



Notice of Meeting

Date/Time: Tuesday, October 17th, 2023 / 10:30 AM

Join Meeting:

In-Person: Horatio S. Earle Learning Center, 7575 Crowner Dr., Dimondale, MI 48821

Via Zoom:

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/81351642472?pwd=ZCswM1JqWnZ2UXR2anNxV1BmTks1UT09>

Call In Phone Number: (312) 626-6799

Meeting ID: 813 5164 2472

Passcode: 505638

**Action Item*

1. Call to Order	Laurel Joseph
2. Introductions	Laurel Joseph
3. Changes to the Agenda	Laurel Joseph
4. Approval of the September 19th, 2023 Meeting Minutes*	Laurel Joseph
5. Treasurer's Report	Lindsay Wallace
6. Education Committee	Joel Fitzpatrick
7. FHWA / ETA Update	Christina Nicholaides / Kathleen Russell
8. TAMC Update	Ryan Buck
9. Finance Committee	Laurel Joseph
10. Policy Committee	Steve Stepek
11. JobNet Tech	Luke Walters / Jeff Franklin
12. MDOT	
SPS General Update	Don Mayle
2024 Funding Update	Matt Lyle
ACUB / 2020 Statewide Review Update	David Fairchild
13. Other New Business	
* Designate Macatawa Area Coordinating Council (MACC) as 2025 MTPA Conference Host Agency	Laurel Joseph
* 3-Year Reappointment of Ryan Buck as TAMC's MTPA Representative	Laurel Joseph
Introduction of MIO Technical Assistance Center Director - Kristin Brady	Tim Fischer / Kris Brady
Pat Karr's Retirement	
14. Adjournment	Laurel Joseph



MEETING MINUTES / SEPTEMBER 19, 2023 / 10:30 AM

1. CALL TO ORDER

Chair Joseph called the meeting to order at 10:31 AM.

2. INTRODUCTIONS

No introductions were made.

3. CHANGES TO THE AGENDA

There were no changes to the agenda.

4. APPROVAL OF THE AUGUST 15, 2023 MEETING MINUTES*

Anton Schauerte indicated that Ali Townsend should be added to the participant list. A motion was made by Steve Stepek, supported by Ryan Buck, to approve the August 15, 2023 meeting minutes with the aforementioned changes. The motion passed unanimously.

5. TREASURER'S REPORT

Lindsay Wallace indicated that included in the packet is a report showing the amount of money spent at the 2023 MTPA Conference. The current balance is \$19,500.

6. EDUCATION COMMITTEE

Chair Joseph requested the Education Committee organize a training between the MPOs and MDOT's OPT to discuss each group's operating processes and procedures.

7. FHWA / FTA UPDATE

Jenny Staroska stated there is a new public right-of-way accessibility rule and there is an upcoming webinar regarding the topic. Jenny also requested MTPA make any future in-person meetings hybrid in order to ensure MTPA meetings remain accessible to the public. Chair Joseph encouraged participants to attend the October MTPA meeting in-person. Andrew Sibold announced FHWA released the NOFO for the Electric Vehicle Charger Reliability and Accessibility Accelerator grant, which is part of the NEVI program (Applications due 11/13/23).

Kathleen Russell explained that FTA is hosting a real estate webinar, which will take place on October 3rd.



8. TAMC UPDATE

Ryan Buck mentioned that the Fall Asset Management Conference will take place in Grand Rapids. There is discussion about using a “work project” to extend FY23 funds to FY24 for a project. The FY25 budget is being developed now and more information will be known after the conference.

9. FINANCE COMMITTEE

Chair Joseph requested that if committee members have topics worth discussing to please let her know.

10. POLICY COMMITTEE

Steve Stepek stated that the committee met to discuss the draft MOU. There have been some modifications and a new draft will be sent out shortly.

11. JOBNET TECH

Jeff Franklin stated that the committee met on September 11th. The two main production updates include the migration from Version 22 to Version 23 for the map data and the EJ function will go live shortly. There will be a JobNet 101 training course in the future. Additionally, the Air Quality Conformity Task Force will design an Air Quality Report and also a specific page in JobNet to feature the topic. Jeff stated that Luke Walters will take over the JobNet Tech committee meetings in the future.

12. MDOT UPDATES

SPS General Update: Don Mayle stated that there are no other updates other than the remaining MDOT agenda items and passed it along to John Lanum to discuss TPM updates.

