SSOR Annual Report Refresher Training Overview

Transit Safety and Oversight Federal Transit Administration

February 20, 2025



Speaker Introductions



Myesha Stephney
Program Analyst
Office of Safety Oversight
and Compliance



John P. Chism
Program Manager
Office of Safety Oversight
and Compliance

FTA Mission, Vision, Values



Mission

Improve America's Communities through Public Transportation



Vision

A Better Quality of Life for All Built on Public Transportation Excellence

Values

Resiliency

Service Provide reliable, transparent, responsive, and anticipatory services to meet stakeholder needs

Integrity Commitment to the highest professional and ethical standards

Innovation Foster new ideas, concepts, and solutions for improved outcomes

Optimize decisions, resources, and systems to make long-term positive impacts on the environment, infrastructure, and safety

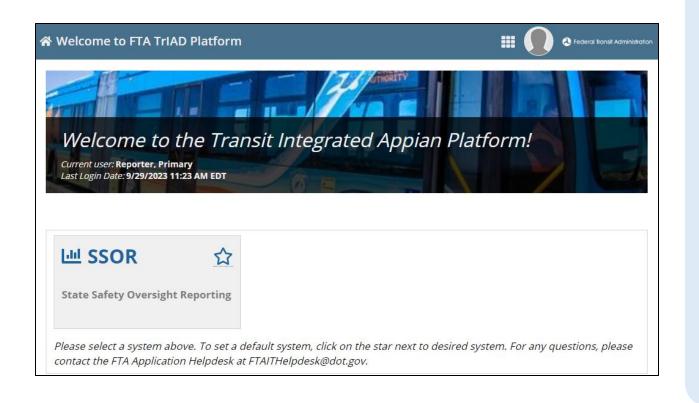
Agenda

- Overview and Primary Functions
- Benefits of SSOR
- Enhancements and New Features
- SSOR Modules and Features
- Modules and Known Challenges
- National Transit Database Integration and Access
- Modes in Engineering
- Q & A



SSOR Overview and Primary Functions

https://faces.fta.dot.gov/suite/



SSOR satisfies requirement for annual State Safety Oversight Agency (SSOA) reporting.

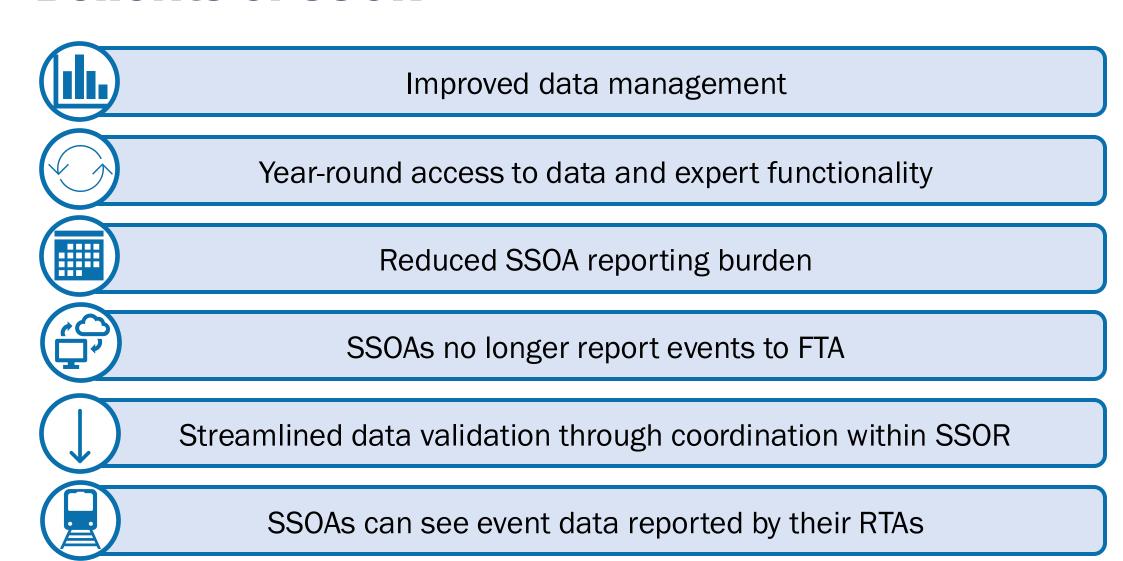
- Per CFR 674.39, SSOAs must submit an Annual Report by March 15th annually to FTA.
- Safety data "must be submitted electronically through a reporting system specified by FTA."

SSOR also:

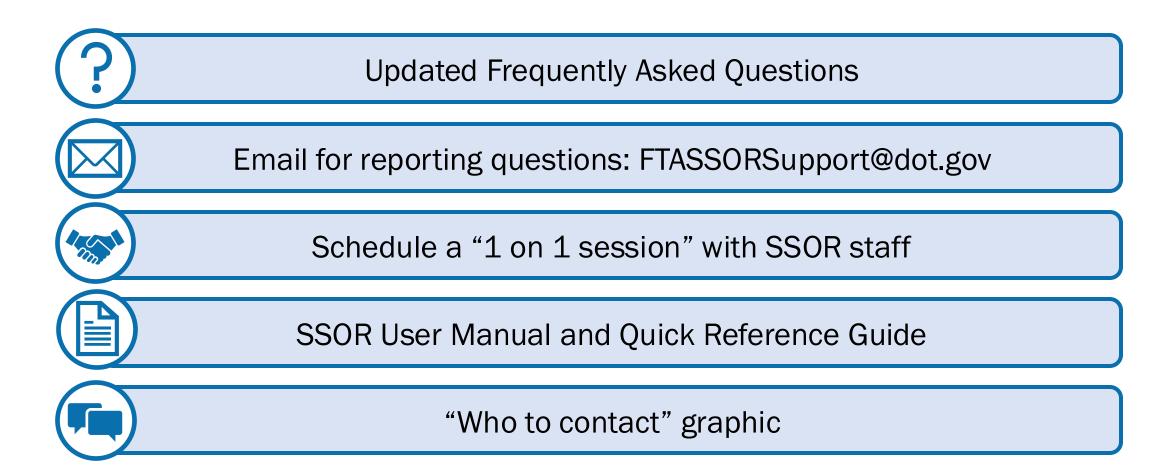
- Serves as FTA's source of contact information for SSOA personnel and rail transit agency safety staff
 - Allows for SSOAs to document SSO Program activity throughout the year
 - Provides SSOAs with access to current and historical SSO Program data for their agency



Benefits of SSOR



Enhancements and New Features



Poll Question #1

For questions about using SSOR, reporting policy, or NTD/Event Threshold Questions, or to schedule a 1-on-1 session, what Email address should you use?

- A. SSOR IT HELP (FTA.SSOR.HELP@dot.gov)
- B. FTA IT Help Desk (FTAITHelpDesk@dot.gov)
- C. SSOR Support (FTASSORSupport@dot.gov)



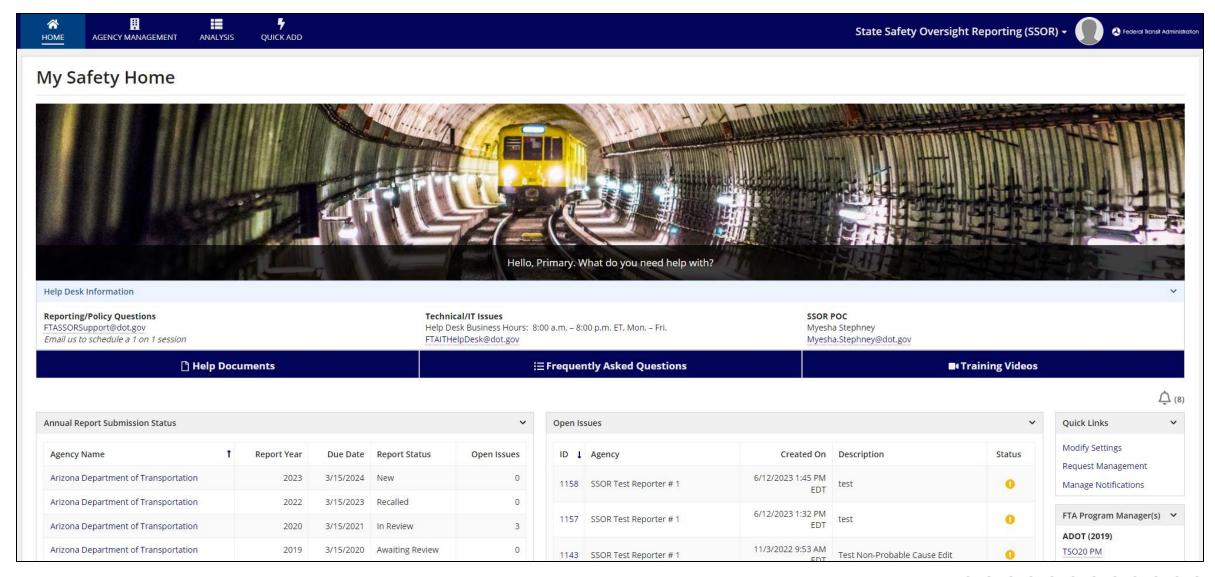
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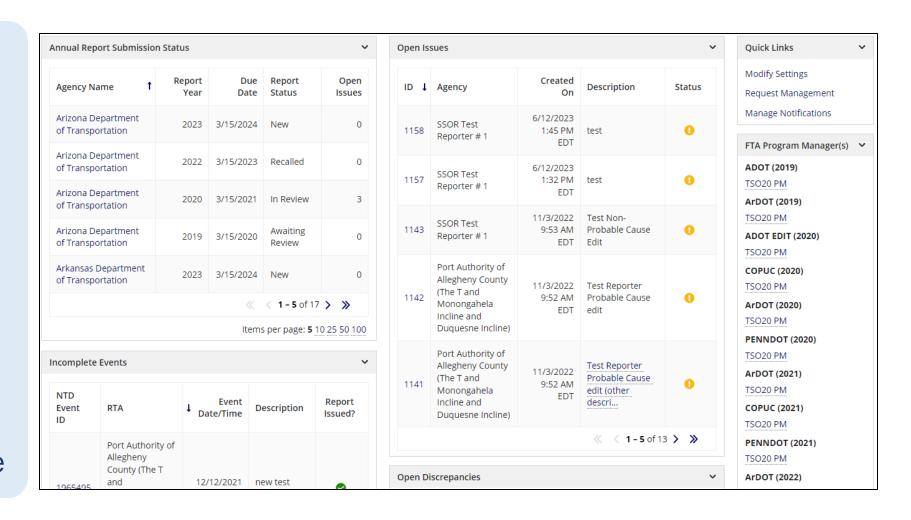


