## APTA Rail Conference FTA Safety Policy and Safety Promotion Updates

**Jeremy Furrer** 

**Division Chief, Safety Policy and Promotion** 

Office of Transit Safety and Oversight

**Federal Transit Administration** 

6/5/2024



### **Purpose and Agenda**

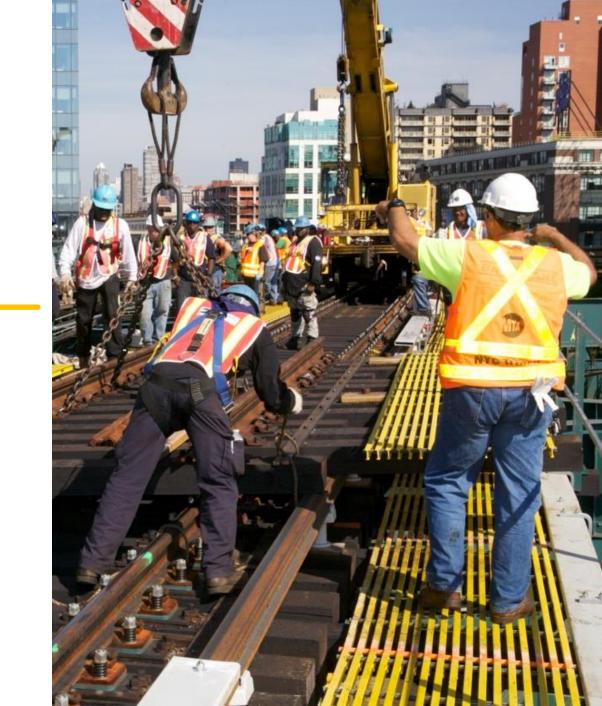
Purpose: The purpose of this presentation is to provide updates on the Federal Transit Administration (FTA)'s recent policy and rulemaking efforts, including a summary of FTA's Risk-Based Inspection Program, and an overview Safety Promotion activities.

#### Agenda:

- Where We're Going: Policy Actions
- Regulatory Activity Updates
- Risk-Based Inspection (RBI) Program
  - RBI Special Directive Milestones
- Safety Promotion
  - USDOT Safety Mission and Vision
  - What is Safety Culture?
  - Safety Training and Resources

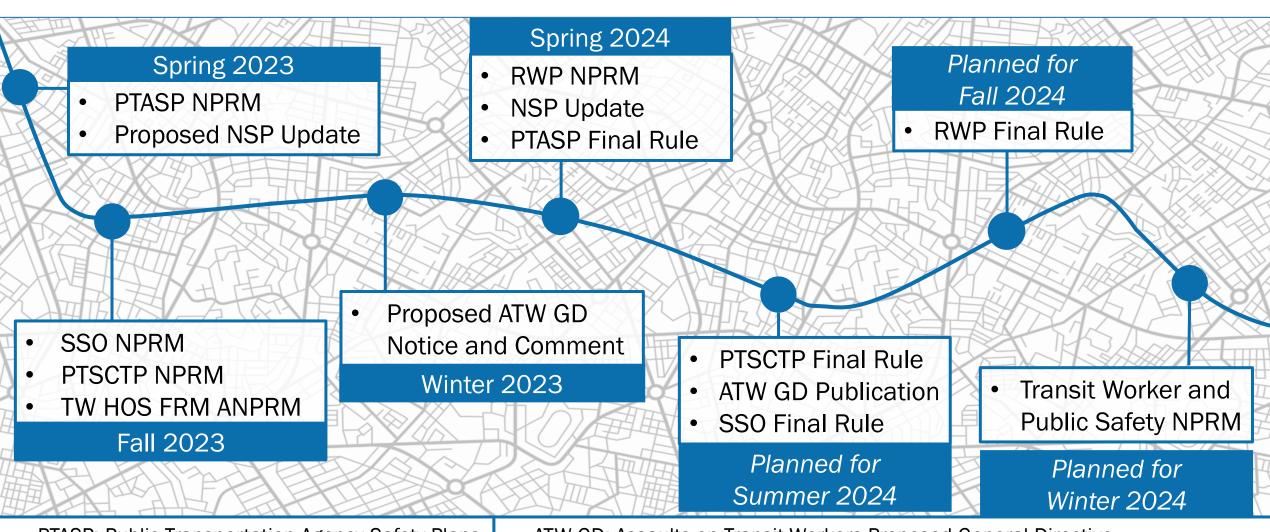


## **Safety Policy**





### Where We're Going: Policy Actions



- PTASP: Public Transportation Agency Safety Plans
- NPRM: Notice of Proposed Rulemaking
- NSP: National Safety Plan
- SSO: State Safety Oversight

- ATW GD: Assaults on Transit Workers Proposed General Directive
- PTSCTP: Public Transportation Safety Certification Training Program
- TW HOS FRM: Transit Worker Hours of Service & Fatigue Risk Management
- RWP: Rail Transit Roadway Worker Protection

### Regulatory Activity Update (Slide 1 of 2)

National Public Transportation Safety Plan (NSP) Update to NSP that adds additional performance measures, best practices, tools, technical assistance, voluntary standards and other resources.