TPM Update: John Lanum stated the new data for the 2-year and 4-year pavement and bridge condition, and reliability targets, should be published on MPOs websites. MDOT established the CY 2024 Safety targets and the official letters are forthcoming. Don Mayle indicated that the updated draft MOU will be processed internally by MDOT before the final version is sent to the MPOs.

Financial Update: Matt Lyle stated MDOT received August Redistribution; the state gained about ~\$234 Million of obligation authority. Of this, the trunkline program received \$175 Million and \$58 Million for the local program. There may be a low obligation authority in FY25, then higher August Redistribution at the end of the FY. The FY24 apportionments



should be ready in the next month or two. Additionally, regarding the drunk driving penalty, FHWA confirmed that suballocations will not be impacted for ST funds, only the Flex funds. Funding changes to MPO's FY24, FY25, and FY26 allocations, as a result of the 2020 U.S. Census, will be published in October. MPOs will be provided time afterwards, however, to amend projects in the FY 2023-2026 TIP to ensure MPOs remain in fiscal constraint.

MTP 101 Training Session #3/5: Brad Sharlow reminded the Committee that later in the afternoon is the third MTP 101 training. Brad also inquired about how MTPA can access large files that are too large to send via email or publish on the MTPA website. There was a discussion to place large files on Zoom, the MTPA Google Drive folder, or the same service MDOT uses to publish its RTF meetings.

13. OTHER NEW BUSINESS

Chair Joseph stated that the next MTPA meeting will be a hybrid meeting, with the in-person component being at the Earle Learning Center (7575 Crowser Dr., Dimondale, MI). Don Mayle indicated that the designation package for the Traverse City MPO has been recently submitted. Brad Sharlow asked whether the MTP 101 Training #4 sessions should be in-person, online, or hybrid. There was interest in having the training be hybrid.

14. ADJOURNMENT

Chair Joseph adjourned the meeting at 11:14 AM.

Michigan Transportation Planning Association (MTPA)

Meeting Attendance - 9/19/2023

AGENCY	NAME	AGENCY	NAME
BayCATS	Dominic Pavone	MDOT	Lindsey Dowswell
BayCATS	James Deweerdt	MDOT	Luke Walters
BCATS	Pat Karr	MDOT	Mark Kloha
EMCOG	Cody Bodrie	MDOT	Matt Lyle
FHWA	Andrew Sibold	MDOT	Max Gierman
FHWA	Christina Nicholaides	MDOT	Michelle Weber-Currie
FHWA	Jenny Staroska	MDOT	Orlando Curry
FTA	Kathleen Russell	MDOT	Richard Bayus
FTA	Susan Weber	MDOT	Tyler Kent
GCMPC	Jacob Maurer	SATA	Demetra Manley
GCMPC	McKenna Dutkiewicz	SCCOTS	Lindsay Wallace
GVMC	Andrea Faber	SEMCOG	Margaret Warner
GVMC	Laurel Joseph	TCRPC	Jim Koenig
GVMC	Mara Gericke	TCRPC	Nicole Baumer
GVMC	Mike Zonyk	WATS	Anton Schauerte
KATS	Ali Townsend	WATS	Maggie Huntley
KATS	Steve Stepek	WATS	Nick Sapkiewicz
MACC	Eric Dykstra	WATS	Ryan Buck
MACC	Jason Latham	WMSRDC	Brian Mulnix
MATS	Bryan Gillett		
MATS	Maja Bolanowska		
MDOT	Alex LaPorte		
MDOT	Brad Sharlow		
MDOT	Brian Stark		
MDOT	Craig Newell		
MDOT	Deanna Donahoo		
MDOT	Dennis Kent		
MDOT	Don Mayle		
MDOT	Ellen Kent		
MDOT	Fern Spence		
MDOT	Heather Bowden		
MDOT	Jeff Franklin		
MDOT	John Lanum		
MDOT	Josh Grab		
MDOT	Kyle Kirchmeier		

Updates from FHWA to MTPA October 17, 2023

Grants - Key NOFO List

Fiscal Year 2024 Appropriations Approved Through November 17, 2023

The President signed a [continuing resolution](#) on September 30, 2023 to approve Federal funding programs for Fiscal Year (FY) 2024 through November 17, 2023.

