

FTA and Transit Agency Safety Updates: Safety Rulemakings, SMS/PTASP Implementation, and Safety Committees

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Agenda

- FTA Office of Transit Safety and Oversight Priorities
- Safety Risk Management (SRM) Process
- Example: Bus-to-Pedestrian Collisions
- Safety Culture
- FTA Regulations and Guidance Updates

Office of Transit Safety and Oversight Priorities

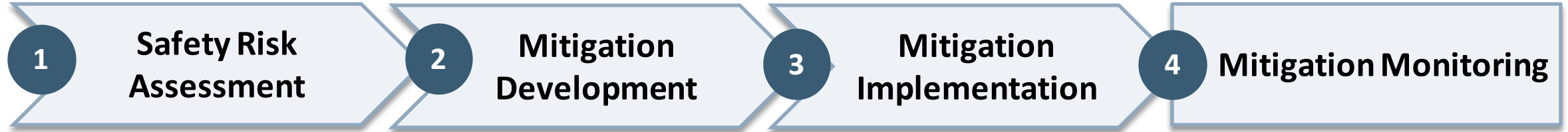
Reduce assaults on workers and riders

Publish Public Transportation Agency Safety Plans regulation and National Safety Plan

Use data to inform safety and oversight decision-making



FTA's Four-Step Safety Risk Management Process



- The SRM program identifies hazards and consequences associated with the safety topic
- The SRM program conducts a data-driven assessment of overall risk

- The SRM program considers mitigation options
- The SRM program determines which mitigation(s) will be the most effective at reducing the risk associated with the safety topic

- The SRM program implements the chosen mitigations and coordinates with other FTA offices (as applicable)

- The SRM program develops a mitigation monitoring timeline
- The SRM program identifies mitigation performance measures
- The SRM program may determine the safety topic requires further analysis/mitigation



Key Safety Focus Areas

- Transit Worker and Customer Safety
- Bus to Person Collisions
- Rail Collisions and Rail Grade Crossing issues
- Fatigue Management and Hours of Service
- Roadway worker protection

**Denver RTD derailment
(March 2023)**



**CTA O'Hare Airport Derailment
(March 2014)**



EXAMPLE: BUS TO PEDESTRIAN COLLISIONS



Purpose of Safety Advisory 23-1: The Data



From 2008 to 2021, transit agencies reported **7,298 bus-to-person collisions** to the National Transit Database, which resulted in **537 fatalities** and **7,329 injuries**

Bus-to-Person collisions accounted for:



Of All Transit Fatalities



Of Bus-Transit Fatalities

Injuries and Fatalities by Location

Location of Bus-to-Person Collision injuries and fatalities from 2017 to 2021:

Roadway Intersections

42%

Mid-Block of Roadway

38%

Bus Stops

15%

All Other Locations

5%

Source: National Transit Database, 2017–2021

Bus-to-Person Collisions Hazards

- A pillar
- Fare box
- Side mirrors

1. Vision Impairment: Bus Design

2. Vision Impairment: External to Bus

- Posts
- Street Vendors
- Signage

- Pedestrians
- Bicyclists
- Micromobility users

3. Bus Path Entry

4. Space Limitations

- Bus Stops
- Adjacent Sidewalks



Recommended Actions (1 of 2)

Follow Safety Advisory 23-1 Guidance:

- **Consider mitigation strategies** to reduce bus-to-person collisions
- **Identify specific hazards** that may cause or contribute to bus-to-person collisions
- **Assess the associated safety risk**
- **Consider safety risk mitigations**

FTA also recommends that transit agencies identify and assess additional hazards **unique to their agency's operating environment.**



Recommended Actions (2 of 2)

Transit agencies that focus on **bus operator vision impairment** as a safety hazard may consider the below categories of safety risk mitigations, among others:



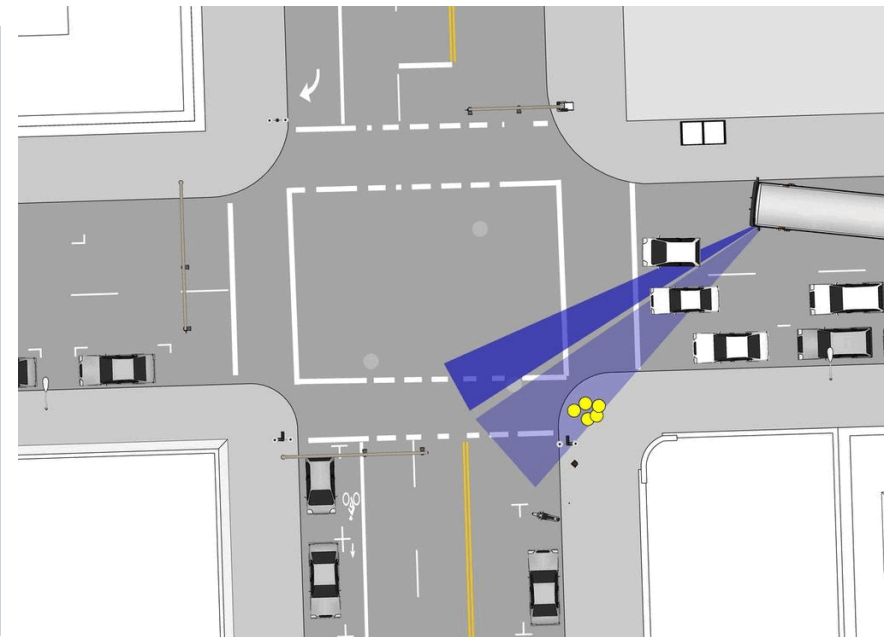
Vehicle Design

1. Vehicles
2. Vehicle Systems

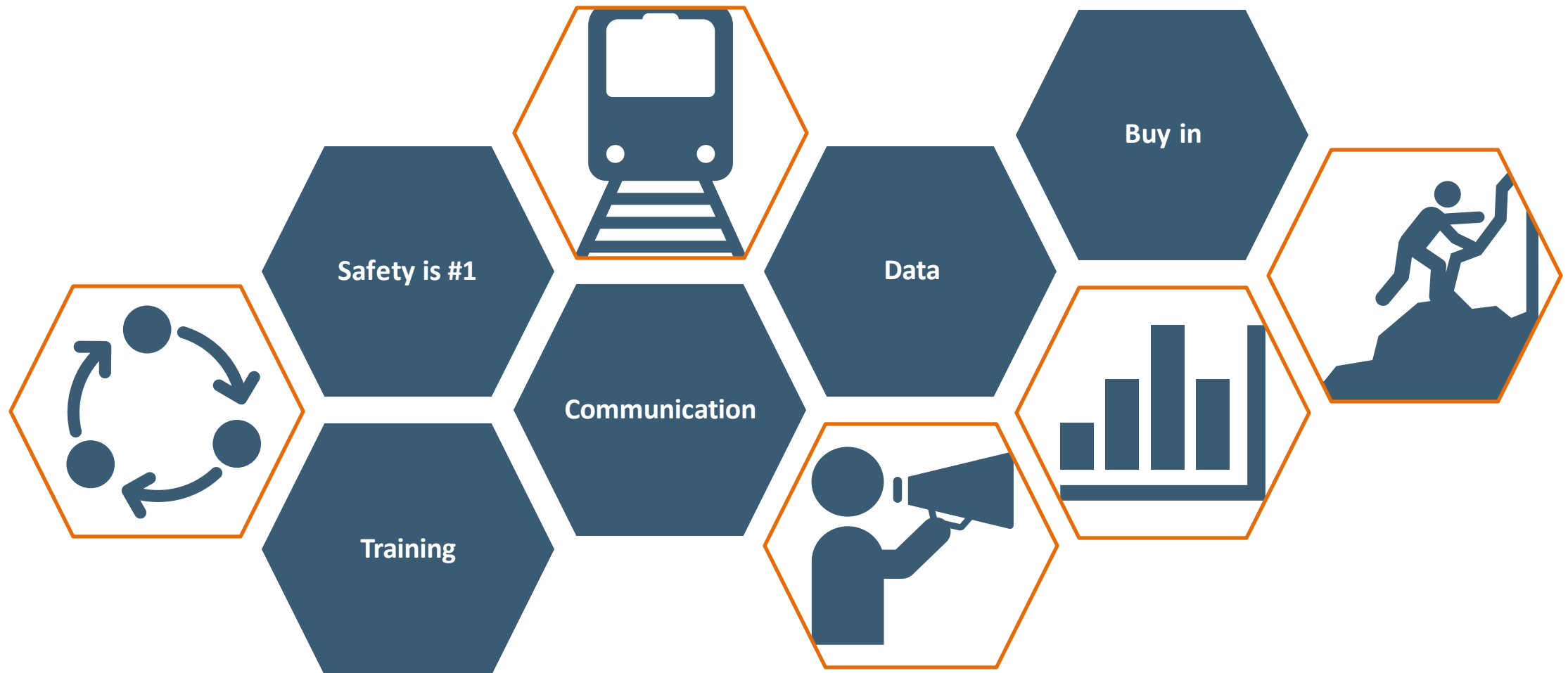


Operator Driving Policies and Procedures

1. Scanning
2. Square Left Turns



Factors in Strengthening Safety Culture



Source: Transit Cooperative Research Program (TCRP) Report 174, 2015

REGULATIONS AND GUIDANCE UPDATES



Regulations and Guidance Updates (1 of 2)

Overview & Status

Public Transportation Agency Safety Plans (PTASP)

- Incorporates new requirements established through the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law
- **The Notice of Proposed Rulemaking (NPRM) was published in the *Federal Register* in April 2023**

National Public Transportation Safety Plan (NSP)

- Amends NSP to incorporate new requirements established through the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law
- **NSP was published for Notice and Comment in the *Federal Register* in May 2023**

Public Transportation Safety Certification Training Program (PTSCTP)

- Amends training curriculum to reflect new requirements and training course information
- **Published for Notice and Comment in the *Federal Register* in October 2023**

Transit Worker Hours of Service and Fatigue Risk Management (TW HOS FRM)

- Seeks public comment about establishing standards related to transit worker hours of service and fatigue risk management
- **Advance Notice of Proposed Rulemaking (ANPRM) was published in the *Federal Register* in October 2023**



Regulations and Guidance Updates (2 of 2)

Overview & Status

State Safety Oversight (SSO)

- Introduces changes to clarify State Safety Oversight Agencies' (SSOA) oversight responsibilities and to incorporate authority to conduct inspections
- **NPRM was published in November 2023**

Rail Transit Roadway Worker Protection (RWP)

- Establishes minimum baseline standards and risk-based redundant protection requirements for rail transit roadway worker protection.
- **Anticipated NPRM publication: Spring 2024**

Transit Worker and Public Safety (TWPS)

- Establishes minimum baseline standards and risk-based requirements to address transit worker and public safety, including but not limited to FAST Act Section 3022 requirements
- **Anticipated NPRM publication: TBD**



Questions

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