SSOR Homepage



SSOR Homepage

- Easy navigation to data
- Pending items for user review
 - Annual Report
 Submission Status
 - Incomplete Events
 - Pending Requests
 - Open Issues
 - Open Discrepancies
- Quick Links and FTA Contacts for Assistance



SSOR Modules



















Reporting Modules

- Profile
- Contacts
- **Corrective Action Plans**
- SSO Triennial Audit of the RTA
- **Internal Safety Review**
- **Events**

Validation Modules

- Issues
- Discrepancies

Module Features

Report Year

You can use a dropdown to select what year you want to view

Currently Viewing

You can switch between viewing SSOA data or RTA-specific data

Comments

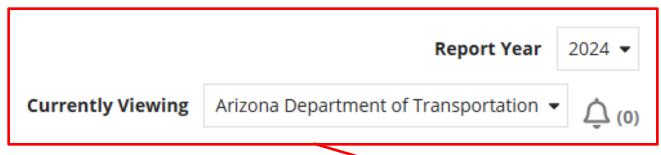
You can make comments directly from SSOR forms You can tag individuals to coordinate with FTA staff and other SSOA users

Filters

You can narrow down Module data by specific data points within each module

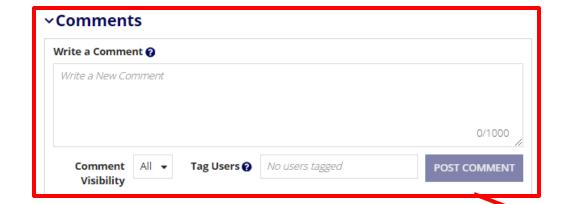


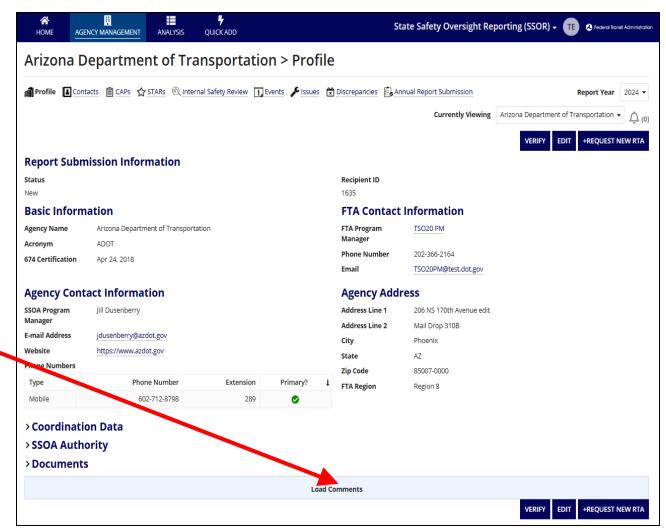
Module Features: Report Year and Currently Viewing



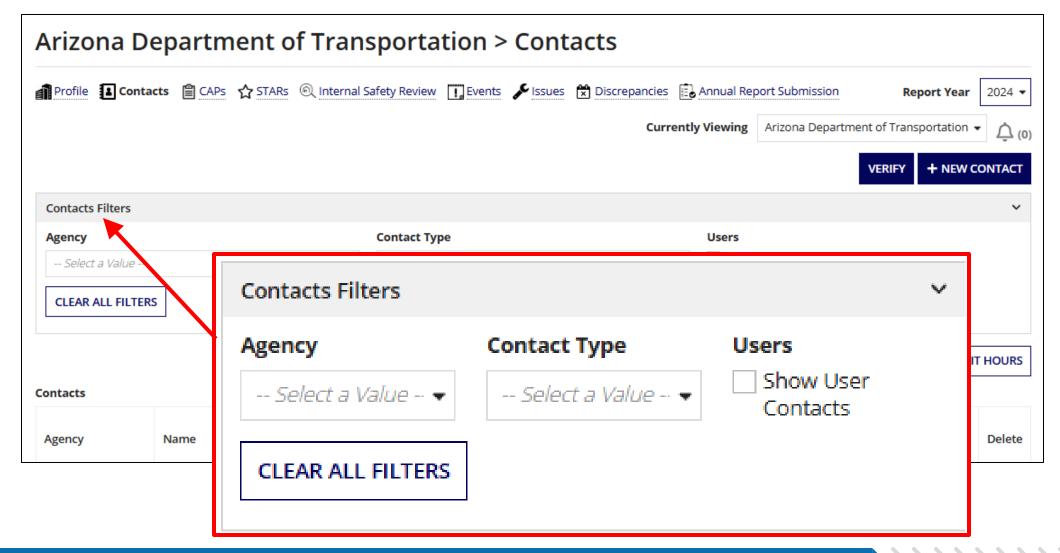


Module Feature: Comments

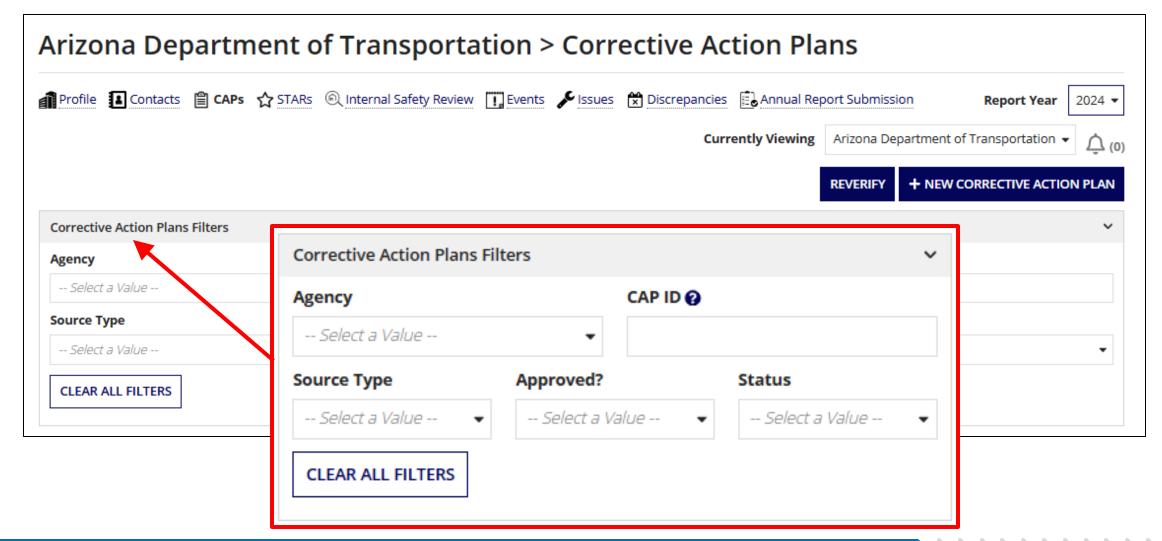




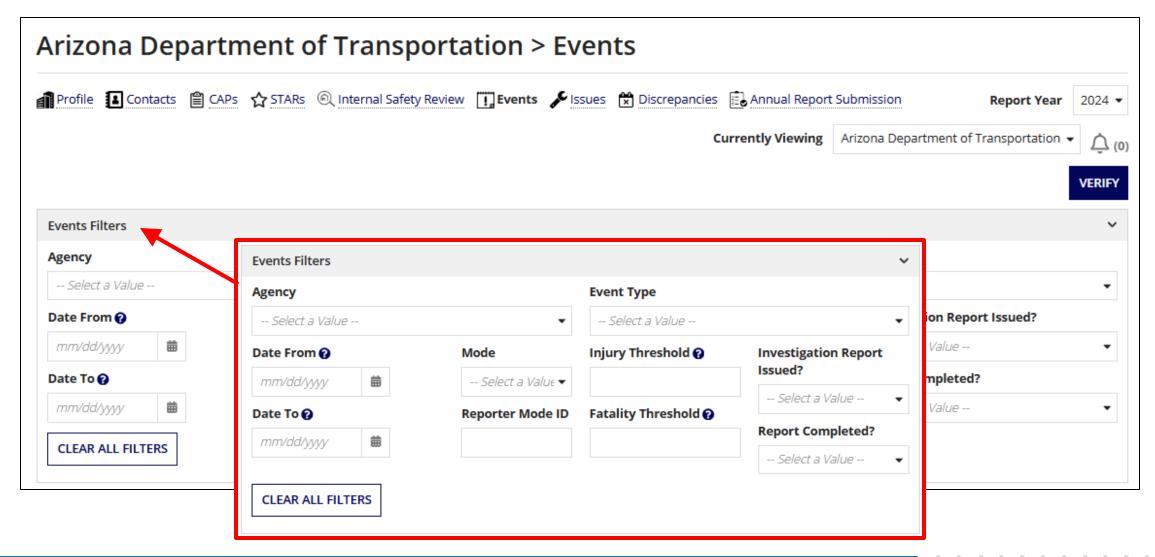
Module Feature: Filters



Module Feature: Filters



Module Feature: Filters



Poll Question #2

With March 15th falling on a Saturday this year, what day is the 2024 SSOR Annual Report submission deadline?