FHWA Announces \$9.6 Billion in Available Funding for the Bridge Investment Program

On September 27, 2023, the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) published a [Notice of Funding Opportunity \(NOFO\)](#) to announce the availability of up to \$9.62 billion in funding for Large Bridge Project Grants through the [Bridge Investment Program](#). Grants are available for bridges with total eligible project costs over \$100 million, with minimum grant awards of \$50 million, and maximum grant awards of 50 percent of the total eligible project costs. Here are the application deadlines:

- November 27, 2023, for consideration of funding from FY 2023 and FY 2024;
- August 1, 2024, for consideration of funding from FY 2025; and
- August 1, 2025, for consideration of funding from FY 2026.

FHWA Announces \$100 Million in Available Funding for Electric Vehicle Charging Infrastructure

On September 13, 2023, FHWA [announced](#) the availability of \$100 million in funding through the Electric Vehicle Charger Reliability and Accessibility Accelerator Program to repair and replace existing, but non-operational, electric vehicle charging infrastructure. Eligible applicants for this program are limited to State Departments of Transportation (DOTs) and local governments. The application deadline is November 13, 2023. More information is available [here](#).

USDOT Announces Technical Assistance Opportunities for the Thriving Communities Program

On September 12, 2023, the U.S. Department of Transportation (USDOT) [announced](#) that the [Thriving Communities Program](#) is now accepting applications for FY 2023. Applicants interested in receiving technical assistance and peer learning support, have until November 15, 2023 to submit a Letter of Interest. Applicants interested in providing technical assistance, planning, and capacity building support, have until November 28, 2023 to submit an application. More information is available [here](#) and [here](#).

Application Deadlines Approaching for Other USDOT Discretionary Grant Opportunities

Please be aware of the approaching application deadlines for the following discretionary grant opportunities from the USDOT:

- [October 10 – Strengthening Mobility and Revolutionizing Transportation \(SMART\) Grants Program](#);
- [October 10 – Pilot Program for Transit-Oriented Development \(TOD\) Planning](#); and
- [November 6 – Nationally Significant Federal Lands and Tribal Transportation Projects \(NSFLTP\) Program](#).

EPA Starts 2-Year Conformity Grace Period for New MOVES4 Emissions Model

On September 12, 2023, the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) published a [notice](#) in the Federal Register to announce the availability of the latest Motor Vehicle Emission Simulator model major release (MOVES4) for official purposes outside of California. MOVES4 is the latest version of the EPA's state-of-the-science modeling tool for estimating emissions from cars, trucks, buses, and motorcycles based on the latest data and regulations. This notice starts a two-year grace period (i.e., September 12, 2025) before MOVES4 will need to be used as the latest EPA emissions model for transportation conformity determinations outside of California, both in new regional emissions analyses and in new hot-spot analyses. More information is available [here](#).

Census Bureau Publishes Technical Corrections for a Subset of Urban Areas from the 2020 Census

On September 12, 2023, the Census Bureau published a [notice](#) in the Federal Register to make technical corrections to their previous [notice](#) published on December 29, 2022. For a small number of urban areas in California, Georgia, and Louisiana, the Census Bureau updated the population totals, housing counts, and land areas. FHWA and FTA will use these technical corrections to update the Transportation Management Area (TMA) designations published in the [Federal Register](#) on June 5, 2023. Stay tuned for more information.

FHWA Seeking Public Comments on Intention to Collect Information from States and MPOs

On August 31, 2023, the FHWA Office of Planning, Environment, and Realty published a [notice](#) in the Federal Register to request public comments on the agency's intention to collect information from State DOTs and Metropolitan Planning Organizations (MPOs) regarding planning and research work programs, periodic progress reports, and periodic financial reports, as part of [23 CFR Part 420](#) and [2 CFR Part 200](#). On September 6, 2023, FHWA published a [notice](#) in the Federal Register to extend the public comment period until November 6, 2023. FHWA will summarize and/or include public comments in its information collection approval request to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB).

FHWA Publishes Resources on Travel Time Data, Crosswalks, Equity, Research, and Human Capital

FHWA recently published the following resources:

- [Application of Travel Time Data and Statistics to Travel Time Reliability Analyses: Handbook and Support Materials](#);
- [Crosswalk Marking Selection Guide](#);
- [Equity Considerations in Asset Management: Case Studies](#);
- [FHWA Federal-Aid Division State Planning and Research Subpart B \(SPR-B\) Program](#); and
- [State Human Capital Plans Guidance: Frequently Asked Questions](#).

FTA Publishes Research on Practical Measures for Advancing Public Transit Equity and Access

In July 2023, the Federal Transit Administration (FTA) published a research [report](#) entitled, "Practical Measures for Advancing Public Transit Equity and Access." The report identifies a set of replicable measures that public transportation providers and their partners can use to advance equity for those who have been historically underserved, marginalized, and adversely affected by persistent poverty and/or inequality. These include practical strategies such as advisory committees and intergovernmental

partnerships as well as analytical techniques that quantify how public transit links people to opportunities.

