

# Meeting Etiquette

## Welcome

to the Transit Advisory Committee for Safety (TRACS) Kick-Off Meeting. The meeting will begin momentarily.

## TRACS Members

should expect to be on camera with microphones on when asked to introduce themselves at 1:15pm EST.

## Public Attendees

may submit comments via the “Q and A” field at any time. There will also be a dedicated period towards the end of the meeting to review and receive public comments. We will provide further instructions when this time arises.



# Transit Advisory Committee for Safety (TRACS)

## 2022-2024 Charter Kick-Off Meeting

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**January 31, 2023**



# FTA Welcoming Remarks



**Nuria Fernandez**  
*Administrator*  
Federal Transit Administration

# FTA Welcoming Remarks



**Veronica Vanterpool**  
*Deputy Administrator*  
Federal Transit Administration

# TRACS Welcoming Remarks



**Joe DeLorenzo**

*Associate Administrator, Chief Safety Officer,  
and TRACS Designated Federal Officer (DFO)  
Office of Transit Safety and Oversight (TSO)*



# Agenda

Time	Item
1:10 p.m. ET	TRACS DFO welcoming remarks
1:15 p.m. ET	TRACS member introductions
2:15 p.m. ET	Introduction to Federal Transit Administration (FTA) and TRACS role
2:35 p.m. ET	FTA's tasking for TRACS
3:05 p.m. ET	Break
3:20 p.m. ET	Chairperson and Vice Chairperson announcement
3:35 p.m. ET	Public Comments
4:05 p.m. ET	Summary of next steps, deliverables, and concluding remarks

# Meeting Objectives



**Introduce TRACS members and leadership**



**Outline authority of FTA and role of TRACS**



**Assign TRACS with initial tasking**



# TRACS Impact on Current TSO Efforts

## TRACS Report 18-01: Employee Safety Reporting

- The Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (BIL) requires an agency's Public Transportation Agency Safety Plan to [include a safety committee](#) comprised of frontline employees and management representatives.
- Safety Committees ensure that an agency is responsive to employee needs and works to improve its safety culture.

## TRACS Report 18-02: Roadway Worker Protection

- FTA analyzed Rail Transit Roadway Worker Protection (RWP) using its Safety Risk Management (SRM) process and began developing a Notice of Proposed Rulemaking for RWP at 49 CFR part 671.
- FTA published a report on [Rail Transit Roadway Worker Protection](#).

## TRACS Report 18-03: Trespass and Suicide Prevention

- FTA published a report on [Mitigations for Trespasser and Suicide Fatalities and Injuries](#).
- FTA published [Safety Advisory 22-4: Suicide Prevention Signage on Public Transit](#).
- Conducted webinar on [Suicide Prevention Signage on Public Transit](#)



# TRACS 2022-2024 Charter Overview

## Membership

- 24 current members (25 maximum)
- Chairperson: Jim Keane
- Vice Chairperson: Lisa Staes

## Task

- Research mitigations and best practices on three topics:
  - Advancing Rider and Worker Safety
  - Reducing Bus Collisions
  - Cyber and Data Security Systems
- Submit one report per topic per year to FTA

## Meetings

- Virtual kick-off meeting
- Two full-committee meetings, either hybrid or virtual, per year
- Virtual monthly subcommittee meetings