- A. Friday, March 14
- B. Saturday, March 15
- C. Sunday, March 16
- D. Monday, March 17



Poll Question #2

With March 15th falling on a Saturday this year, what day is the 2024 SSOR Annual Report submission deadline?

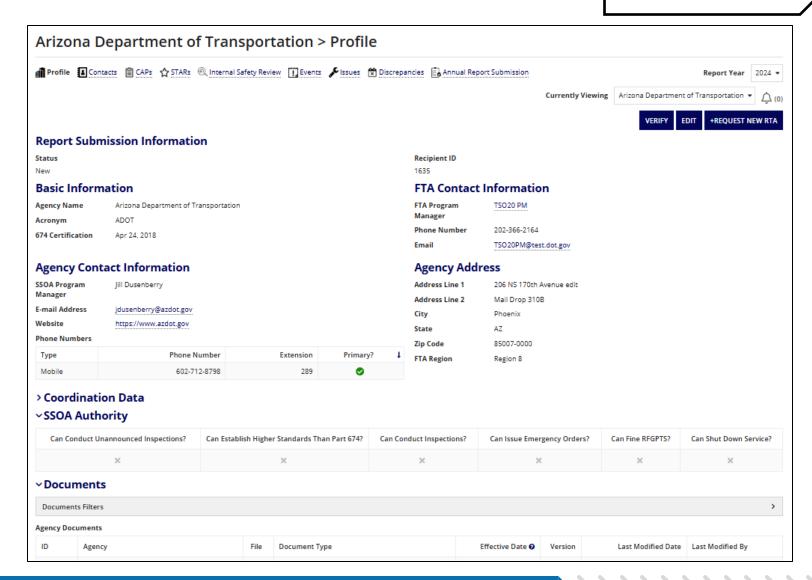
- A. Friday, March 14
- B. Saturday, March 15
- C. Sunday, March 16
- D. Monday, March 17



Profile - SSOAs



- Agency contact information
- CoordinationData
- SSOA Authority
- Documents

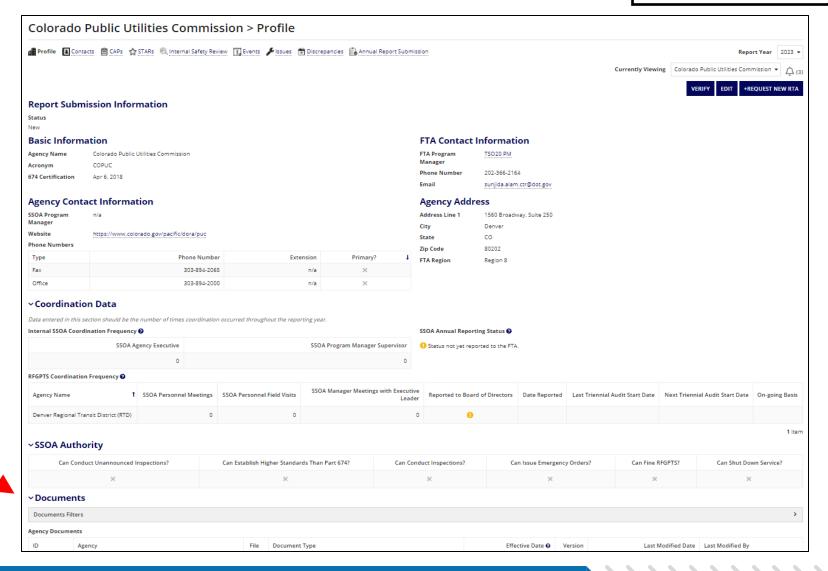




Profile - SSOAs



Challenge: Some SSOAs did not upload sufficient documentation of Annual Safety Status Reports transmittal to the Governor's Office and the Board of Directors



Profile - SSOAs



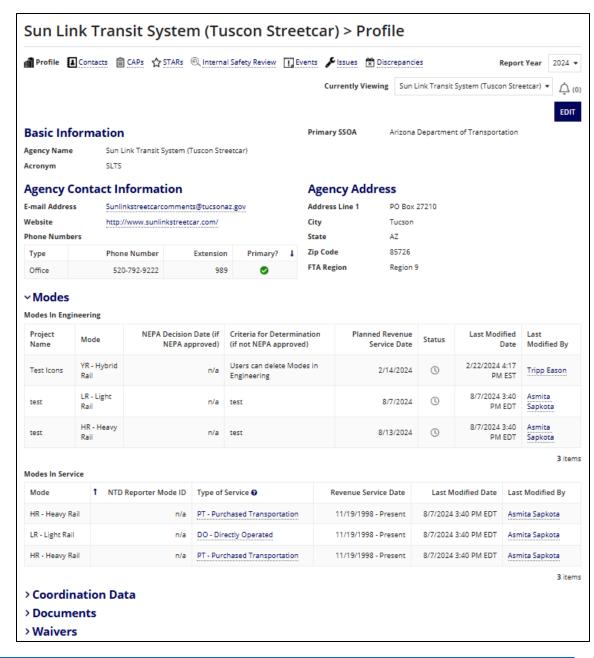
Required SSOA Annual Report Documents:

- Annual Safety Status Report to the Board of Directors
- Annual Safety Status Report to FTA
- Annual Safety Status to Governor
- Annual Spend Plan for the Reporting Year
- Certificate of Compliance
- Organizational Chart
- Program Standard
- Technical Training Plan

Docume	nts Filters						
gency Do	ocuments						
ID	Agency	File	Document Type †	Effective Date ②	Version	Last Modified Date	Last Modified By
125035	Wisconsin Department of Transportation	6	Annual Safety Status Report to Board of Directors or Equivalent Entity	4/17/2023	2	5/1/2023 5:13 PM GMT+00:00	Carl Eason
125036	Wisconsin Department of Transportation	6	Annual Safety Status Report to FTA	3/15/2023	2	5/1/2023 5:13 PM GMT+00:00	Carl Eason
125037	Wisconsin Department of Transportation	6	Annual Safety Status to Governor	4/17/2023	2	5/1/2023 5:13 PM GMT+00:00	Carl Eason
125039	Wisconsin Department of Transportation	B	Annual Spend Plan for the Reporting Year	3/15/2023	2	5/1/2023 5:13 PM GMT+00:00	Carl Eason
125038	Wisconsin Department of Transportation	B	Certificate of Compliance	3/15/2023	2	5/1/2023 5:13 PM GMT+00:00	Carl Eason
125040	Wisconsin Department of Transportation	B	Organizational Chart	2/28/2023	2	5/1/2023 5:13 PM GMT+00:00	Carl Eason
125041	Wisconsin Department of Transportation	B	Program Standard	4/10/2018	2	5/1/2023 5:13 PM GMT+00:00	Carl Eason
125042	Wisconsin Department of Transportation	B	Technical Training Plan	1/13/2022	2	5/1/2023 5:13 PM GMT+00:00	Carl Eason

Profile - RTAs

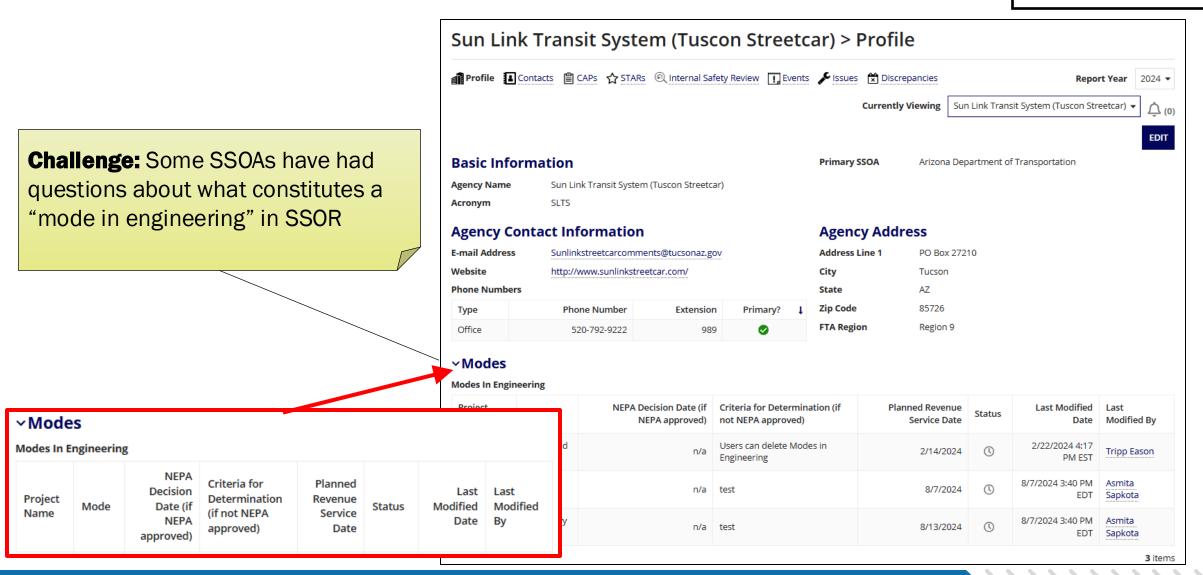
- Basic Information
- Agency Contact
 Information
- Agency Address
- Modes
- Modes In Engineering
- Coordination Data
- Documents
- Waivers