Freight Analysis Framework

Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) published two visualization tools utilizing data from the Freight Analysis Framework (FAF5.5.1) and historical Vehicle Inventory and Use Survey (VIUS) data. The new public tools will simplify access to these large data sets and make it easier to analyze complex freight flow patterns at national, State and local levels. FAF and VIUS data are used in many States' freight plans to support analysis. These tools can also be useful for identifying needs and key issues confronting the freight system, planning and prioritizing projects, and improving an applicant's analysis and justification for federal discretionary grant funding.

[FAF Data Visualization tool](#)– allows users to rapidly create customized freight dashboards that can be downloaded for further distribution. The tool provides information about the amount and type of goods moved by various modes of transportation between large metropolitan areas, States, and regions for years 2017-2022, including forecasts for three different freight demand scenarios through 2050.

[VIUS Data Visualization tool](#)– includes information on the physical and operational characteristics of the U.S. truck population. Currently, VIUS visualization tool includes historical VIUS data for years 2002, 1997 and 1992. The VIUS visualization tool will be updated in the coming months with the newly released [VIUS2021 data](#) . The tool allows to rapidly create customize freight summaries that can be downloaded for further distribution.

NCHRP Publishes Research on Rural Access, Freight Integration, Life-Cycle Planning, and Probe Data

The National Cooperative Highway Research Program (NCHRP) recently published the following research:

- [Access to Jobs, Economic Opportunities, and Education in Rural Areas](#);
- [Integrating Freight Movement into Twenty-First-Century Communities' Land Use, Design, and Transportation Systems](#);
- [Implementation of Life-Cycle Planning Analysis in a Transportation Asset Management Framework](#);
- [Life-Cycle Planning Analysis in a Transportation Asset Management Framework](#); and
- [Use of Probe Data for Freight Planning and Operations](#).

Upcoming Webinars on Automation, Project Delivery, Asset Management, and Pedestrian Safety

Here is the registration information for some upcoming webinars and virtual peer exchanges in October and November:

- [October 12, 26 – Accelerating Project Delivery through Innovative Procurement, Partnerships, and Financing Methods \(Parts 1 and 2\)](#);
- [October 18 – Communicating Transportation Asset Management](#);
- [October 23-24 – FHWA/FTA Virtual Peer Exchange on Transit Asset Management Integration](#); and
- [November 1-2 – FHWA/FTA Virtual Peer Exchange on Highway Asset Management Integration](#).

[Global Benchmarking Webinar Series: Improving Pedestrian Safety on Urban Arterials](#):

- [October 23 – A Safe System Approach to Road Safety Audits](#); and
- [November 7 – Speed Management Policies and Practices](#).

October 2023 Updates from FTA to MTPA

FTA Issues Advisory to Improve Safety for Pedestrians and Cyclists Around Buses

FTA issued a [safety advisory](#) to recommend that transit agencies take action to reduce bus-to-person collisions, which remain a top safety concern. Between 2008 and 2021, bus-to-person collisions accounted for 15 percent of all transit fatalities.

Find fact sheets, guidance and training available for [transit providers](#) on identifying safety hazards, completing a safety risk assessment and developing mitigations at FTA's website. FTA has also posted a [Bus-to-Person Collision webpage](#) with information about the advisory and available data.

FTA Issues Dear Colleague Letter highlighting FTA Grant Programs to Support Real-time ADA Paratransit Service

To promote equity in public transportation, FTA has issued a [Dear Colleague Letter](#) to highlight FTA grant programs that can be used to provide paratransit service to eligible riders on a real-time basis and/or allow for intermediate stops.

While next-day, advanced reservation service is the minimum requirement under the [Americans with Disabilities Act \(ADA\)](#) regulations for ADA complementary paratransit, FTA grant recipients have the option to provide more flexible paratransit service based on community needs. As the letter explains, funding through Urbanized Area Formula Grants (Section 5307), Enhanced Mobility of Seniors and Individuals with Disabilities (Section 5310), Formula Grants for Rural Areas (Section 5311), and Buses and Bus Facilities (Section 5339) programs can be used to support local decisions to provide real-time paratransit and/or allow for intermediate stops.

