

South West Transit Association Annual Conference

February 24, 2023

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U.S. Department of Transportation Federal Transit Administration

Updates

- State of Bus Transit Safety
- Fall 2022 Unified Regulatory Agenda
- FTA Enhanced Transit Safety and Crime Prevention Initiative
- Protecting Assets from Cyber Threats
- National Roadway Safety Strategy (NRSS)
- Transit Advisory Committee on Safety (TRACS)

State of Bus Transit Safety



Sources of Bus Fatalities and Injuries

Source: National Transit Database (NTD) 2021 Preliminary Data **Data as of**: December 2, 2022 *Bus Transit Vehicles

Fall 2022 Unified Regulatory Agenda

Published on January 4, 2023

Rail Transit Roadway Worker Protection	 Establishes minimum baseline standards and risk-based redundant protection requirements
State Safety Oversight	 Introduces changes to clarify State Safety Oversight Agencies' (SSOA) oversight responsibilities and authority to conduct inspections
Public Transportation Safety	 Amends training curriculum to reflect new requirements and
Certification Training Program	training course information
Public Transportation Agency	 Incorporates new requirements established through the Bipartisan
Safety Plans	Infrastructure Law
<u>NEW</u> : Transit Worker Fitness	 Asks questions about establishing minimum standards related to
for Duty	transit worker fitness for duty

FTA Enhanced Transit Safety and Crime Prevention Initiative

- Information and resources to help transit agencies protect transit workers and riders, including:
- Federal funding eligibilities to improve safety
- Training courses offered by the National Transit Institute (NTI)
 - Assault Awareness and Prevention for Transit Operators
 - Violence in the Transit Workplace



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.

Protecting Assets from Cyber Threats - Cybersecurity Assessment Tool for Transit (CATT)

FTA published an open-source PDF based CATT tool on February 10, 2023

 Assists small and mid-sized transit agencies in self-assessing their cybersecurity preparedness

An On-ramp for agencies to identify key practices of a modern cybersecurity program with self assessment

- Uses Dept. of Homeland Security's Cyber Resilience Review (CRR) as a basis
- Aligns with National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) framework

CATT has three primary components

- $\odot\,\textsc{Data}$ collection form
- \odot Resulting report produced given data input from transit agency
- \odot Resource guide on how to begin practices

Cybersecurity – Additional Resources

- Cybersecurity Webinar to Demonstrate the CATT tool
 - $\circ~$ FTA will host a webinar on March 1 from 1pm to 2pm
- Cybersecurity Webpages
 - CATT tool download <u>Cybersecurity Assessment Tool for Transit</u> (CATT)
 - CATT tool brief <u>Cybersecurity Assessment Tool for Transit (CATT)</u>: <u>Self-Assessment Package</u>
 - Cybersecurity research page <u>Cybersecurity Program</u>
 - Cybersecurity safety page <u>https://www.transit.dot.gov/regulations-</u> and-programs/safety/cybersecurity-resources-transit-agencies



National Roadway Safety Strategy

- The U.S. Department of Transportation's NRSS aims to significantly reduce serious injuries and deaths on our nation's roadways and highways.
- Nearly 95% of transportation deaths occur on streets, roads, and highways.
- Call-To-Action campaign launched on February 3, 2023.
- FTA plans to focus on reducing the bus to person collision rate, while also encouraging commitments from all transit agencies through broad promotion of the Call-To-Action on the FTA website.

COMMIT TO ZERO FATALITIES

To make our roadways safer for everyone, we can't do it alone. **WE NEED YOU.**

National Roadway Safety Strategy (cont.)

Encouraging commitments from 39 select bus agencies

FTA will encourage commitments from select bus agencies to mitigate roadway safety issues related to bus operations through targeted engagement and distribution of a letter from the FTA Administrator sent from the FTA regions.

39 bus agencies were selected as having the highest rates based on ranking of 2017-2021 Bus-to-Person Collision Rate (per 100M VRM) from National Transit Database (NTD) data.



For additional questions, please email <a>FTASafetyStakeholder@dot.gov

Transit Advisory Committee for Safety

- 1/31: First meeting (virtual) for 2022-2024 committee
- 24 members
- TRACS Chair and Vice Chair were selected
- Initial taskings:
 - Develop recommendations that advance transit rider and worker safety and how FTA can support agencies in developing and implementing mitigations
 - Develop recommendations that define mitigations to prevent bus-to-person and bus-to-privately-operatedvehicle collisions
 - Research and identify cybersecurity and data security system concerns for public transit agencies and recommend FTA actions and policies to mitigate those hazards

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Transit Safety & Oversight	 Transit Advisory Committee for Saf 	ety			
COVID-19 Info		NEW: FTA is reviewing TRACS applications. You can review the <u>2022-2024 TRACS Charter</u> and TRACS Extension Federal Register Notice for more information.			
PTASP Technical Assistance Center		or more inton	mation.		
Safety Rulemaking	About TRACS Nationwide, public transportation is one of the safest modes of transportation, with more than 2.5 million people boarding transit vehicles in the U.S. each day. Transit agencies have fewer fatalities and injuries than any other				
Safety Guidance					
State Safety Oversight Program		of many initiati	ives FTA implemented to		
Drug & Alcohol Program	improve transit safety. In November 2009, the U.S. Transportation Secret TRACS provides information, advice and recommendations on transit saf	-			
TRACS	FTA Administrator. TRACS does not make determinations of fact or policy professionals representing a variety of stakeholders and interests to coo	y. TRACS is com	nprised of a diverse panel of		
Bus Safety Program	recommending solutions based on agreed-upon facts. The committee's level of expertise and balanced viewpoints enables early identification of potential problem areas and accelerated corrective actions, thereby creating				
Safety Training	> greater safety and public confidence in the nation's public transportation	-			
Stakeholder Outreach	On behalf of the U.S. Secretary of Transportation, the FTA Administrator will name an Executive Director for the committee who serves as the designated federal official responsible for ensuring compliance with the Federal Advisory Committee Act requirements.				
FAQ	Acting Committee Chair: Vacant Committee Vice-Chair: Vacant				
Related Links	Subscribe to TRACS news through email updates; select "Safety & Oversig (TRACS),"	ght/Transit Adv	visory Committee for Safety		
<u>Sign Up for Updates</u> TRACS Archive	Application Resources				
TRACS Past TRACS Activities	FTA is reviewing TRACS applications. FTA will select up to 25 qualified individuals interested in serving on TRACS fo a two-year term. TRACS provides information, advice and recommendations about transit safety to the U.S. Secretar of Transportation and the FTA Administrator.				
Related Documents	2022-2024 TRACS Charter				
2022 TRACS Charter	Notices and Participation				
Contact Us	TRACS meets as a full committee at least twice a year. Committee meetings are announced in the Federal Register Notice (FRN) 15 days prior and are open to the public. The FRN includes the agenda, date, time, location and purpos of the meeting.				
Office of Transit Safety and Oversight Federal Transit Administratior	Anyone wishing to formally address TRACS or submit materials for review the dates indicated in the FRN that announces the meeting. Materials to may be submitted at any time to the FTA.	-			

For additional information, visit <u>FTA's TRACS Webpage</u>.

Questions

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