

2023 Biennial FTA State and Tribal Programs and Transit Partnerships Conference

Safety Regulatory Update

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Presentation Purpose and Agenda

The purpose of this presentation is to provide an overview of the Federal Transit Administration's (FTA) safety policy initiatives, including actions to incorporate statutory changes from the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (BIL).

Presentation Agenda

- Current Regulatory Actions
- Public Transportation Agency Safety Plans (PTASP) Regulatory Update
- Safety Policy Priority Areas
- Cybersecurity
- Mental Health Resources
- Transit Advisory Committee for Safety (TRACS)
- National Public Transportation Safety Plan (NSP)
- Training Resources
- Q&A

Current Regulatory Actions (1 of 2)

Public Transportation Agency Safety Plans (PTASP)

- Incorporates new statutory requirements established through the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law
- The Notice of Proposed Rulemaking was published in the *Federal Register* in April 2023 and received 53 comments



Current Regulatory Actions (2 of 2)

Transit Worker Fitness for Duty

- Seeks public comment about establishing minimum standards related to transit worker fitness for duty

Public Transportation Safety Certification Training Program

- Amends training curriculum to reflect new requirements and training course information

State Safety Oversight

- Introduces changes to clarify State Safety Oversight Agencies' (SSOA) oversight responsibilities and to incorporate authority to conduct inspections



Key Changes to PTASP

Large Urbanized Area Providers

- Safety Committee
- Safety risk reduction program
- Safety Performance Targets for safety risk reduction program
- Safety training for maintenance employees

Small Urbanized Area Providers

- Cooperation with frontline transit worker representatives on Agency Safety Plan development

Proposed Changes to PTASP

Rail Transit Agencies

- Clarification of PTASP applicability
- Policies and procedures regarding State Safety Oversight Agency risk-based inspection
- Any policies and procedures for Roadway Worker Protection (RWP) the agency has issued

All Transit Agencies

- New and updated definitions
- Clarification regarding PTASP certification
- Transit worker assaults, near-misses, unsafe acts and conditions in an employee safety reporting program
- Infectious disease guidance from CDC or a State health authority
- Continuous Improvement Extended to Small Public Transportation Providers
- De-escalation training



PTASP Update Timeline

FTA published PTASP
NPRM in *Federal
Register*

April 26, 2023

Notice and Comment
period closed

June 26, 2023

FTA publishes updated
PTASP Final Rule in
Federal Register

Spring 2024



Safety Policy Priority Areas



Incorporate statutory changes in the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law



Reinforce the use of Safety Management Systems (SMS) in transit agencies



Coordinate and align with other FTA programs and forthcoming safety rulemakings



FTA Enhanced Transit Safety and Crime Prevention Initiative

- Provides [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), like *Assault Awareness and Prevention for Transit Operators* and *Violence in the Transit Workplace*



The screenshot shows the top of a website page. At the top left is the United States Department of Transportation logo and name. Below that is the Federal Transit Administration logo and name. On the right is an 'About' link. Below the navigation is a breadcrumb trail: Home / Regulations and Programs / Safety. The main heading is 'Enhanced Transit Safety and Crime Prevention Initiative'. Below the heading are three images: a transit worker on a platform, a hand holding a handrail, and a person boarding a bus. Below the images is the 'Overview' section, which contains the following text: '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.'

Cybersecurity Assessment Tool for Transit (CATT)

FTA published an open-source CATT tool on February 10, 2023, which assists small and mid-sized transit agencies in self-assessing their cybersecurity preparedness

CATT has three primary components:

Data collection form

Resulting report produced
given data input from transit
agency

Resource guide on how to
begin practices

CATT provides an on-ramp for agencies to identify key practices of a modern cybersecurity program with self assessment that uses Department of Homeland Security's Cyber Resilience Review as a basis and aligns with National Institute of Standards and Technology framework



