requirements
	PTASP-Dear-Colleague-Letter-February-17-2022.pdf (205.76 KB)
	PTASP-Dear-Colleague-Letter-February-17-2022.pdf (205.76 KB)
Community of Practice	This Dear Colleague Letter informs the transit industry about Bipartisan
· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	

U.S. Department of Transportation Federal Transit Administration

Special Directives: Required Actions Regarding Transit Worker Assault

- Confirm whether and how named recipients are addressing transit worker assault risk using their SMS processes
- Determine if additional FTA intervention is required to reduce transit worker assault likelihood and/or severity
- The list of Special Directives can be found at: https://www.transit.dot.gov/regulationsand-guidance/safety/fta-special-directives

 United States Department of Transportation Federal Transit Administration 		
Home / <u>Regulations and Programs</u> / <u>Safety</u>		
Transit Safety & 、 Oversight	 FTA Special Directives FTA may issue special directives to one or more named recipients of FTA funding when it: believes that a recipient is engaging in conduct, or there is evidence of a pattern or practice of a recipient's conduct, in violation of the Public Transportation Safety Program or any regulation or directive issued under 	
COVID-19 Info >		
PTASP Technical Assistance Center		
Safety Rulemaking >	those laws for which the Administrator exercises enforcement authority for safety;	
Safety Guidance >	 determines that an unsafe condition or practice, or a combination of unsafe conditions and practices, exists such that there is a substantial risk of death or personal injury, or damage to property or equipment; or 	
General Directives	 determines that the public interest requires the avoidance or mitigation of a hazard or risk through immediate compliance. 	



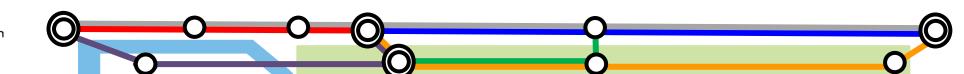


Special Directive Anticipated Outcomes

Information gathered will help FTA:

- Better understand whether and how the agencies reporting the majority of transit worker assaults are using SMS processes to address the safety risk associated with transit worker assaults
- Identify safety risk mitigations in place or in implementation at these agencies
- Potentially inform further appropriate action to ensure that agencies experiencing the majority of transit worker assaults use SMS processes to address associated safety risk





Contact Information

Training Course Registration: Contact NTI at 848-932-1700 or nti_info@nti.rutgers.edu

Questions about FTA safety training offerings: FTASafetyPromotion@dot.gov

Questions about PTASP, SMS, and Transit Worker Assault Prevention and Mitigation:

FTASystemSafety@dot.gov or stewart.mader@dot.gov