# Membership Introductions

<p><b>Edward Abel</b>  <i>Director of Operational Safety</i>  <b>Southeastern Pennsylvania Transportation Authority</b></p>	<p><b>Molly Hughes</b>  <i>Public Transportation Safety Administrator</i>  <b>Washington State DOT</b></p>	<p><b>Raymond Lopez</b>  <i>Deputy Executive Officer of Corporate Safety</i>  <b>Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority</b></p>	<p><b>Reggie Reese</b>  <i>Chief Safety Officer</i>  <b>Pierce Transit</b></p>
<p><b>Brian Alberts</b>  <i>Senior Director of Safety and Advisory Services</i>  <b>American Public Transportation Association</b></p>	<p><b>Donna Johnson</b>  <i>Vice President and Chief Safety Officer</i>  <b>Dallas Area Rapid Transit</b></p>	<p><b>Rachel Maleh</b>  <i>Executive Director</i>  <b>Operation Lifesaver, Inc.</b></p>	<p><b>Adam Sharkey</b>  <i>Deputy Director</i>  <b>River Cities Public Transit</b></p>
<p><b>Johanna Cockburn</b>  <i>Director of Transportation</i>  <b>City of Greensboro</b></p>	<p><b>Laura Karr</b>  <i>Associate General Counsel</i>  <b>Amalgamated Transit Union</b></p>	<p><b>Santiago Osorio</b>  <i>Chief Safety Officer</i>  <b>Metropolitan Transit Authority of Harris County</b></p>	<p><b>Justin Sobek</b>  <i>State Safety Oversight Manager and Passenger Rail Safety Specialist</i>  <b>Missouri DOT</b></p>
<p><b>Beverly Edwards</b>  <i>Chief Operating Officer</i>  <b>First Transit</b></p>	<p><b>Jim Keane</b>  <i>General Manager of Operations Safety</i>  <b>Port Authority of New York and New Jersey</b></p>	<p><b>Karen Philbrick</b>  <i>Executive Director</i>  <b>Mineta Transportation Institute  San Jose State University</b></p>	<p><b>Lisa Staes</b>  <i>Assoc. Director of Transit Safety and Director of Workforce Development Programs</i>  <b>Center for Urban Transportation Research  University of South Florida</b></p>
<p><b>Rebecca Frankhouser</b>  <i>Director of Safety, Security, and Quality Assurance</i>  <b>King County Metro</b></p>	<p><b>Thomas Lamb</b>  <i>Chief of Innovation and Technology</i>  <b>Metropolitan Transportation Authority  New York City Transit</b></p>	<p><b>Ashley Porter</b>  <i>Transit Safety Programs Manager</i>  <b>Florida DOT</b></p>	<p><b>Gardner Tabon</b>  <i>Executive Vice President of Systemwide Accessibility and Chief Safety Officer</i>  <b>CapMetro</b></p>
<p><b>David Harris</b>  <i>Transit and Rail Division Director</i>  <b>New Mexico DOT</b></p>	<p><b>Brian Lapp</b>  <i>Chief Health and Safety Officer</i>  <b>Port Authority of New York and New Jersey</b></p>	<p><b>Patrick Preusser</b>  <i>Director of Rapid Transit</i>  <b>Department of Transportation Services  City and County of Honolulu</b></p>	<p><b>Curtis Tate</b>  <i>International Administrative Vice President</i>  <b>Transport Workers Union of America</b></p>

# FTA Overview

**Vision**



**A Better Quality of Life for All Built on Public Transportation  
Excellency**

**Mission**



**Improving America's Communities through Public  
Transportation**

**Purpose**



**Provide grant funding, technical assistance, safety oversight, policy  
development, planning support, and innovative technology  
research to enhance mobility and access for people nationwide**



# TRACS Role

TRACS provides research, analysis, and recommendations to the U.S. Secretary of Transportation and the FTA Administrator on matters relating to the safety of public transportation

1

The FTA Administrator and the DFO work together to assign TRACS with taskings relating to the safety of U.S. public transportation systems

2

TRACS completes their research and analysis and provides recommendations for the U.S. Department of Transportation (USDOT) and FTA, not for the industry at large

3

FTA's goal is to compile research, analysis, and recommendations into one report per year for each task



# Voting Procedures and Meeting Requirements

## Voting Procedures

- TRACS members approve proposed recommendations to FTA via a group vote.
- The TRACS Chairperson or Vice Chairperson will raise the motion to vote. Any member may second the vote.
- A majority of members must vote in favor of a proposed recommendation before it is formally presented to FTA.

## Meeting Requirements

- A quorum of two-thirds of the members is required to hold full-committee meetings.
- The Chairperson or Vice Chairperson must be present at full-committee meetings.