Profile - RTAs





Contacts



- Agency
- Name
- Title

- Primary Phone
- Email

- Hours Worked, Previous Hours
 Worked, Difference in Hours
- Date Range

- Type
- User

ontacts													
Agency	Name	Title	Primary Phone	Email	Hours Worked	Previous Year Hours Worked	Difference in Hours	Date Range	Туре	User	Edit	View	Dele
Denver Regional Transit District (RTD)	Robert Grado	Chief of Police		\sim	n/a	n/a	n/a	2017 - Present	Security Alternate	×	Ø	Q	×
Denver Regional Transit District (RTD)	Mike Meader	AGM Safety, Security & Asset Management/CSO		\sim	n/a	n/a	n/a	2016 - Present	Security Primary	×	ß	Q	×
Denver Regional Transit District (RTD)	Mike Meader	AGM Safety, Security & Asset Management/CSO		\sim	n/a	n/a	n/a	2016 - Present	Safety Primary	×	ß	Q	×
Denver Regional Transit District (RTD)	David Genova	General Manager/CEO		\sim	n/a	n/a	n/a	2016 - Present	CEO	×	ß	Q	×
Denver Regional Transit District (RTD)	Dan McClain	Senior Manager, Safety and Environmental		\sim	n/a	n/a	n/a	2018 - Present	Safety Alternate	×	Ø	Q	×

< 1-5 of 9 >

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Load Comments

VERIFY

+ NEW CONTACT



Contacts



Challenge: Some SSOAs and RTAs had no Contact with a Primary Phone number listed

Challenge: Some agencies have zero or multiple people listed with a Contact Type of SSOA Primary, Safety Primary, and CEO

Contacts									_				
Agency	Name	Title	Primary Phone	Email	Hours Worked	Previous Year Hours Worked	Difference in Hours	Date Range	Туре	User	Edit	View	Delete
Denver Regional Transit District (RTD)	Robert Grado	Chief of Police		\sim	n/a	n/a	n/a	2017 - Present	Security Alternate	×	Ø	Q	×
Denver Regional Transit District (RTD)	Mike Meader	AGM Safety, Security & Asset Management/CSO		\sim	n/a	n/a	n/a	2016 - Present	Security Primary	×	ď	Q	×
Denver Regional Transit District (RTD)	Mike Meader	AGM Safety, Security & Asset Management/CSO		ightharpoons	n/a	n/a	n/a	2016 - Present	Safety Primary	×	ď	Q	×
Denver Regional Transit District (RTD)	David Genova	General Manager/CEO		\sim	n/a	n/a	n/a	2016 - Present	CEO	×	ď	Q	×
Denver Regional Transit District (RTD)	Dan McClain	Senior Manager, Safety and Environmental		\sim	n/a	n/a	n/a	2018 - Present	Safety Alternate	×	ď	Q	×
											<	1 - 5	of 9 >

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Load Comments

VERIFY

+ NEW CONTACT



Corrective Action Plans (CAPs)



- CAP ID
- Agency
- Source
- Source Type
- Effective Year
- Departments

- Plan
- Approved
- Proposed Implementation Date
- Actual Implementation Date
- Status
- Issues Preventing Resolution

CAP ID	Agency	Source	Source Type	Effective Year	Departments	Plan	Approved?	Proposed Implementation Date	Actual Implementation Date	Status	Edit	View	Delete
157905	Southeastern Pennsylvania Transit Authority (Market Frankford Line and Broad Street Subway, Subway Surface)	n/a	Inspection (Unannounced)	2023	Buildings & Bridges	×	•	5/18/2023		0	ď	Q	×
157904	Cambria County Transit Authority (Johnstown Inclined Plane)	116	Internal Safety Review	2023	Buildings and Grounds	Ď	×	5/18/2023		1	ď	Q	×
157884	Cambria County Transit Authority (Johnstown Inclined Plane)	5754	SSO Triennial Audit of RTA	2021	Buildings and Grounds	Ď	•	10/9/2024		(1)	ď	Q	×
157883	SSOR Test Reporter # 1	5732	SSO Triennial Audit of RTA	2020	Buildings and Grounds	×	•	1/1/2023	1/2/2023	•	ď	Q	×
157882	Cambria County Transit Authority (Johnstown Inclined Plane)	5743	SSO Triennial Audit of RTA	2021		×	•			(1)	ď	Q	×

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VERIFY

+ NEW CORRECTIVE ACTION PLAN

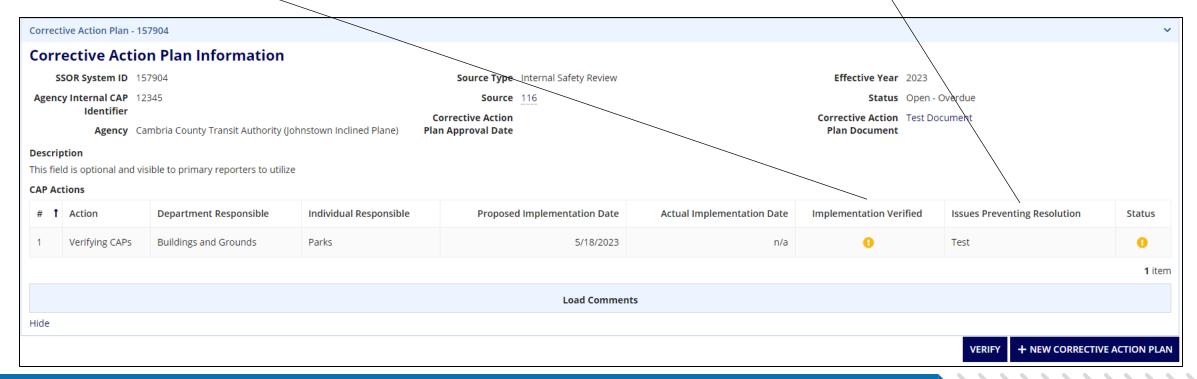


Corrective Action Plans (CAPs)



Challenge: SSOAs have CAPs that are Closed but not marked as Implementation Verified

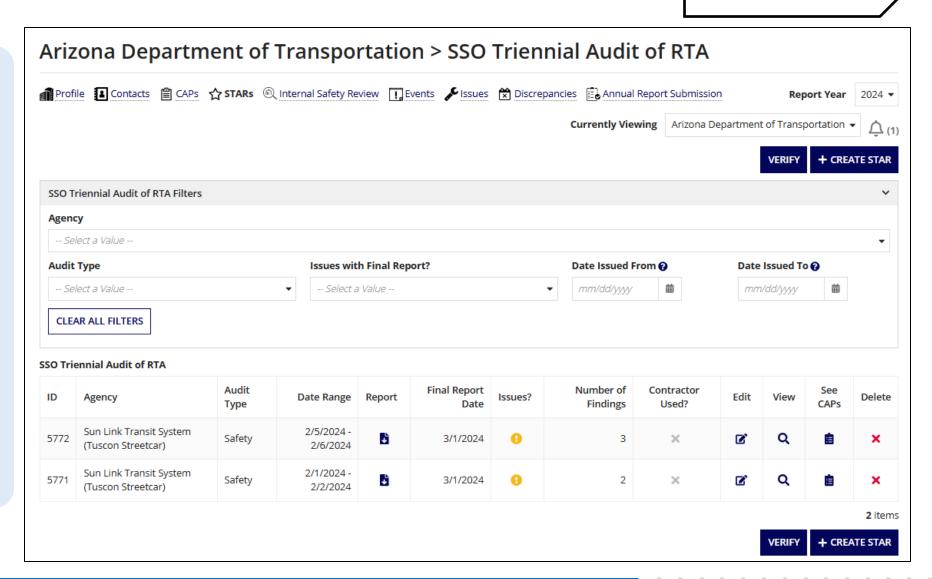
Challenge: SSOAs have Open-Overdue CAPs without explanations in the "Issues Preventing Resolution" field



SSO Triennial Audit of RTA (STARs)



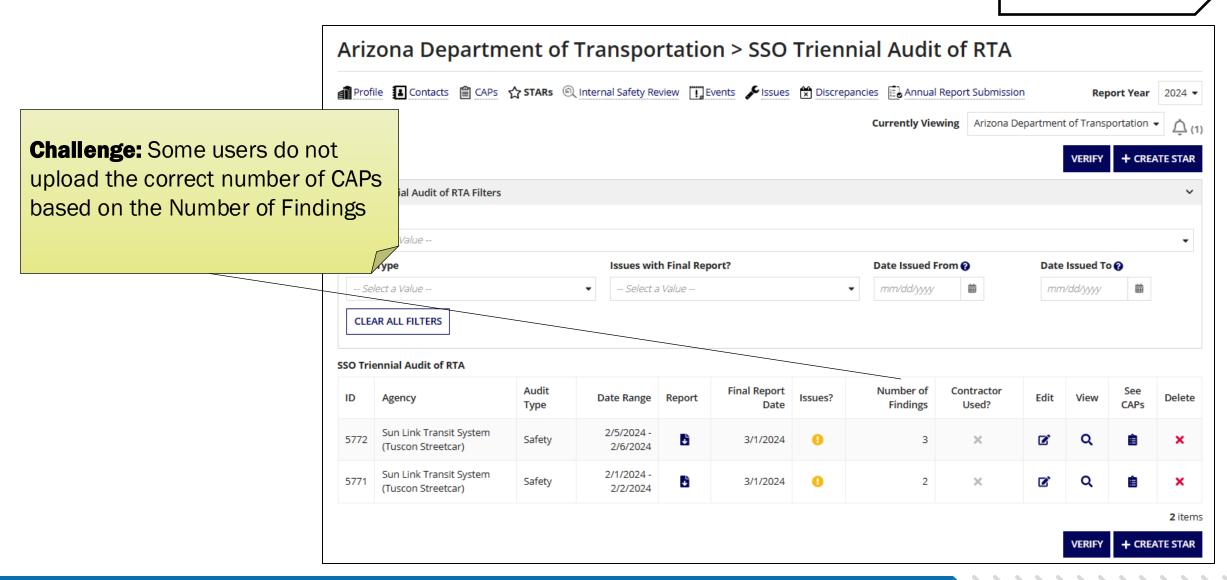
- ID
- Agency
- Audit Type
- Date Range
- Report
- Final Report Date
- Issues?
- Findings
- Contractor Used?





