



**Notice of Meeting**

**Date/Time:** Tuesday, November 21st, 2023 / 10:30 AM

**Join Zoom Meeting:**

<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. <a href="#">Approval of the October 17th, 2023 Meeting Minutes*</a>	Laurel Joseph
5. Treasurer's Report	Lindsay Wallace
6. Education Committee	Joel Fitzpatrick
7. <a href="#">FHWA</a> / <a href="#">FTA</a> Update	Andrew Sibold / Kathleen Russell
8. TAMC Update	Ryan Buck
9. Finance Committee	Laurel Joseph
10. Policy Committee	Steve Stepek
11. JobNet Tech	Luke Walters
12. MDOT	
SPS General Update	Don Mayle
Financial Update	Matt Lyle
2020 Census Statewide Review Update	David Fairchild
MTP 101 Training Session	Brad Sharlow
13. Other New Business	
14. Adjournment	Laurel Joseph

**Michigan Transportation Planning Association (MTPA)**

**Meeting Attendance - 10/17/2023**

<b>AGENCY</b>	<b>NAME</b>	<b>AGENCY</b>	<b>NAME</b>
BCATS	Andy Tilma	MDOT	Josh Grab
BCATS	Jeff Franklin	MDOT	Katie Beck
BCATS	Pat Karr	MDOT	Kevin Hohf
EMCOG	Cody Bodrie	MDOT	Kris Brady
FHWA	Andrew Sibold	MDOT	Lindsey Dowswell
FHWA	Christina Nicholaides	MDOT	Luke Walters
FHWA	Jenny Staroska	MDOT	Madee Thorburn
FTA	Kathleen Russell	MDOT	Mark Kloha
GCMPC	Jacob Maurer	MDOT	Matt Lyle
GCMPC	McKenna Dutkiewicz	MDOT	Max Gierman
GVMC	George Yang	MDOT	Meredith Fryer
GVMC	Laurel Joseph	MDOT	Michele Zawerucha
GVMC	Mara Gericke	MDOT	Michelle Weber-Currie
GVMC	Mike Zonyk	MDOT	Richard Bayus
KATS	Ali Townsend	MDOT	Sam Heatherington
KATS	Megan Mickelson	MDOT	Tim Fischer
KATS	Steve Stepek	MDOT	Trent Bollar
MACC	Alec Miller	MDOT	Tyler Kent
MACC	Eric Dykstra	SCCOTS	Lindsay Wallace
MATS	Bryan Gillett	SEMCOG	Ally Racisz
MATS	Maja Bolanowska	SEMCOG	Michele Fedorowicz
MDOT	Andrea Strach	SWMRPC	Kim Gallagher
MDOT	Brad Sharlow	TCRPC	Jim Koenig
MDOT	Brian Sanada	TCRPC	Laura Tschirhart
MDOT	Brian Stark	WATS	Anton Schauerte
MDOT	David Fairchild	WATS	Maggie Huntley
MDOT	Deanna Donahoo	WATS	Nick Sapkiewicz
MDOT	Don Mayle	WATS	Ryan Buck
MDOT	Fern Spence	WMSRDC	Brian Mulnix
MDOT	Heather Bowden	WMSRDC	Joel Fitzpatrick
MDOT	Heather Hoeve		
MDOT	James VanSteel		
MDOT	Jim Ashman		
MDOT	Jim Sturdevant		
MDOT	John Lanum		



**MEETING MINUTES / OCTOBER 17, 2023 / 10:30 AM**

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

Chair Joseph called the meeting to order at 10:33 AM.

**2. INTRODUCTIONS**

Kris Brady provided an introduction. Kris is the new Director of the Technical Assistance Center in the Michigan Infrastructure Office.

**3. CHANGES TO THE AGENDA**

There were no changes to the agenda.

**4. APPROVAL OF THE SEPTEMBER 19, 2023 MEETING MINUTES\***

A motion was made by Steve Stepek, supported by Ryan Buck, to approve the September 19, 2023 meeting minutes. The motion passed unanimously.