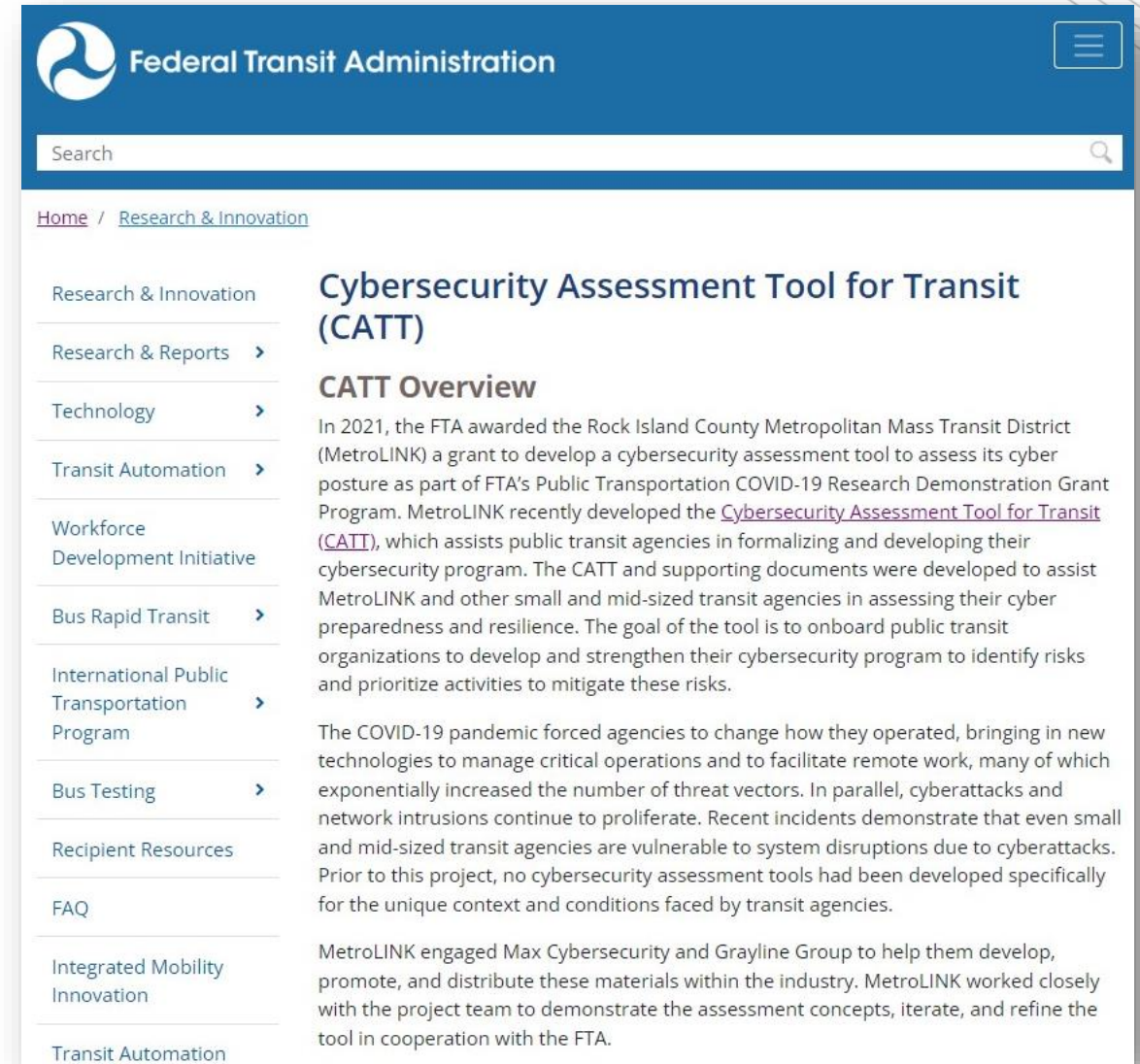
Additional Resources

[Cybersecurity Assessment Tool for Transit \(CATT\)](#)

[Cybersecurity Assessment Tool for Transit \(CATT\): Self-Assessment Package](#)

[Cybersecurity Program](#)

[Cybersecurity Safety Page](#)



The screenshot shows the Federal Transit Administration website. The header includes the FTA logo and name, a search bar, and a menu icon. The main content area is titled "Cybersecurity Assessment Tool for Transit (CATT)" and features a "CATT Overview" section. The overview text describes the tool's development and purpose. A left sidebar contains a navigation menu with various categories.

Federal Transit Administration

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Recipient Resources

FAQ

Integrated Mobility Innovation

Transit Automation

Cybersecurity Assessment Tool for Transit (CATT)