FTA/FHWA Virtual Peer Exchanges on Asset Management and Planning; Oct 23-24 and Nov 1-2

FTA and FHWA will host a series of joint virtual peer exchanges focused on **integrating asset management into planning and programming** in October and November 2023. These peer exchanges will provide an opportunity for State DOTs, MPOs, and transit agencies to discuss challenges, opportunities, and benefits of incorporating asset management in their planning and programming practices with peer agencies.

It is important that attendees are available to participate during both days of the peer exchange (either in Oct or Nov). The peer exchange agendas and registration information is provided below.

Transit Asset Management Integration into Planning and Programming Peer Exchange

Monday, October 23, 1:00-4:00 EST

Tuesday, October 24, 1:00-3:00 EST

Register here: https://us06web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZUod-6vqzwiG9xyR86dU_ZiAlFEeQJC0e3Y

Day 1 Agenda

- Introductions/Overview
- Asset Management Integration Literature Review Highlights
- Peer Panel Topic #1: Connecting Asset Management to Planning – Washington DOT
- Group Discussion
- Break
- Peer Panel Topic #2: Scenario Analysis & Tools to Manage Asset Performance – Washoe County RPC, Southeastern Pennsylvania Transportation Agency (SEPTA)
- Group Discussion
- Wrap Up

Day 2 Agenda

- Day 2 Overview
- Peer Panel Topic #3: Connecting Asset Management to Programming –Atlanta Regional Commission, North Central Texas Council of Governments
- Group Discussion
- Hot Topics on Effective Practices
- Key Challenges
- Wrap Up

Highway Asset Management Integration into Planning and Programming Virtual Peer Exchange

Wednesday, November 1, 1:00-4:00 EST

Thursday, November 2, 1:00-3:00 EST

Register here: <https://us06web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZEkcOGhqj4iG9amtfUrUc8QZDuL7GOwwe-4>

Day 1 Agenda

- Introductions/Overview
- Asset Management Integration Literature Review Highlights
- Peer Panel Topic #1: Connecting Asset Management to Planning – West Virginia DOT, Iowa DOT
- Group Discussion
- Break
- Peer Panel Topic #2: Scenario Analysis & Tools to Manage Asset Performance – Southeast Michigan Council of Governments (SEMCOG), Colorado DOT
- Group Discussion
- Wrap Up

Day 2 Agenda

- Day 2 Overview

- Peer Panel Topic #3: Connecting Asset Management to Programming – Delaware DOT, Delaware Valley
- Regional Planning Commission (DVRPC)
- Group Discussion
- Hot Topics on Effective Practices
- Key Challenges
- Wrap Up

For additional information please contact Colby Mcfarland (chcolby.mcfarland@dot.gov) or Catherine Duffy (Catherine.duffy@icf.com).

FTA Seeks Public Input on the Draft Greenhouse Gas Emissions from Transit Projects: Programmatic Assessment

FTA is seeking public input on the [Draft Greenhouse Gas Emissions from Transit Projects: Programmatic Assessment](#).

The Programmatic Assessment is a streamlining tool that analyzes estimated greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions generated from the construction, operations, and maintenance phases of transit projects. The findings provide a reference for FTA and its project sponsors to use in environmental documents to describe the effects of proposed transit investments on partial lifecycle GHG emissions.

FTA has published a notice summarizing the Draft Programmatic Assessment in the [Federal Register](#). FTA encourages stakeholders to review the notice and provide comments through November 24, 2023.

NOW AVAILABLE: Spotlight on Safety: Transit Rail Grade Crossings Webinar Recording and Presentation

FTA hosted a webinar on Thursday, September 21, 2023 to discuss transit rail grade crossing safety from both the operational and public education and outreach perspectives. A [recording](#) of the webinar and the [presentation](#) are now available.

FTA provided an overview and the Center for Urban Transportation Research and MxV Rail highlighted research on engineering aspects related to rail grade crossing safety, as featured in the FTA Standards Development Program *Rail Transit Roadway and Pedestrian Grade Crossings Exploratory Report*, and discussed trespassing research results. The webinar also featured guest speakers from TriMet who talked about their experiences with rail grade crossings and the non-profit, Operation Lifesaver Inc., who discussed safety education and outreach to transit riders and available transit agency resources.

Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services Releases New Medicaid Transportation Coverage Guide

Medicaid provides health coverage to millions of Americans, including eligible low-income adults, children, pregnant women, older adults, and people with disabilities.

Non-emergency medical transportation (NEMT) is an important Medicaid benefit for beneficiaries who need assistance getting to and from medical appointments. Medicaid is one of the 130 Federal programs

found in the [Coordinating Council on Access and Mobility Program Inventory](#); and the largest funder of NEMT, with an estimated FY 2018 spending on transportation of \$1.4 billion.