**5. TREASURER'S REPORT**

Lindsay Wallace indicated that the current balance is \$19,553.

**6. EDUCATION COMMITTEE**

Joel Fitzpatrick stated that WMSRDC has secured the hotel and meeting spaces and has begun to coordinate speakers for the 2024 MTPA Conference. Additionally, NHI courses will resume in November or December. Chair Joseph requested that Amy Jordan with the Michigan Association of Planning be included in the development of the 2024 conference agenda.

**7. FHWA / FTA UPDATE**

Christina Nicholaides provided an overview of the information provided in the agenda packet. There is additional funding available for the bridge investment program and the NEVI plan was approved in September.

Kathleen Russell provided an overview of the information provided in the agenda packet.

**8. TAMC UPDATE**

Ryan Buck mentioned that TAMC has requested a \$500,000 work project, which would allow funding from a previous year into the work activities for the following year. An additional



request for \$423,600 for FY2025 has also been submitted. Ryan encouraged members who feel they could use additional funds to submit a request, in writing, stating what it is specifically that they'd like done. The project portal for the Michigan Infrastructure Council (MIC) is being updated. Brad Sharlow reminded members that there is a joint RPA/MPO meeting on November 7th to discuss TAMC next steps. Ryan also reminded members that agencies are required to reimburse local agencies for federal-aid data collection.

#### **9. FINANCE COMMITTEE**

No updates were provided.

#### **10. POLICY COMMITTEE**

Steve Stepek stated that the MOU has been completed and asked John Lanum when agencies can expect the updated MOU to be sent out. John said they'd likely be sent out in November or December.

#### **11. JOBNET TECH**

Luke Walters indicated that there were no major updates, but that meeting invites through the end of this FY have been sent out.

#### **12. MDOT UPDATES**

SPS General Update: Don Mayle stated that the TAP TMA LPI is coming along well and the FY 2025 Federal Buyout Program will be delayed until early January 2024.

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 that MDOT has received most, but not all, of the apportionments from FHWA. MDOT will send out documentation of the apportionments once all apportionments are received. This will likely occur by early November.

ACUB / 2020 Statewide Review Update: David Fairchild indicated which agencies have submitted ACUB resolutions from most MPOs and requested that all resolutions be



submitted to David by the end of November. MDOT anticipates it will submit all documents for review and signature in December and then submit to FHWA in January 2024.

### **13. OTHER NEW BUSINESS**

**\*Designate MACC As 2025 MTPA Conference Host Agency:**

A motion was made by Steve Stepek, supported by Jacob Maurer, to designate the MACC as the 2025 MTPA Conference Host Agency. The motion passed unanimously.

**\*3-Year Reappointment of Ryan Buck as TAMC's MTPA Representative:**

A motion was made by Steve Stepek, supported by Pat Karr, to designate Ryan Buck as the 2025 MTPA Conference Host Agency. The motion passed unanimously.

Heather Hoeve stated that MDOT has been facing software issues as it relates to the HPMS data collection. It is anticipated that the sample HPMS segments will be sent out shortly. There was also a reminder to MPOs that an export of MIRE FDE should be uploaded to Roadsoft by November 1st.

**\*Introduction of the MIO Technical Assistance Center Director - Kristin Brady:**

Tim Fischer introduced Kris Brady as the new Director of the MIO Technical Assistance Center. Kris can be reached by email at [bradyk4@michigan.gov](mailto:bradyk4@michigan.gov).

Matt Lyle stated that MDOT does expect obligation notice this week and so there are about \$5.8 million in projects that have been deemed Advanced Construction.

John Lanum indicated that a letter outlining the CY 2024 MDOT safety targets was sent out earlier in the day.

Christina Nicholaides stated that Governor Whitmer designated the Traverse City MPO on October 3rd.

Chair Joseph reminded the group that the 4th MTP 101 training will occur at 1:15 PM this afternoon.