SSO Triennial Audit of RTA (STAR)

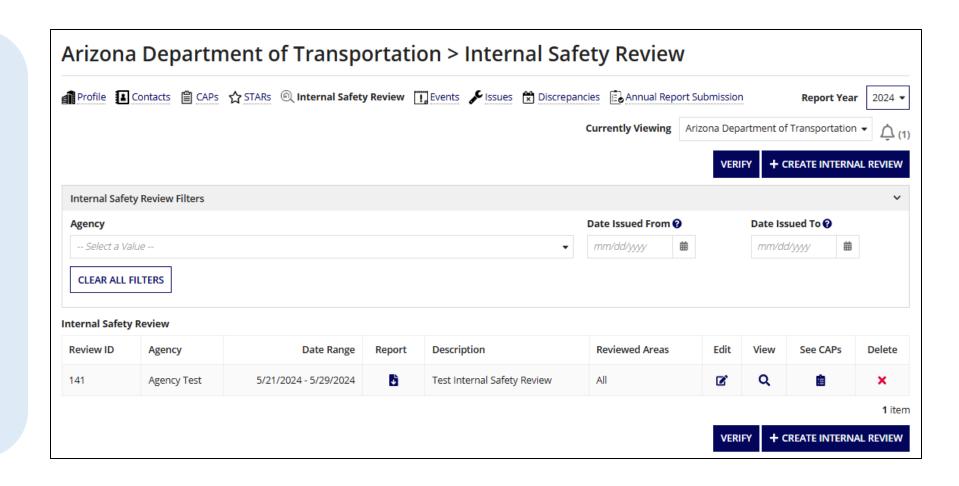




Internal Safety Review

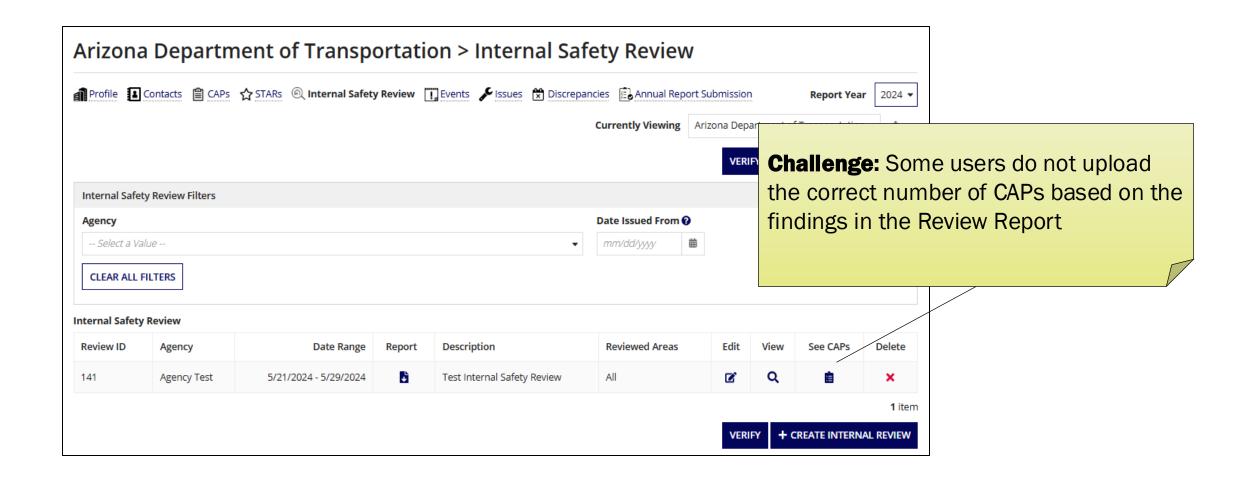


- ID
- Agency
- Date Range
- Report
- Number of Findings
- Description
- Reviewed Areas



Internal Safety Review

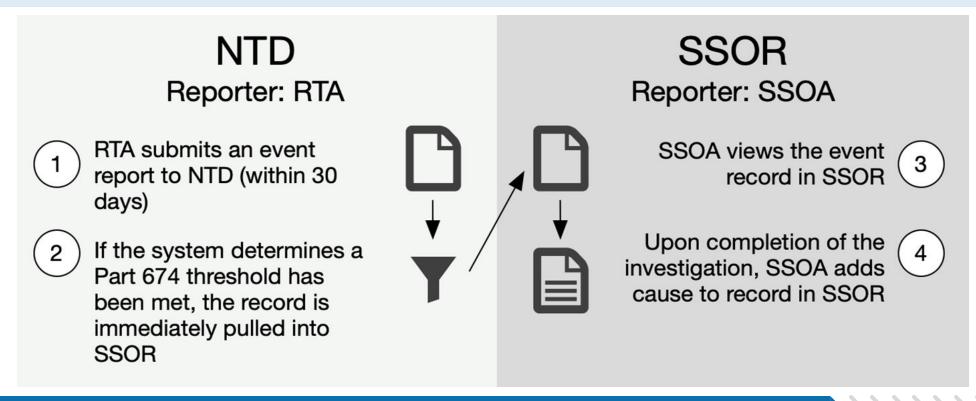




NTD Event Data Integration



- States no longer report events to FTA -- NTD is the system of record for all rail transit events
- States are required to investigate events that meet an SSO threshold
- SSOR identifies these events in the NTD and displays them in the Events Module
- Upon completion of the investigation, States can add the cause to the event record in SSOR



Events



- NTD Event ID *
- NTD Event Information*
 - Description
 - Reporter Mode ID
 - o Event Date/Time
 - O Address
 - Event Type
 - Location
 - Mode
 - Rail Alignment
 - O Was There a Tow-away?
 - O Was there Significant Damage?
 - Vehicles and Persons Involved
 - Total Fatalities
 - Total Injuries

- SSOA ID
- Two Hour SSOA Notification
- Probable Cause
- Investigated and Reported By
- Investigation Reviewed and Adopted
- Report (upload)

* read-only (from NTD)



Poll Question #3

Event Probable Cause data comes directly from the NTD and is read-only?

- A. True
- B. False



Poll Question #3

Event Probable Cause data comes directly from the NTD and is read-only?



This is FTA's source of causal data for the public transit industry

Poll Question #4

When do the new Event Threshold changes go into effect?

- A. Report Year 2024
- B. Report Year 2025
- C. Never



Poll Question #4

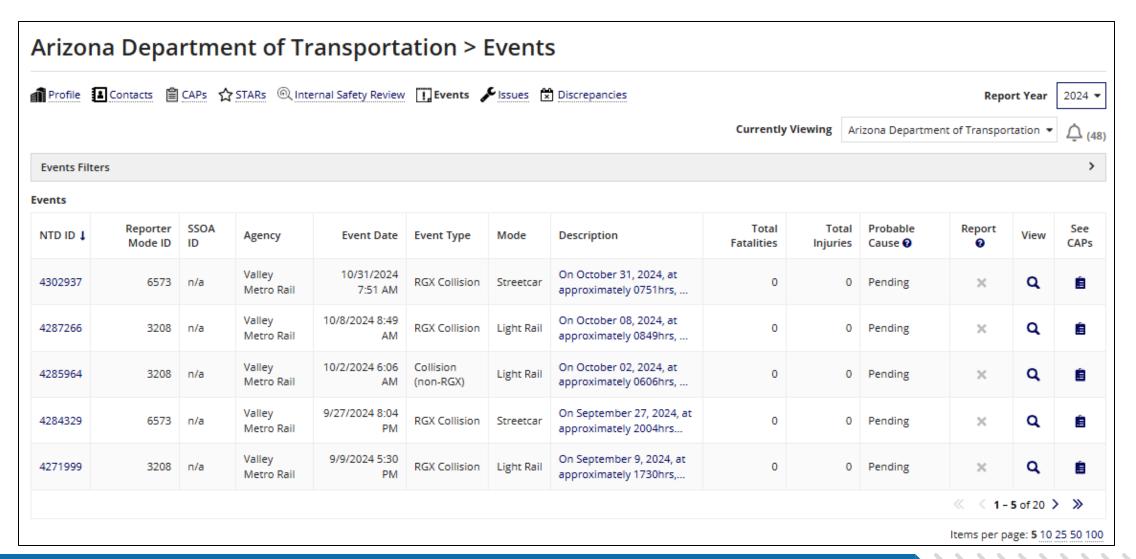
When do the new Event Threshold changes go into effect?