CATT Overview

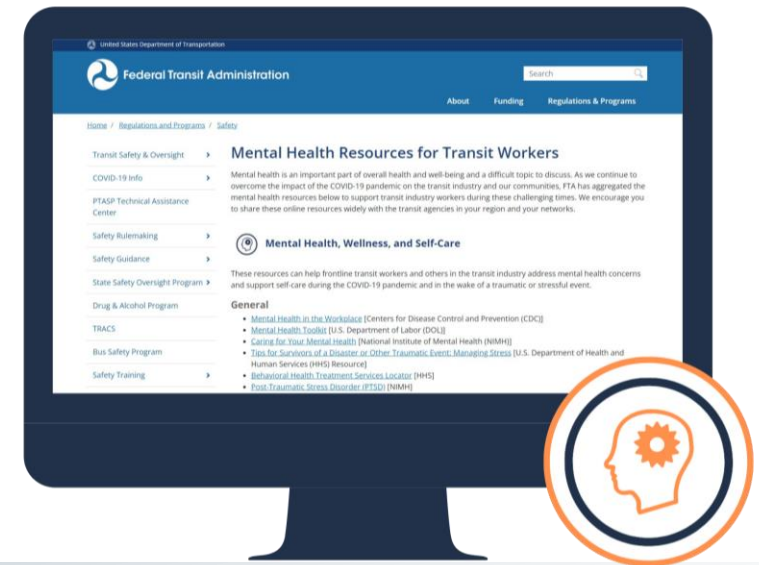
In 2021, the FTA awarded the Rock Island County Metropolitan Mass Transit District (MetroLINK) a grant to develop a cybersecurity assessment tool to assess its cyber posture as part of FTA's Public Transportation COVID-19 Research Demonstration Grant Program. MetroLINK recently developed the [Cybersecurity Assessment Tool for Transit \(CATT\)](#), which assists public transit agencies in formalizing and developing their cybersecurity program. The CATT and supporting documents were developed to assist MetroLINK and other small and mid-sized transit agencies in assessing their cyber preparedness and resilience. The goal of the tool is to onboard public transit organizations to develop and strengthen their cybersecurity program to identify risks and prioritize activities to mitigate these risks.

The COVID-19 pandemic forced agencies to change how they operated, bringing in new technologies to manage critical operations and to facilitate remote work, many of which exponentially increased the number of threat vectors. In parallel, cyberattacks and network intrusions continue to proliferate. Recent incidents demonstrate that even small and mid-sized transit agencies are vulnerable to system disruptions due to cyberattacks. Prior to this project, no cybersecurity assessment tools had been developed specifically for the unique context and conditions faced by transit agencies.

MetroLINK engaged Max Cybersecurity and Grayline Group to help them develop, promote, and distribute these materials within the industry. MetroLINK worked closely with the project team to demonstrate the assessment concepts, iterate, and refine the tool in cooperation with the FTA.

Mental Health Resources for Transit Workers

- FTA published [Mental Health Resources](#) 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.



Transit Advisory Committee for Safety

- 25 members from across the transit industry
- Held meetings on 1/31/23 (virtual) and 6/7/23 and 6/8/23 (hybrid)
- 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-operated-vehicle collisions**
 - **Research and identify cybersecurity and data security system concerns** for public transit agencies and recommend FTA actions and policies to mitigate those hazards

Federal Transit Administration

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Transit Advisory Committee for Safety

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. every day. Transit agencies have fewer fatalities and injuries than any other transportation mode. Following a period in the early 2000s, the safety record of the transit industry began to deteriorate. The Transit Advisory Committee for Safety (TRACS) was one of many initiatives FTA implemented to improve transit safety. In November 2009, the U.S. Transportation Secretary authorized the establishment of TRACS.

TRACS provides information, advice, and recommendations on transit safety to the U.S. Transportation Secretary and FTA Administrator, but does not make determinations of fact or policy. TRACS is comprised of a diverse panel of professionals representing a variety of stakeholders and interests to cooperatively address transit safety issues by 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 greater safety and public confidence in the nation's public transportation systems.

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.