Steve Stepek stated that as it relates to MPO's Title VI plans, MPOs should not self-investigate complaints. Instead complaints should be sent to MDOT. Steve asked MDOT to provide the name of an individual MDOT employee to which complaints should be sent.



Michigan Transportation Planning Association

---

Pat Karr's Retirement: Chair Joseph thanked Pat Karr for all she has done for MTPA over the years. Pat thanked Andy Tilma and also stated it will be an adjustment in retirement. Pat thanked everyone for their efforts over the years and explained how she started in transportation planning early in her career.

#### **14. ADJOURNMENT**

Chair Joseph adjourned the meeting at 11:17 AM.

**Updates from FHWA to MTPA  
November 21, 2023**

**Grants - Key NOFO List**

**Currently open notices of funding opportunities (NOFOs) include:**

Opening Date	NOFO	Operating Administration	Closing Date
9/27/23	<a href="#">Bridge Investment Program</a>	FHWA	11/27/23
9/14/23	<a href="#">Thriving Communities</a>	OST	11/28/23
9/25/23	<a href="#">FAST-SAF and FAST-Tech Programs (Aviation)</a>	FAA	11/27
9/25/23	<a href="#">Consolidated Rail Infrastructure &amp; Safety Grant Program</a>	FRA	TBD
10/24/23	<a href="#">Accelerated Innovation Deployment (AID) Demonstration Program</a>	FHWA	Notice of intent – 12/12/23  Application – 1/23/24
10/27/23	<a href="#">Saving Lives with Connectivity Accelerating V2X Deployment Grant Opportunity</a>	FHWA	1/17/24
NOV 23	<a href="#">High Priority-Enforcement Training Support</a>	FMCS	TBD
NOV 23	<a href="#">Railroad Crossing Elimination Program</a>	FRA	TBD
Winter 23	<a href="#">Low Carbon Transportation Materials Grants (IRA)</a>	FHWA	TBD

**Other funding and grant-related information:**

Additional funding opportunities for competitive grants can be found on the BIL [website](#). This also includes recorded webinars, award information, and eligibility criteria.

[DOT Navigator](#) is a resource to help communities understand how to apply for grants, and plan for and deliver transformative infrastructure projects and services.

**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:

- [November 27 – Bridge Investment Program \(Fiscal Years 2023 and 2024\)](#);
- [November 28 – Technical Assistance Providers for Thriving Communities Program](#).

**White House Publishes National Framework for Climate Resilience**

On September 28, 2023, the White House [introduced](#) the [National Climate Resilience Framework](#) to help guide and align climate resilience investments and activities by the Federal government and its partners. The Framework identifies specific actions to accomplish six overarching climate resilience objectives:

1. Embed climate resilience into planning and management.
2. Increase resilience of the built environment to both acute climate shocks and chronic stressors.

3. Mobilize capital, investment, and innovation to advance climate resilience at scale.
4. Equip communities with information and resources needed to assess their climate risks and develop the climate resilience solutions most appropriate for them.
5. Protect and sustainably manage lands and waters to enhance resilience while providing numerous other benefits.
6. Help communities become not only more resilient, but also more safe, healthy, equitable, and economically strong.

## **USDOT Adopts the DOE's Categorical Exclusion for Electric Vehicle Charging Stations**

On September 20, 2023, the USDOT published a [notice](#) in the Federal Register to adopt the Department of Energy's (DOE's) Electric Vehicle Charging Stations Categorical Exclusion (CE) under the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) to use in programs and funding opportunities administered by the USDOT. The notice describes the categories of proposed actions for which the USDOT intends to use the DOE's CEs and describes the consultation between the agencies.

## **FHWA Resources on Asset Management, Roadway Classification, Reliability, Public Involvement**

FHWA recently published the following resources:

- [The Art of Selecting Projects: 2023 Transportation Asset Management Peer Exchange](#);
- [Highway Functional Classification Concepts, Criteria and Procedures, 2023 Edition](#);
- [Linking Transportation Asset Management, Transportation Performance Management, and Performance-Based Planning and Programming](#);
- [Travel Time Reliability Reference Guide](#); and
- [Virtual Public Involvement Documentaries \(Six-Video Playlist\)](#).