- A. Report Year 2024
- B. Report Year 2025
- C. Never



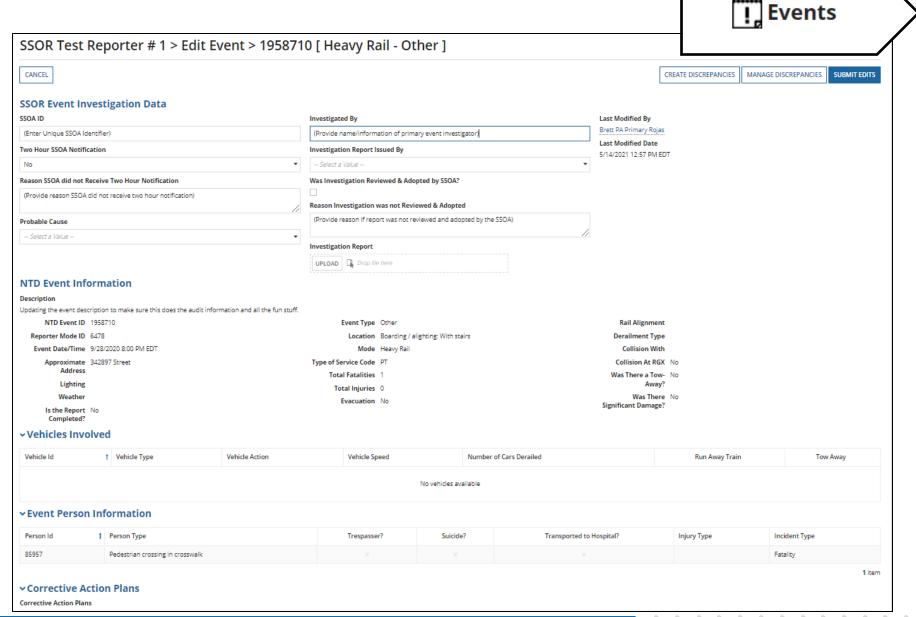
Events





Events

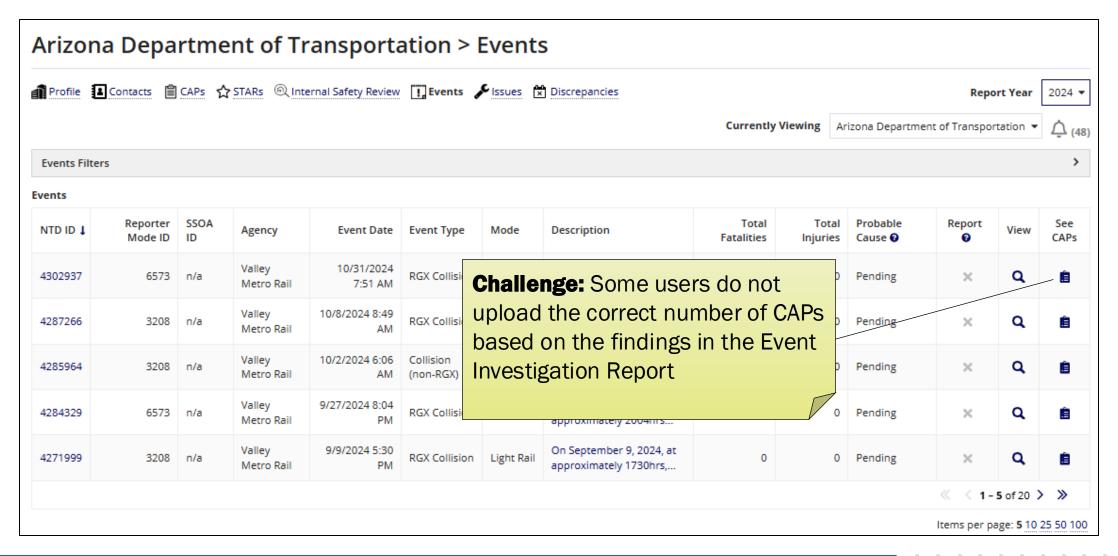
- SSOAs enter investigation-related data
- If a discrepancy is noted between NTD Event Information and what was reported to the SSOA, contact your RTA





Events

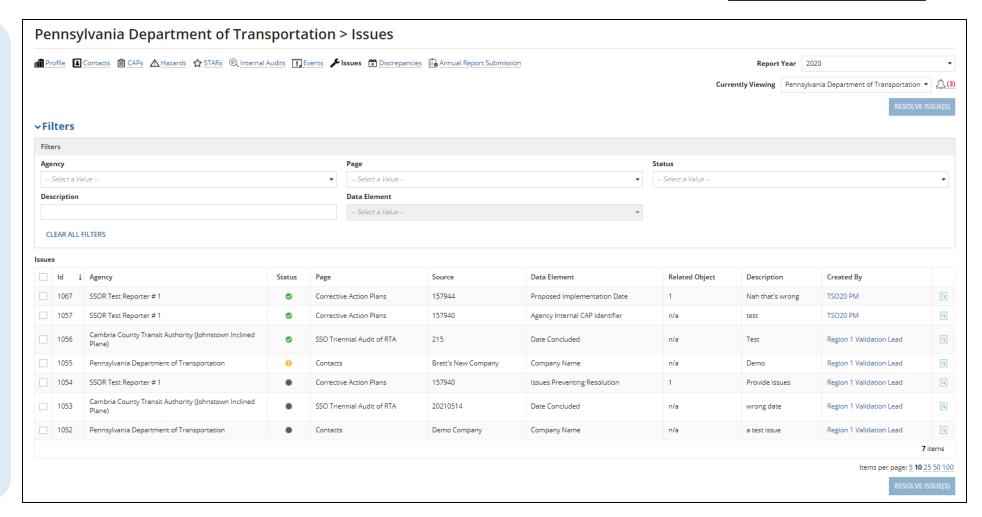




Issues



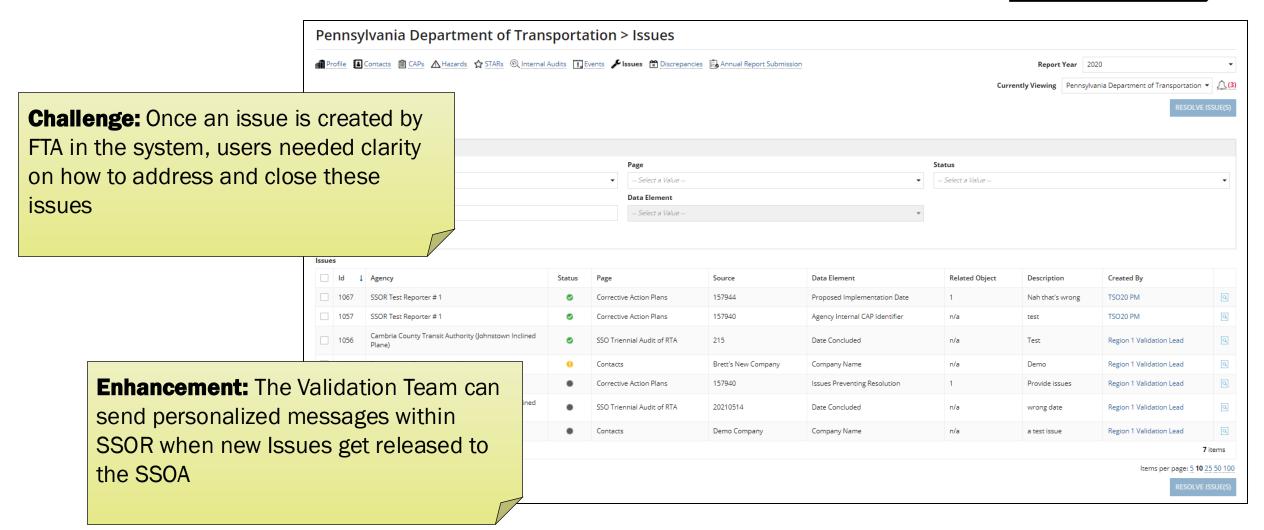
- ID
- Agency
- Status
- Page
- Source
- Data Element
- Related Object
- Description
- Created By





Issues





Annual Report Data Validation

When an SSOA submits their Annual Report, FTA's Validation Team reviews and validates the submission.

