



THE SECRETARY OF TRANSPORTATION  
WASHINGTON, DC 20590

March 6, 2025

Mr. Randy Clarke  
Chief Executive Officer  
Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority  
300 7th Street, SW  
Washington, DC 20024

Dear Mr. Clarke:

I am writing to you regarding the U.S. Department of Transportation's focus on safe travel in the Nation's Capital. To protect the safety of passengers and workers on the D.C. Metro system, Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority (WMATA) must ensure crime and fare evasion are reduced.

Pursuant to its oversight authority, the Federal Transit Administration (FTA) directs WMATA to provide information about agency safety practices and expenditures. *See* FTA Master Agreement, Section 3(h)(2)(iii). The expectation is that WMATA will address this matter promptly. Of key importance will be documentation of actions and funding that ensure effective security for passengers and workers on the WMATA system.

For this FTA review of WMATA actions, please provide FTA with the following information:

1. WMATA actions and plans to reduce crime and fare evasion on the Metro system. Please include information about fare evasion trends and previous WMATA actions.
2. WMATA funds from all sources that are programmed to improve the security of passengers and workers. This should include information about all WMATA's fiscal year 2025 budgeted and fiscal year 2026 planned funds to reduce crime and fare evasion on the Metro system, including a comparison to prior year funding for such expenses. Please also include:
  - a. **Security** – Expenditures and budgeted funds that meet the Federal transit program *security capital projects set aside* requirement for Urbanized Area Formula Grants (49 U.S.C. § 5307(c)(1)(J)(i)).
  - b. **Safety** - Expenditures and budgeted funds that meet the Federal transit program *safety set aside* requirement for Urbanized Area Formula Grants (49 U.S.C. § 5329(d)(4)(B)).
  - c. **Non-FTA funds** – Information about funds from other Federal government agencies directed to the safety and security of Metro passengers and workers. This should include any Department of Homeland Security funds.

Please provide the information to FTA's Region 3 Administrator Terry Garcia-Crews by March 19, 2025.

Please recognize that Federal transit law explicitly allows recipients to use capital grants for capital expenses for crime prevention and security (49 U.S.C. §5321) activities. WMATA should target federal resources expeditiously and appropriately for these eligible activities.

People traveling on the Metro system to reach their jobs, education, health care, and other critical services deserve a safe environment free of crime. The riders and workers of WMATA deserve nothing less.

If I can provide further information or assistance, please reach out or contact Hannah Matesic, Deputy Assistant Secretary for Congressional Affairs, at (202) 366-4573 or via email at [hannah.matesic@dot.gov](mailto:hannah.matesic@dot.gov).

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "S.P. Duffy", is written over the word "Sincerely,".

Sean P. Duffy