## **NCHRP Research on Transportation Technologies, Safety, and Roadway Design**

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

- [Becoming a Tech-Savvy DOT of Tomorrow](#);
- [Impact of New Disruptive Technologies on the Performance of DOTs](#);
- [Pedestrian and Bicycle Safety Performance Functions](#); and
- [Roadway Cross-Section Reallocation: A Guide](#).

## **NHI Launches Complete Streets Course Series**

The National Highway Institute (NHI) recently launched a Complete Streets Course Series, including the following trainings:

- Planning for Complete Streets ([web-conference](#) or [instructor-led](#));
- Designing for Complete Streets ([web-conference](#) or [instructor-led](#)); and
- Planning and Designing Complete Streets ([web-conference](#) or [instructor-led](#)).

## **Upcoming Webinars on Equity, Freight, and the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law**

Here is the registration information for some upcoming webinars in November:

- [November 3 – USDOT Advisory Committee on Transportation Equity](#);
- [November 14 – Talking Freight: Freight and Wildlife Considerations](#);
- [November 15 – Elevating Equity and Safety in Project Prioritization](#); and
- [November 15 – Commemorating the Second Anniversary of the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law](#).



## Innovative Finance for Planners (IF4P) Roundtable Report

The IF4P Roundtable Report focuses on the introduction of Innovative Finance and Funds Leveraging strategies in the planning process, particularly at the program development and project implementation phases. The report highlights noteworthy practices at the intersection of planning and finance along with opportunities for the expanded use of innovative finance and funding strategies in the state and local transportation planning and programming processes.

[https://www.fhwa.dot.gov/ipd/pdfs/IF4P\\_Combined\\_roundtables\\_report\\_updated\\_figures.pdf](https://www.fhwa.dot.gov/ipd/pdfs/IF4P_Combined_roundtables_report_updated_figures.pdf)

For additional information on Innovative Finance for Planners please contact Matt Smoker at [Matt.Smoker@dot.gov](mailto:Matt.Smoker@dot.gov) or Pete Mancauskas at [Peter.Mancauskas@dot.gov](mailto:Peter.Mancauskas@dot.gov). For additional information about innovative finance for Federal Lands transportation planning, please contact Elijah Henley at [Elijah.Henley@dot.gov](mailto:Elijah.Henley@dot.gov).

## Upcoming Webinars

A full list of all available upcoming webinars can be found [here](#):

<b>Date</b>	<b>Event</b>	<b>Details</b>
11/30	<a href="#">American Trails' Digital Transformation of Trail Management and Monitoring</a>	Mike Linnane of Evolve Technologies and award-winning Trail Manager Eoin Hogan will present on the development path of the world's first integrated digital trail management system.
12/6	<a href="#">FHWA's Value Capture: Advertising, Naming Rights, and Sponsorships</a>	FHWA will host a Value Capture virtual peer exchange on Innovative Approaches to offset operating and maintenance expenses such as advertising, naming rights, and highway sponsorships on Wednesday December 6th, 2023, from 1:00PM to 3:00PM ET.
12/7	<a href="#">American Trails' Trail Planning and Design: Foundations of Success</a>	Trail planning and design utilize a variety of approaches, tools, and techniques. This webinar will review several common approaches and technologies and provide attendees with real world examples of trail planning and design projects.
12/14	<a href="#">American Trails' Encouraging Indigenous Participation in Trail Management and Interpretation</a>	Learn how one trail organization has been engaging indigenous communities in the interpretation of trails and public lands to help all visitors connect on a deeper level.
12/20	<a href="#">FHWA's Value Capture Strategies Toolkit for Practitioners: An Overview</a>	The constraints on Federal transportation funding have required State, local, and tribal governments to pay even a greater portion of their transportation investment needs.
12/21	<a href="#">(\$) Association of Pedestrian and Bicycle Professionals' Lighter, Faster, Drier Series</a>	In the past fifteen years, cities across North America have been constructing quick-build bike- and pedestrian-focused projects.
12/21	<a href="#">American Trails' Outdoor Electric Assist Devices: Opportunity or Opposition</a>	This webinar addresses recent advancements in technology incorporated into bicycles, scooters, skateboards, and wheelchairs.
1/7 – 1/11	<a href="#">(\$)TRB's 103<sup>rd</sup> Annual Meeting</a>	<a href="#">Details</a>