Comment Period: Closed July 31, 2023

Published April 2024

Public Transportation
Agency Safety
Plans (PTASP)

Incorporates new requirements established through the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law.

Comment Period: Closed June 26, 2023

Published April 2024

Public Transportation
Safety Certification
Training Program
(PTSCTP)

Proposes amending training curriculum to reflect new requirements and training course information.

NPRM Published in the Federal Register: October 2023

Comment Period: Closed December 26, 2023

Anticipated Final Rule Publication Spring 2024

Rail Transit Roadway
Worker Protection
(RWP)

Proposes minimum baseline standards and risk-based redundant protection requirements regarding RWP.

NPRM Published in the Federal Register: March 2024

Comment Period: Closed May 24, 2024

Anticipated Final Rule Publication Fall 2024



### **Regulatory Activity Update (Slide 2 of 2)**

State Safety Oversight (SSO)

Proposes changes to clarify State Safety Oversight Agencies' (SSOA) oversight responsibilities and authority to conduct inspections.

NPRM Published in the Federal Register: November 2023

Comment Period: Closed February 15, 2024

Anticipated Final Rule Publication Summer 2024

Transit Worker
Public Safety

Proposes minimum baseline standards and risk-based requirements to address transit worker and public safety including but not limited to addressing FAST Act section 3022 requirements.

Comment Period: To Be Determined By NPRM Publication Date

Anticipated NPRM
Publication
Winter 2024

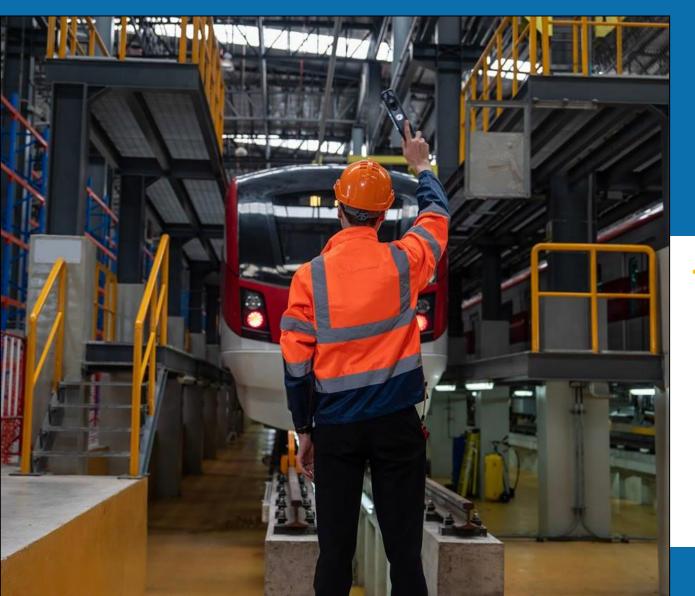
Transit Worker Hours
of Service and
Fatigue Risk
Management

Asks questions about establishing minimum standards related to transit worker Hours of Service and Fatigue Risk Management. Comments are currently being reviewed and analyzed.

Comment Period: Closed January 29, 2024

ANPRM Published October 2023

### **Risk-Based Inspection (RBI) Program**



The Bipartisan Infrastructure Law requires that all SSOAs develop and implement an RBI program for the RTAs they oversee.

RBI programs analyze data to better focus resources on safety concerns and hazards associated with the highest levels of safety risk.

- As required by the BIL, FTA issued special directives to all SSOAs requiring them to develop and begin to implement an RBI program by October 21, 2024
- SSOAs are currently submitting RBI program plans to FTA for approval
- SSOAs will begin implementing their RBI programs this summer and fall