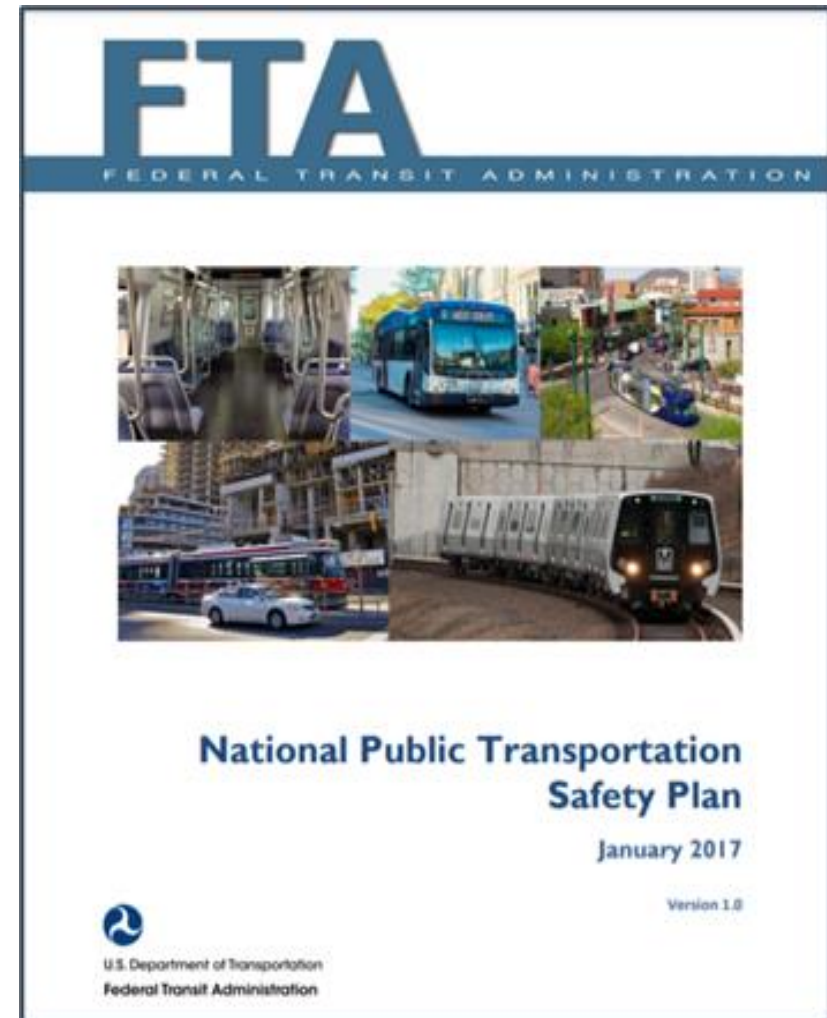
- **Chairperson:** Jim Keane
Miss. Chairperson: Lisa Staes

rough email updates; select "Safety & Oversight/Transit
by (TRACS)"

For additional information, visit [FTA's TRACS Webpage](#)

National Public Transportation Safety Plan (NSP)

- FTA's strategic plan and primary guidance document to improve transit safety performance.
- Applies to all recipients of federal financial assistance under 49 U.S.C. Chapter 53.
- Communicates FTA's Safety Management System (SMS) approach to improving the transit industry's safety performance.
- Serves as a policy document and communications tool.
- A repository of standards, guidance, best practices, tools, technical assistance, and other resources.
- The comment period in the Federal Register for the NSP closed on July 31, 2023. FTA is currently reviewing comments received.



New Bipartisan Infrastructure Law Requirements

The Bipartisan Infrastructure Law requires FTA to update the NSP to address new requirements:

- Safety performance criteria for all providers
- Risk reduction program safety performance criteria
- Voluntary minimum safety standards and recommended practices
- Precautionary and reactive actions required to ensure public and personnel safety and health during an emergency, in consultation with the Department of Health and Human Services

Available Safety Training

- **NTI Safety Courses**
 - Assault Awareness and Prevention for Transit Operators
 - Violence in the Transit Workplace – Prevention, Response and Recovery
- **TSI Courses for transit safety professionals**
- **More information on FTA’s [Safety Training](#) page and in the [Safety Spotlight Newsletter](#)**
- For questions about FTA safety training offerings, contact FTASafetyPromotion@dot.gov



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



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Stay informed with the latest FTA news, transit industry updates and resources right to your inbox. **Subscribe today!**



Federal Transit Administration

Enter your email address to receive FTA email notifications and click **Submit**.

The screenshot shows the top of the subscription form with the U.S. Department of Transportation Federal Transit Administration logo and a header image of a transit station. Below the header, the text reads "Email Updates" and "To sign up for updates or to access your subscriber preferences, please enter your contact information below." There is a text input field labeled "Email Address" with a red asterisk indicating it is required. Below the input field are two buttons: "Submit" and "Cancel".

- Safety & Oversight
 - Safety Advisories & Directives
 - Drug & Alcohol
 - Safety Management Systems
 - Safety Training & Conferences
 - Safety & Oversight Newsletter
 - State Safety Oversight Program
 - Transit Advisory Committee for Safety (TRACS)
 - Bus Safety
 - Public Transportation Agency Safety Plan (PTASP)
- TrAMS
 - TrAMS
- Initiatives
 - CCAM/Rides to Wellness
- FTA Regional Offices
 - Region 10

Select the categories and topics for updates:

- All topics in the **Safety & Oversight** category
- **Transit Safety & Oversight** (Programs category)
- **Calendar of Events** (News & Events category)

QUESTIONS & ANSWERS



Contact

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