# November 2023 Updates from FTA to MTPA

## FTA Announces Notice of Funding Opportunity for Accelerating Advanced Digital Construction Management Systems

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.

The U.S. Department of Transportation's Federal Transit Administration (FTA) today [announced](#) the availability of approximately \$5.1 million in competitive grant funds to support a new research initiative that will demonstrate advanced digital construction management tools to improve management of transit construction projects. FTA's [Accelerating Advanced Digital Construction Management Systems program](#) will promote field-tested advanced digital platforms to deliver transit projects faster and cheaper.

Eligible grant applicants include transit agencies, private for-profit and not-for-profit organizations, state or local government entities, and academic institutions. The successful applicant will identify and demonstrate at least two advanced digital construction management systems and work with transit agencies to document best practices for applying the advanced digital construction management tools for transit construction projects.

Applications must be submitted online through [grants.gov](#) and are due by February 10, 2024. FTA will host a webinar for interested organizations on Thursday, October 26, 2023 at 4pm Eastern time. [Register for the webinar](#). Learn more in the [Notice of Funding Opportunity](#).

## FTA to Host Transit Asset Management Peer Discussion - November 30

FTA's Transit Asset Management (TAM) Program is continuing a series of peer programs for transit agency staff. The next session, a virtual discussion on [Setting TAM Performance Targets](#), will take place Thursday, November 30. The 90-minute program, which starts at 2 p.m. ET, will provide a forum for participants to discuss setting targets to meet agency goals. The virtual discussion is limited to 10 participants, with the goal of getting a broad representation of roles and transit agencies. Applications are due by 8pm (Eastern) on November 2, 2023.

Discussion forum participants should be transit agency staff who are responsible for managing transit assets and contribute to fleet management planning or related practices. Participants should be well-versed in their agency's asset management policies and processes and be willing to share ideas on

performance targets. To be considered for the discussion forum, and for more information, view the [application form](#).

## NOW AVAILABLE: FTA Drug & Alcohol Program Newsletter—October 2023, Special Edition

The [Special Edition of the FTA Drug & Alcohol Program Newsletter on Part 40](#) is now available. This special edition includes information on policy changes, collector requirements, informational notices and more.

Please share this newsletter with colleagues and send comments and questions to [FTA.DAMIS@dot.gov](mailto:FTA.DAMIS@dot.gov).

## FTA Proposes Updates to Strengthen its Safety Training Program

To maintain effective safety training for the industry, FTA published [proposed updates](#) to the [Public Transportation Safety Certification Training Program \(PTSCTP\)](#) regulation in the [Federal Register](#) to streamline processes and clarify requirements. The public will have until December 26, 2023, to submit comments on the proposed changes.

The proposed updates will refine the PTSCTP communication process, add administrative requirements and clarify voluntary PTSCTP participation and refresher training requirements. The rule maintains the existing minimum training requirements for State Safety Oversight Agency (SSOA) and rail transit safety personnel. FTA also seeks comments on whether mandatory PTSCTP participation should extend to bus transit agencies and personnel.

FTA will host a [webinar](#) on Wednesday, November 8, 2023 at 1:30 p.m. ET. The webinar will review the PTSCTP NPRM proposed changes, timeline and how to submit comments.