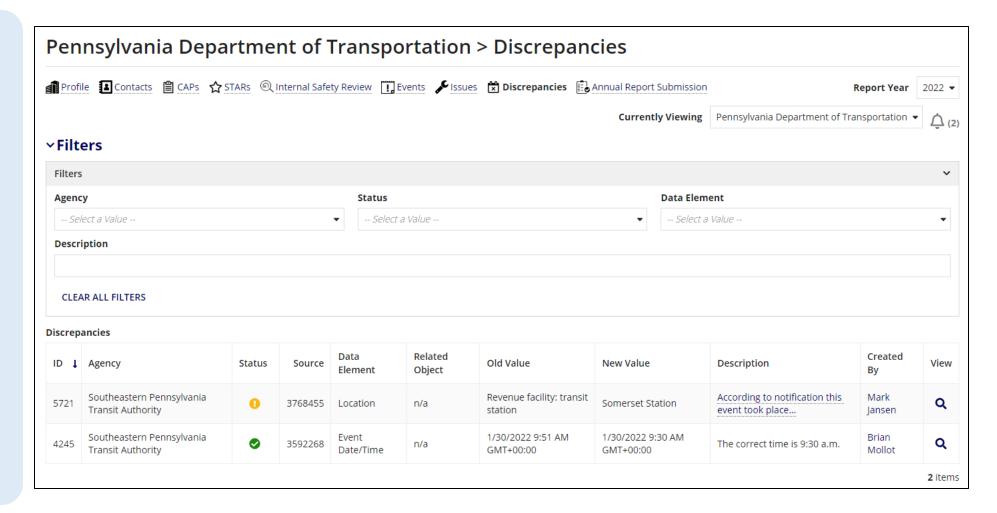
- Validators create "issues" in SSOR to flag data for additional follow-up
- SSOAs can find these issues in the ISSUES module of SSOR
- FTA allows SSOAs the opportunity to address the issues by revising data and/or providing additional information

FTA can review and discuss issue resolution with SSOAs during routine monitoring calls or during 1 on 1 sessions with a validation specialist

Discrepancies

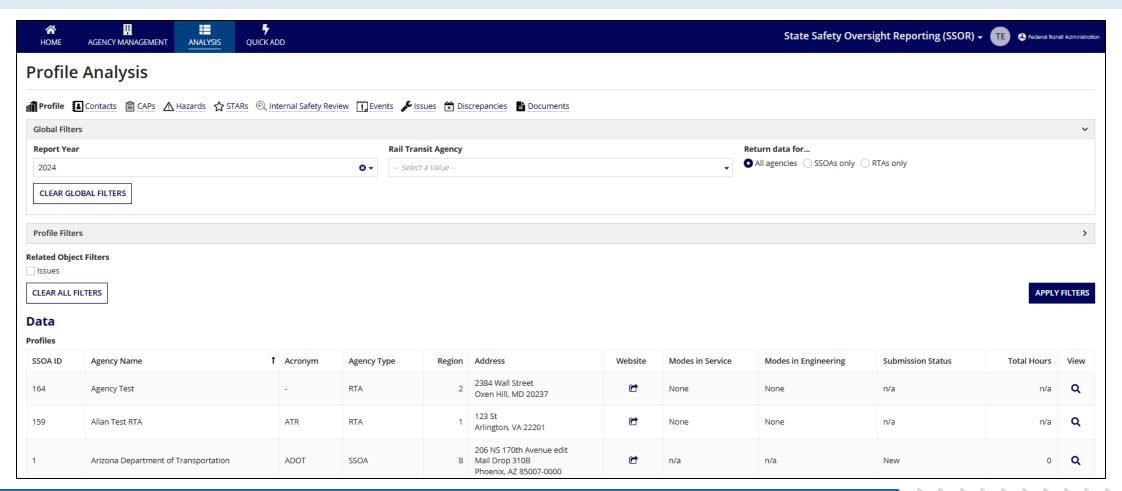


- ID
- Agency
- Status
- Source
- Data Element
- Related Object
- Old Value
- New Value
- Description
- Created By



Analysis

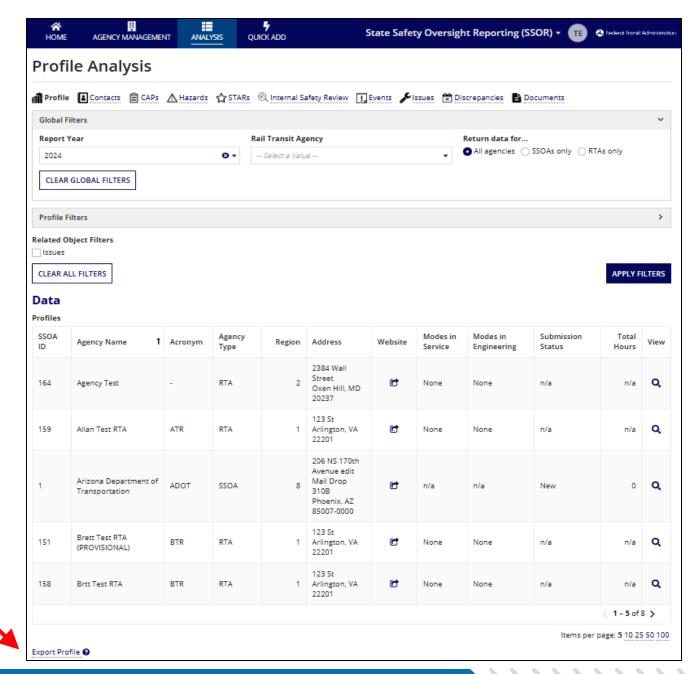
SSOR users can also use the Analysis portion of the system to filter, view and export data



Analysis

 Users can export information in an Excel format from the system by selecting "Export" in the bottom left-hand corner of each Analysis page

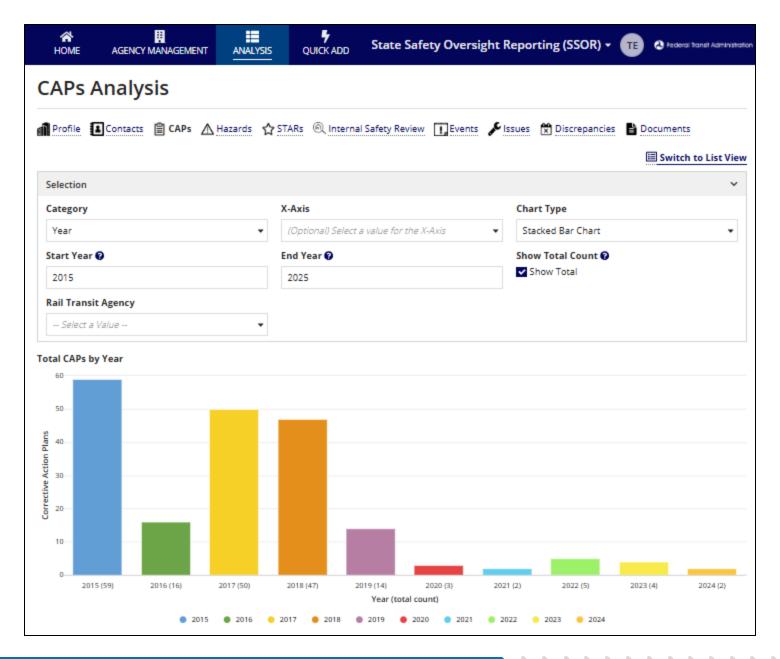






Analysis

 For CAPs and Events, users can select "Switch to Graph View" and the system will generate either a Stacked Bar Chart, Bar Chart or Line Chart of the data selected



National Transit Database (NTD) Access

If an SSOA needs direct access to the NTD, SSOA staff must contact the RTA's NTD "User Manager"

• Each RTA in an SSOA's jurisdiction has a user manager for NTD that can grant certain users "safety viewer" access for the RTA's NTD reports.

To confirm who the user manager is, you may need to coordinate with your RTA(s)

- In the NTD, the RTA's Profile page displays all users and user roles.
- Alternatively, the RTA could contact their assigned NTD Validation Analyst for additional support identifying the RTA's user manager.

If you have any further questions, please reach out to FTASSORSupport@dot.gov



Why does FTA collect this information?

- Allows FTA to establish a complete record of modal systems under Part 674
- Supports apportionment calculation (5329)



Heavy Rail (HR)



Light Rail (LR)



Streetcar (SR)



Hybrid Rail (YR)



Inclined Plane (IP)



Cable Car (CC)



Monorail/Automated Guideway (MG)

Please see the NTD
Policy Manual for
Mode definitions



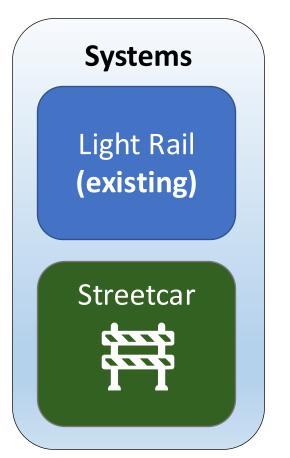
What is a Mode in Engineering?

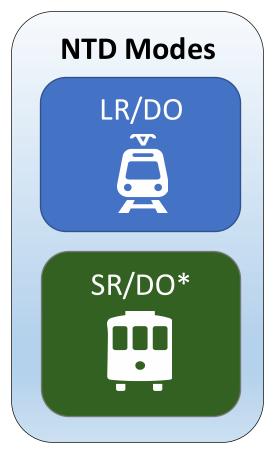
- 1. A new modal system in "Engineering or Construction" phase:
 - "Completing significant design work, refining project scope and cost estimates, preparing construction documents, and securing local funding commitments."
 - If Federally-funded, upon NEPA approval
- 2. Will be reported as a separate modal record in NTD when operational
 - NTD modal records distinguish between:
 - Directly Operated (DO) service and
 - Purchased Transportation (PT) service (service provided by a contractor)

Modes in Engineering - Example 1

- An RTA operates Light Rail (LR) service
- They begin construction of a new Streetcar system
- Once operational*, this new service will be reported to the NTD as a new mode: Streetcar (SR)

SSOR
Under Modes in Engineering,
Report this as Streetcar

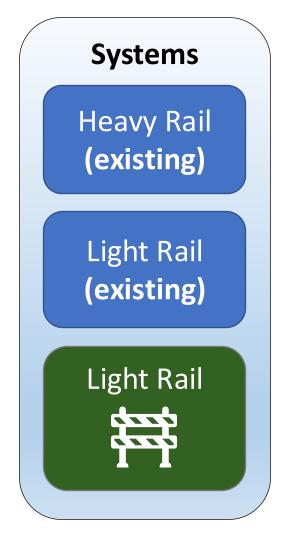


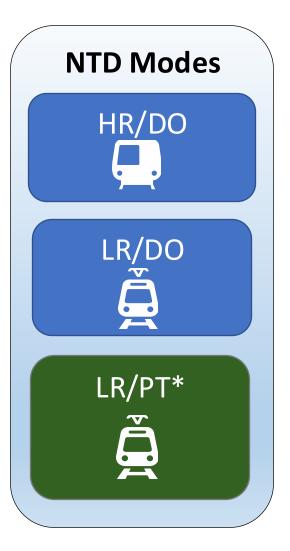


Modes in Engineering - Example 2

- An RTA operates Heavy Rail (HR) and Light Rail (LR) service
- They begin construction of a new light rail system
- Once operational, this LR service will be operated by a contractor and reported to the NTD as Purchased Transportation (PT)*