# TRACS Tasking



# Task Criteria

While researching the topics and developing recommendations for FTA and USDOT, TRACS should consider:



**Extent to which the recommendation improves safety in transit nationwide**

- Potential to reduce fatalities
- Potential to reduce injuries
- Potential to reduce safety events
- Potential to improve system reliability



**Extent to which the recommendation is feasible and practical**

- Cost
- Availability of technology/approach nationwide
- Operational ease of use
- Upkeep/maintenance



**Implementation of the recommendation under Safety Management Systems**

- Safety management policy
- Safety promotion
- SRM
- Safety assurance

# Task Subcommittees

## Advancing Rider and Worker Safety

### Topics:

- Transit rider and worker assault prevention
- Transit accessibility
- Transit rider and worker safety amid public health crises

## Reducing Bus Collisions

### Topics:

- Bus-to-person collisions
- Bus-to-privately-operated vehicle (POV) collisions
- Mitigation best practices

## Cyber and Data Security Systems

### Topics:

- Hardening cyber and data security systems
- Connected and autonomous vehicles (CAV), intelligent transportation systems (ITS), and future technology
- Cybersecurity for CAVs and ITS

FTA may refocus research questions for the subcommittees' second tasks based on the findings from each subcommittee's first task.

The FTA Administrator or DFO may also form **Policy Support and Response** ad hoc subcommittees to facilitate consultation on emerging matters or to provide input on FTA safety policy activities. These taskings will be limited in scope, will occur over a short timeline, and will not require deviation from the work of the subcommittees.





# Advancing Rider and Worker Safety

## Subcommittee: Advancing Rider and Worker Safety

### Topics:

- Transit rider and worker assault prevention
- Transit accessibility
- Transit rider and worker safety amid public health crises

### Task 1:

Develop recommendations that define best practices to prevent rider and worker assaults and how FTA can support agencies in developing and implementing mitigations

**Task 1 timeline:** 1 year

### Task 1 research questions:

- What best practice or low-cost solutions are agencies employing?
- How are agencies enhancing perceptions of rider/worker safety?
- What partnerships and actions have transit agencies used to address mental health and homelessness on their systems?
- How are agencies focusing on the safety of vulnerable populations?

### Proposed Task 2:

Develop recommendations that define transit accessibility hazards, best practice mitigations, and how FTA can support safe and accessible transit

**Task 2 timeline:** 1 year, following Task 1

### Task 2 research questions:

- How can safety mitigations that improve ADA accessibility be better incorporated in safety-related planning and operations decision-making?
- What research gaps regarding vulnerable populations, including pregnant women, can FTA fill?

# Advancing Rider and Worker Safety

- [TRACS Report 14-01: Preventing and Mitigating Transit Worker Assaults in the Bus and Rail Transit Industry](#) recommended that FTA:
  - Develop guidelines to implement protective infrastructure,
  - Develop guidelines for training and education to prevent assault, and
  - Conduct data collection and analysis on transit worker assaults and mitigating them.
- Since 2014, FTA has:
  - Issued [nine special directives](#) (22-14 to 22-22) to transit agencies to collect information on transit worker assault, and
  - Published [FTA Report 0211](#): Analysis of Challenges Facing Pregnant Woman Riding Transit.
- FTA's [Enhanced Transit Safety and Crime Prevention Initiative](#) provides information and resources to help transit agencies protect transit workers and riders.
  - Includes video training options regarding assaults and violence against transit workers.

# Reducing Bus Collisions

## Subcommittee: Reducing Bus Collisions

### Topics:

- Bus-to-person collisions
- Bus-to-POV collisions
- Mitigation best practices

### Task 1:

Develop recommendations that define mitigations to prevent bus-to-person and bus-to-POV collisions

**Task 1 timeline:** 1 year

### **Task 1 research questions:**

- What are the mitigations to bus collisions? How well are these mitigations known to the transit industry?
- How can FTA support partnerships (with the Federal Highway Administration, States, and transit agencies) to advance Vision Zero efforts, such as improving bus and station designs?