### **RBI Special Directive Milestones**

#### **DEVELOPMENT**

#### **IMPLEMENTATION**









#### **DEVELOP**

**APPROVE** 

VERIFY

Fall 2022 - Summer 2024

By October 21, 2024

Varies based on submission

SSOA develops and submits its RBI program plan

FTA reviews and approves SSOA RBI program plan

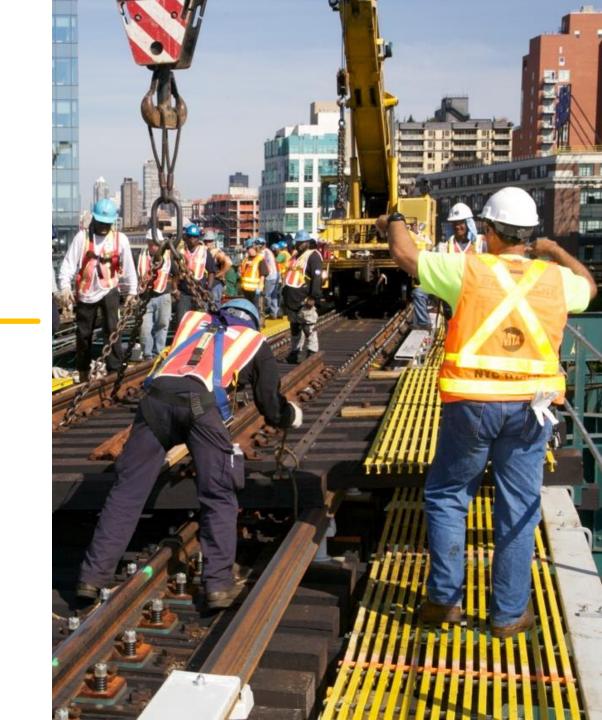
SSOA submits evidence demonstrating at least 6 months of implementation

**IMPLEMENT** 

Within 1 year of approval

FTA verifies implementation and closes special directive

## **Safety Promotion**





### **USDOT Safety Mission and Vision**



Department of Transportation



Federal Transit Administration



Office of Transit
Safety and
Oversight

"Make our transportation system safer for all people. Advance a future without transportation-related serious injuries and fatalities."

Source: DOT – FY 2022-26 U.S. DOT Strategic Plan, 2022

"Reduce safety events on our Nation's transit systems."

Source: FTA – Mission, Vision, Values and Goals. 2023

"Delivering a national safety and oversight program that improves public transportation for America's communities"

Source: TSO Strategic Framework, 2023



### What is a Safety Culture?



Shared Beliefs and Attitudes - How the transportation system works and what individual roles should be



Shared Values - What is important to all public transportation system members who are responsible for safe, efficient revenue service



Behavioral Norms - The way we do our jobs, whether observed or not

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



### **Safety Training and Resources (1 of 3)**

Creating a safety culture requires safety promotion. FTA provides numerous training resources that support the establishment and promotion a safety culture within RTAs:

# **Transportation Safety Institute (TSI)**

- TSI assists FTA by developing, managing, and delivering instruction through instructor-led and e-learning technologies
- General registration for FTA-sponsored TSI training is open, and courses support FTA grantees subject to the Public Transportation Safety Certification Training Program (PTSCTP) regulation with initial and refresher training
- Contact <u>FTASafetyPromotion@dot.gov</u> for more information

### **National Transit Institute (NTI)**

- NTI provides training, education, and clearinghouse services in support of public transportation and quality of life in the U.S.
- Register for "Assault Awareness and Prevention for Transit Operators" and "Violence in the Transit Workplace – Prevention, Response, and Recovery" on the Office of Transit Safety and Oversight website

### **Safety Training and Resources (2 of 3)**

Creating a safety culture requires safety promotion. FTA provides numerous training resources that support the establishment and promotion a safety culture within RTAs:

# Assistance Center (TAC)

- The PTASP TAC provides comprehensive technical assistance to help the transit industry meet PTASP regulation requirements as outlined in 49 CFR part 673.
- TAC provides one-on-one technical assistance, facilitates training and peer-sharing via live webinars and roundtables, conducts voluntary technical reviews of draft Agency Safety Plans, and maintains a resource library with technical assistance tools.

# De-Escalation Training Resource Directory

- FTA provides resources on de-escalation training to support the transit industry in developing, implementing, and updating their training programs.
- Resources tailored specifically to SSOAs, RTAs, and other entities are available here: <u>De-Escalation Training Resource Directory | FTA (dot.gov)</u>

### **Safety Training and Resources (3 of 3)**

Creating a safety culture requires safety promotion. FTA provides numerous training resources that support the establishment and promotion a safety culture within RTAs:

Safety
Management
System (SMS) in
Practice
Workshops

- FTA has started a new workshop series, SMS in Practice, focusing on application and skill building.
- The first workshop, Advancing Safety Risk Management (SRM) and Safety Assurance (SA), explores challenges identified in TAC inquiries, audits, and Agency Safety Plan reviews.
- This workshop is intended for transit agency safety personnel, operations and maintenance managers overseeing agency safety performance, and SSOA staff.

### Thank you!

**Jeremy Furrer** 

Jeremy.Furrer@dot.gov