SSOR
Under Modes in Engineering,
Report this as Light Rail

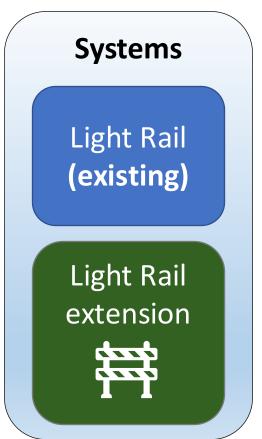


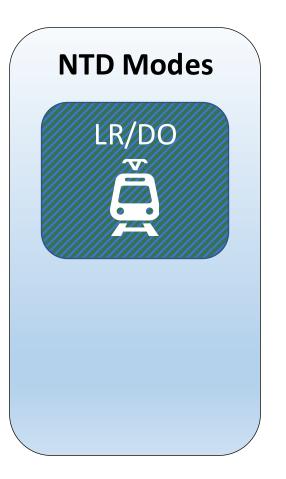


Modes in Engineering - Example 3

- An RTA operates Light Rail (LR) service
- They begin construction of an extension to the existing light rail system
- Once the extension is operational, the associated service will be reported to the NTD under the existing light rail mode

SSOR
Under Modes in Engineering,
Do not report this project



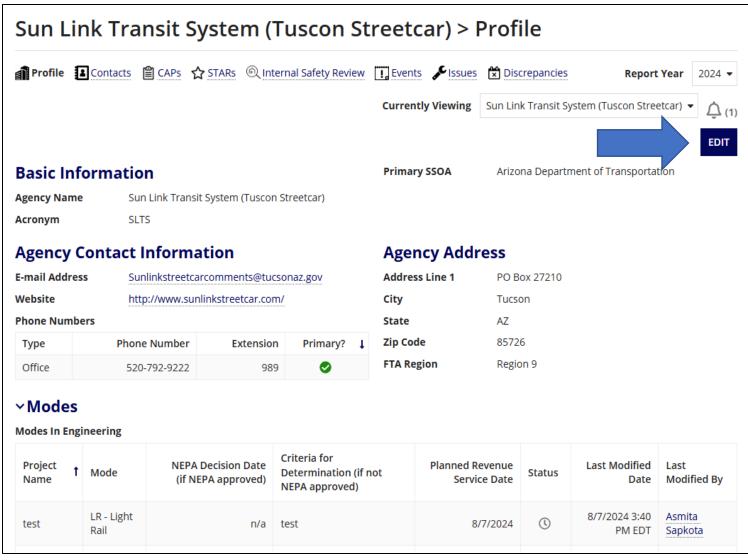


What is Not a Mode in Engineering?

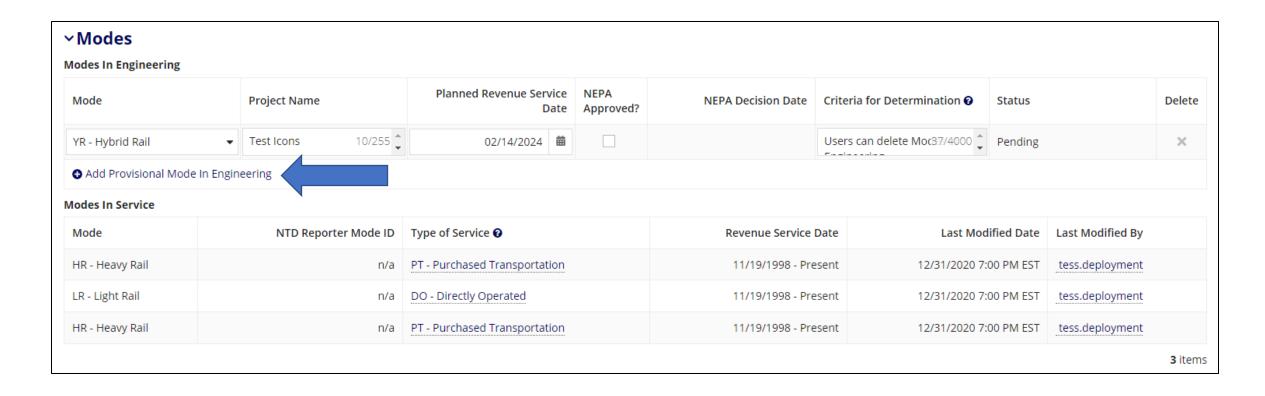
If it will not result in a new NTD modal record, it is not a Mode in Engineering

- Do not report:
 - Extensions to existing modal systems
 - Other capital projects which will not result in a new mode

 On the RTA Profile page, select "Edit" on the top right-hand side of the screen:

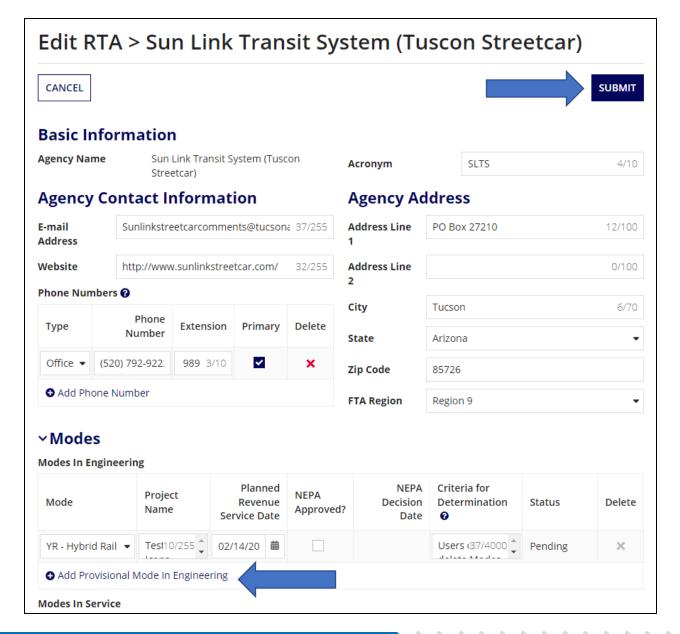


Select "Add Provisional Mode in Engineering":

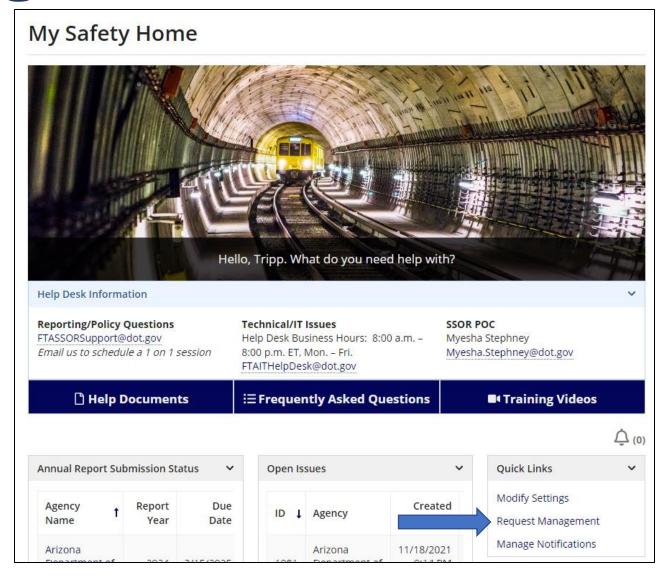


Fill out the required data fields

- To add another mode in engineering, select "Add Provisional Mode in Engineering"
- Complete the form by selecting "Submit" at the top right hand of the screen



 Users can also access their Modes in Engineering by selecting "Request Management" from their My Safety Home Page



SSOR Assistance

SSOR Assistance Required:	Please Contact:
Questions about the SSO Program	FTA SSO Program Manager or FTASSORSupport@dot.gov
Annual Reporting Requirements	FTA SSO Program Manager or FTASSORSupport@dot.gov
Events Missing or Incorrect in SSOR	RTA/NTD Reporter
Issues Created in SSOR	FTA SSO Program Manager or FTASSORSupport@dot.gov
Technical/IT Issues	SSOR IT Help Desk [FTAITHelpDesk@dot.gov]
General SSOR System	Myesha Stephney [Myesha.Stephney@dot.gov] or FTASSORSupport@dot.gov

WHO TO CONTACT

for SSOR Questions



- Reporting Questions?
- Policy Questions?
- NTD/Event Threshold Questions?
- Want to schedule a 1 on 1 session?

Contact the SSOR Support team: FTASSORSupport@dot.gov



- General SSOR Questions?
- User Management?

Contact SSOR Management: Myesha.Stephney@dot.gov John.Chism@dot.gov (Proxy)



- IT Issues?
- Bug Fixes?
- Questions about hardware and software systems?

Contact IT Help: FTAITHelpDesk@dot.gov

8:00AM TO 8:00PM ET, M-F OFFICE OF TRANSIT SAFETY & OVERSIG FEDERAL TRANSIT ADMINISTRATION

Questions?