### Proposed Task 2:

Define the barriers for agency implementation and determine how FTA can support agencies in implementing mitigations

**Task 2 timeline:** 1 year, following Task 1

### **Task 2 research questions:**

- What are the barriers for agencies implementing mitigations to prevent bus collisions?
- What barriers to implementation are unique to urban or rural contexts?
- *Other research questions will be determined based on Task 1 findings*

# Reducing Bus Collisions

- The U.S. Department of Transportation's [National Roadway Safety Strategy](#) identified bicycle and pedestrian roadway fatalities as an increasing trend.
- The [2021 Bus Safety Data Report](#) found that bus collisions with pedestrian and POV's accounted for over 80 percent of bus transit safety event fatalities.
- FTA is currently assessing the safety risks of bus-to-person collisions in its SRM analysis, with a primary focus on bus and station designs.
  - TRACS will complement this analysis by further exploring possible mitigations, determining why agencies have not put currently-available mitigations in place, and recommending how FTA can support agencies in collision reduction.



# Cyber and Data Security Systems

## Subcommittee: Cyber and Data Security Systems

### Topics:

- Hardening cyber and data security systems
- CAV, ITS, and future technology
- Cybersecurity for CAVs and ITS

### Task 1:

Research and identify cybersecurity safety concerns for public transit agencies and recommend FTA actions and policies to mitigate those hazards

**Task 1 timeline:** 1 year

### **Task 1 research questions:**

- What cybersecurity threats are relevant to transit agencies, and how are agencies responding?
- How can FTA differentiate its role in cybersecurity from that of the Department of Homeland Security to best support agencies?
- What risk mitigation practices can FTA relay to the industry?
- How can FTA support transit agency efforts to build programs?

### Proposed Task 2:

Research and identify safety concerns regarding CAVs, ITS, and public transit interactions and recommend FTA actions and policies to mitigate those hazards

**Task 2 timeline:** 1 year, following Task 1

### **Task 2 research questions:**

- What safety hazards do CAVs present for transit agencies?
- How are agencies employing ITS for their transit systems or responding to non-agency ITS?
- What are lessons learned from current CAV pilots (transit or transit-interacting) across the nation?

# Cyber and Data Security Systems

- In 2022, FTA [launched a website](#) with cybersecurity resources to help transit agencies prepare for, mitigate, and respond to cybersecurity issues.
- USDOT's Intelligent Transportation Systems (ITS) Joint Program Office (JPO) [provides guides](#) for agencies to identify, protect against, respond to, and manage cybersecurity risks.
- ITS JPO also provides general resources to [accelerate ITS deployment](#) and [promote vehicle automation](#).
  - These resources include multimodal tools, but are not specific to transit agencies.
- On November 30, 2022, the Transportation Security Administration [published an Advance Notice of Proposed Rulemaking](#) on enhancing cybersecurity risk management.

# Member Feedback

- TRACS members, please raise your hands if you wish to comment on the assigned tasking.
- TRACS members will receive a Microsoft Form via email in which they can indicate the subcommittee(s) they would prefer to primarily support.

*Public attendees may comment on the assigned tasking during the designated public comment period.*



# Break

The meeting will resume in 15 minutes.





# Chairperson and Vice Chairperson Remarks



**Jim Keane**

*TRACS Chairperson*

*General Manager of Operations Safety  
Port Authority of New York and New Jersey*



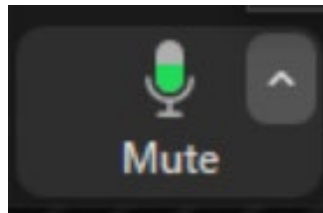
**Lisa Staes**

*TRACS Vice Chairperson*

*Associate Director of Transit Safety and  
Director of Workforce Development Programs  
Center for Urban Transportation Research*

# Public Comments

- Public attendees may submit comments via Zoom through the Q&A box or raise their hand to be called on to speak.
- When called on to speak, click the microphone icon in the bottom left corner.
  - You may need to click the arrow in the top right of this icon to check your audio settings—make sure a microphone is selected.