Today, the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) released a [State Medicaid Director Letter](#) which introduces the Medicaid Transportation Coverage Guide (“Guide”). This CMS guidance serves as a consolidated and comprehensive compilation of Medicaid transportation policy, providing a one-stop transportation resource for states on federal requirements and state flexibilities.

The Guide largely highlights existing policies but also includes new policies to address scenarios for extended wait times and long-distance trips. The Guide also encourages partnerships, “Public transit agencies are often utilized in state Medicaid transportation programs and recognized as one of the least costly options. State departments of transportation (DOTs) and Medicaid agencies should explore partnerships to better serve the Medicaid population.” To learn more, view the [Medicaid Transportation Coverage Guide](#).

NOW AVAILABLE: FTA PTASP TAC Update: September 2023

The latest [Public Transportation Agency Safety Plan \(PTASP\) Technical Assistance Center \(TAC\) Update](#) is available. This issue focuses on Agency Safety Plan (ASP) reviews and updates.

Registration is coming soon for the November PTASP webinar, “Measuring Progress Toward Safety Objectives.” Check out the [PTASP TAC](#) to view past [PTASP webinars](#), review Q&A highlights, visit the [Agency Safety Plan Directory](#) and more.

Transit Workforce Center to Expand Collaboration and Support to Address Labor Shortage

In the two years since FTA established the [Transit Workforce Center \(TWC\)](#) as a national technical assistance center for workforce development, it has made significant strides in working with transit agencies to recruit, hire, train and retain a diverse workforce. To support transit agencies and help them engage and retain employees, the TWC provides case studies and examples of ways transit agencies and industry stakeholders address worker safety and health, skills development and developing accurate workforce metrics. It has provided a range of resources, including:

An extensive [Resource Center](#) with a range of reports, webinars, best practices, and case studies;

A [National Frontline Transit Worker Recruitment Toolkit](#);

[Zero Emission bus resources](#);

[Apprenticeship](#) and mentoring initiatives;

A [Transit Data Dashboard](#);

[An e-newsletter, The Pulse](#), and the [TWC blog](#), featuring career stories and other successes.

To date, TWC resources and trainings have reached over 7,000 industry professionals and 400 transit agencies.

The TWC was recently highlighted in a [video message](#) by FTA Deputy Administrator Veronica Vanterpool, who applauded the TWC's accomplishments at its second anniversary. In the months ahead, TWC activities will be guided by [FTA's National Transit Workforce Development Strategic Plan](#), which outlines the areas of workforce support and focus through 2028.

In its next phase, TWC plans to:

Continue providing technical assistance to public transit agencies;

Collaborate with the Departments of Labor and Education to expand career pathways for K-12;

Strengthen and expand health and safety initiatives, training, funding, and support;

Measure the impacts of diversity, equity, inclusion, accessibility, and belonging initiatives; and

Help transit workers adapt from traditional technologies to emerging technologies.

[The plan](#) reinforces the Biden-Harris Administration's labor investment and recognizes the need to prioritize worker health and safety post-COVID-19.

To stay informed, [sign up to receive the TWC's e-newsletter](#) and visit the [TWC website](#).

Register Now: Cybersecurity Awareness Month Webinar— October 24, 2023

FTA and the Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency (CISA) are hosting a [webinar](#) on Tuesday, October 24, 2023 at 1 p.m. ET in acknowledgment of October's Cybersecurity Awareness Month. This webinar will focus on FTA and CISA cybersecurity resources available to transit agencies. Presenters will provide information on cyber hygiene, ransomware guidance and support to transit agencies through CISA, followed by a Q&A session.

FTA Announces Approximately \$197 Million Notice of Funding Opportunity to Replace Railcars Across the Country

The Federal Transit Administration (FTA) today [announced](#) approximately \$197 million in competitive grant funding is now available through its Rail Vehicle Replacement Program. The Fiscal Year 2024 funds will support efforts to replace our nation's aging railcars for the safety and convenience of riders everywhere.

The [Rail Vehicle Replacement Program](#) will fund transit agencies and state and local governmental authorities' efforts to replace rail vehicles that are approaching or have exceeded their useful life, so that passengers will experience an improved commute.

Complete proposals must be submitted electronically through the *GRANTS.GOV* "APPLY" function by 11:59 p.m. Eastern time, Monday, December 18, 2023.