



## TRANSIT ASSET MANAGEMENT

TAMNews

April 2023

FTA's Transit Asset Management (TAM) newsletter keeps you up to date on asset management initiatives and creates a forum for the industry to share information and learn from one another.

[announcements](#) | [events](#) | [resources](#) | [articles](#)

## Announcements

**2021 TAM Data Summary: A Snapshot of Asset-Related Data Reported to the National Transit Database:** This report summarizes data that transit agencies reported to the [National Transit Database \(NTD\)](#), providing an inventory and assessment of the condition of assets used to provide transit service nationally. This report provides a snapshot of data submitted for Report Year (RY) 2021, with some references and comparisons to data submitted in previous report years. RY 2018 was the first year in which transit agencies reported this information on transit assets, in accordance with the requirements of the Transit Asset Management (TAM) rule (49 CFR 625).

**Biden-Harris Administration Announces Availability of Nearly \$1.7 Billion to Modernize Fleets and Deploy Clean Transit Buses Across America:** FTA [announced the availability of nearly \\$1.7 billion](#) to support state and local efforts to modernize aging transit fleets with low- and no-emission buses, renovate and construct bus facilities, and to support workforce development. Made possible by the President's Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (BIL), which included historic support for public transportation, the [Notice of Funding Opportunity \(NOFO\)](#) makes available funding for two programs that help transit agencies replace old buses, provide good-paying jobs, improve transit affordability and reliability, invest in community health and environmental justice, and contribute to the President's goal of net-zero emissions by 2050. The first year of these programs under the BIL-allocated funding will nearly double the number of no-emission transit buses on America's roads.

# Upcoming Events

**Back to the TAM Basics Webinar:** [Register](#) for FTA's *Back to the TAM Basics* webinar on **Thursday, April 27 at 3:00 p.m. ET**. The webinar will provide an overview of the [TAM Rule](#) and the elements that go into TAM plans. The intended audience for this webinar is transit agency staff who are new to TAM and those who are seeking a refresher on the TAM Rule requirements.

**Discussion Forum on TAM Considerations for Zero-Emission Bus Fleets:** [Apply](#) to participate in TAM's Peer Program discussion forum on *Considerations for Zero-Emission Bus Fleets* on **Wednesday, May 17 at 2:00 p.m. ET**. Attendance is limited to 10 participants; registration closes April 17. The discussion forum aims to bring together staff from different transit agencies to engage virtually on topics beyond [TAM requirements](#) to promote peer learning, share peer-designed resources, and collaborate on best practices.

**2023 FTA Transit Asset Management Roundtable:** [FTA's TAM program](#) will host its [2023 TAM Roundtable](#) as an in-person event on **Sunday, July 9, 2023, in Boston, MA**. It will be held in conjunction with [TRB's 14th National Conference on Transportation Asset Management](#), which will take place from July 8 to July 11. In addition to the TAM Roundtable, the TRB conference includes additional transit specific sessions, so we encourage participants to attend both conferences.

The annual TAM Roundtable brings together participants from across the country directly involved in the management of transit capital assets. The event will feature two peer learning sessions that will focus on how TAM has evolved at agencies, including how TAM processes have evolved over the last few years. This meeting is an excellent opportunity for agencies to exchange best practices. The TAM Roundtable is open to public sector employees only, including transit agency staff, state DOT and MPO staff focused on transit. Please visit the [2023 TAM Roundtable registration page](#) to request to attend the event.

# New Resources

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**Cybersecurity Assessment Tool for Transit (CATT):** The [CATT](#), developed as part of the COVID-19 Research and Demonstration Grant/Cybersecurity Tool development project, allows transit agencies to self-assess their cyber preparedness and resilience. The tool helps develop and strengthen public transit organizations' cybersecurity programs to identify risks and prioritize activities to mitigate them.

# Articles

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**Chicago Transit Authority (CTA) Continues Efforts to Adapt Electric Buses to Winter's Challenges:** [CTA started experimenting with electric buses](#) in 2014 and has developed a system that will work as the transit authority moves to an all-electric fleet by 2040. Currently, CTA has about 1,900 buses that run mostly on diesel fuel. CTA is continuing to adapt electric buses to run efficiently during the cold winter months when lithium-ion batteries are not as efficient and lose their range.

**Over \$32 million announced to modernize Ohio's bus fleets and facilities:** [FTA announced \\$32.2 million in grants for Ohio](#) to help modernize bus fleets and facilities. Grant funds will help transit agencies purchase or lease low or no emission vehicles.

**Metropolitan Transportation Authority (MTA) to spend \$1 billion on subway, commuter rail accessibility upgrades:** The [MTA is set to advance](#) over \$1 billion in accessibility upgrades at subway and commuter rail stations across the New York City's metropolitan area. Eight stations in Brooklyn, Queens, and the Bronx are set to become ADA accessible with the addition of 21 new elevators.

**Pittsburgh Regional Transit (PRT) to restart construction on light rail tunnel:** [PRT will resume construction](#) inside the Mt. Lebanon light rail tunnel. Beginning on 3/06, contractors will start replacing the conduit on the inbound side of the tunnel.

**SEPTA Inks \$5.8M Contract to Make 3 Stations Fully ADA Accessible:** SEPTA has engaged Jacobs Engineering to perform accessibility improvements to stations in need of repair. The [accessibility improvements](#) are coming to three subway stations on the SEPTA Broad Street Line and Broad-Ridge Spur that are currently only accessible by stairs. The improvements will make the three stations fully ADA accessible.

**Free WRTA rides more economical than collecting fares:** Since March 2020, Worcester Regional Transit Authority's buses have been free of charge. Fare-free rides were implemented as a result COVID-19, and [the program](#) has [been extended](#) multiple times through June 2023.