# Next Steps Summary

## Immediate

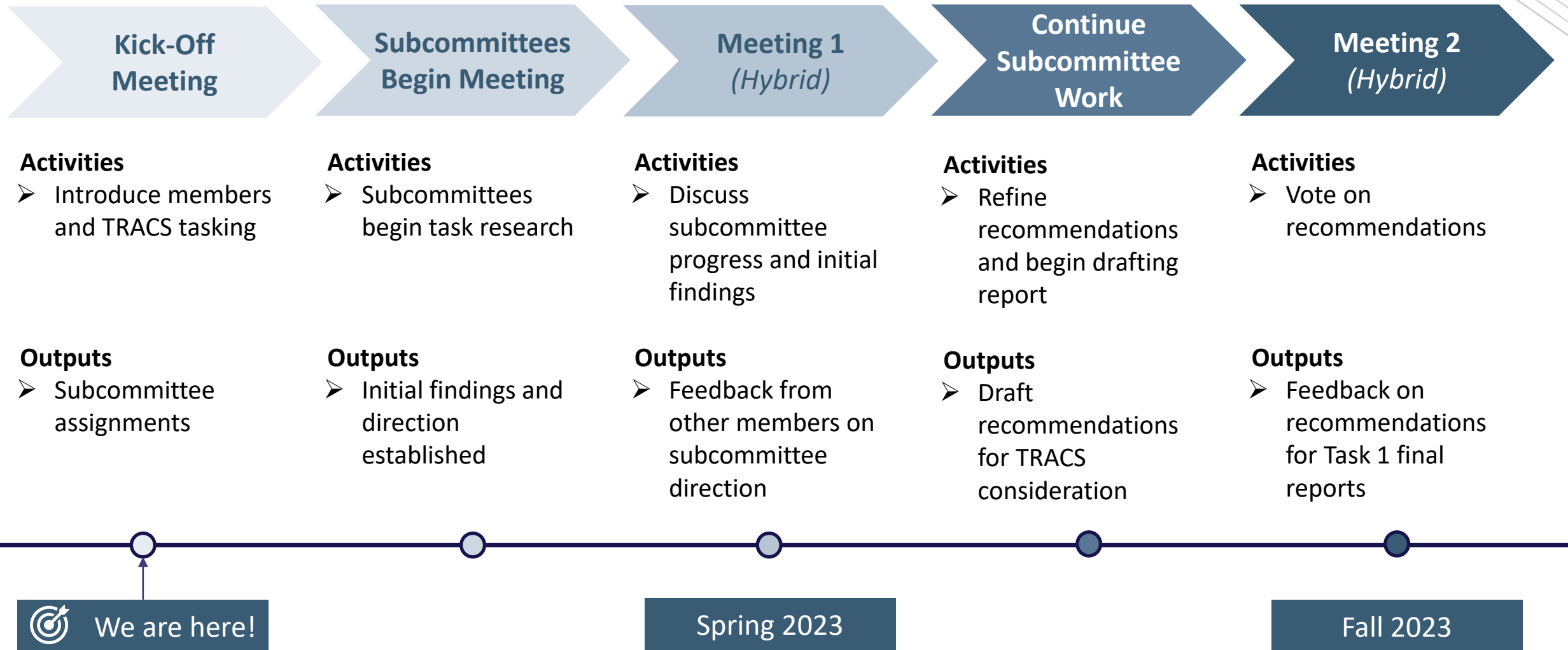
- Commence monthly subcommittee meetings
- Develop subcommittee workplan
- Begin addressing subcommittee taskings

## Future

- Hybrid TRACS meeting in late spring and fall 2023
- Submit reports to FTA



# Detailed Next Steps





# Thank you for attending!

Please email [TRACS@dot.gov](mailto:TRACS@dot.gov) with any questions.





[TRANSIT.DOT.GOV](https://www.transit.dot.gov)