## NOW AVAILABLE: Cybersecurity Awareness for Transit Agencies Webinar

FTA and the Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency (CISA) hosted a webinar on Tuesday, October 24 in acknowledgement of October's Cybersecurity Awareness Month. This webinar focused on FTA and CISA cybersecurity resources available to transit agencies, and provided information on cyber hygiene, ransomware guidance and support to transit agencies through CISA.

The webinar [recording](#) and [presentation](#) are now publicly available.

## NOW AVAILABLE: FTA PTASP TAC Update: October 2023

The latest [Public Transportation Agency Safety Plan \(PTASP\) Technical Assistance Center \(TAC\) Update](#) is available. This issue focuses on recent questions to the TAC.

The November PTASP webinar mailbag episode will be available in late November. View the [PTASP webinars](#), review Q&A highlights, visit the [Agency Safety Plan Directory](#) and more.

## FTA Publishes Guidance on New Disposition Method for TOD/Affordable Housing

FTA published [interim guidance](#) to implement a new provision in law that permits transit agencies to use their real property to support [transit-oriented development](#) that includes affordable housing. The [2022 National Defense Authorization Act](#) allows FTA to authorize the transfer of federally funded property no longer needed for its original, authorized purpose to a local government, nonprofit organization, or other eligible entity if, among other factors, it will be used for transit-oriented development and affordable housing.

This guidance will be incorporated in the next update to FTA's [Award Management Requirements Circular](#) (C 5010.1E). The guidance, in the form of FAQs, is being provided to clarify how grant recipients may use the new disposition method.

Transit agencies, state and local governments and authorities, housing nonprofits, and other interested parties may learn more about this proposed guidance at future webinars to be announced.

## FTA Announces Release of 2022 Data in National Transit Database

FTA recently released the 2022 National Transit Database (NTD) Annual Data Products. The set of files includes data on ridership, operating expenses, service levels, funding sources and more from transit providers nationwide. Established in 1974, the NTD has collected service, performance, and financial information from all FTA-funded transit agencies. View electronic versions of data products from as far back as 1997 on the [NTD website](#).

The data release includes several new features, including:

- 2022 Single Summary of Transit, which presents an overview of U.S. transit that highlights trends and key transit metrics over the last decade in an easy-to-read format
  - The SSoT provides groupings of agency data based on market, mode, and agency type
  - It replaces the previously developed National Transit Summaries and Trends reports.
- New fields in data products
  - UACE Code, a unique identifier for FTA Urbanized Areas that aligns with Census Urban Areas data products, including TIGER shapefiles, allowing NTD data to be easily mapped for the first time
- Enhanced Database File Dictionary that lists fields included across all NTD Database Files, their definitions, and their sources in the NTD Database, improving searchability

The NTD Annual Data Products release includes:

- Single Summary of Transit, providing a high-level presentation of key transit metrics
- 6 time-series files for year-over-year analyses of NTD data
- 28 database files for detailed analyses of NTD data

## Register now for the Developing Community-Based Public Safety Programs Webinar for Transit — December 14, 2023

[Register](#) now for the Developing Community-Based Public Safety Programs for Transit webinar on Thursday, December 14, 2023, at 1pm ET. Attendees will learn from a panel of three transit agencies about how community-based public safety programs can address public safety concerns and improve the rider experience. The webinar will include perspectives from the Southeastern Pennsylvania Transportation Authority, Central Ohio Transit Authority and Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority who will share their experiences establishing a community-based program, including best practices and lessons learned.

## Join FTA's Sustainable Transit for a Healthy Planet Climate Challenge

FTA invites transit agencies to participate in the third phase of the *Sustainable Transit for a Healthy Planet Climate Challenge*, which encourages bold action to further reduce greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions from public transportation. Launched in April 2023, Phase 3 focuses on incorporating resilience into transit agencies' climate action plans, helping to protect infrastructure, while improving mobility. Challenge participants will continue to receive technical assistance from FTA in developing their plans and strategies.

During the first two phases of the challenge, more than 220 transit agencies signed up, with many of those submitting plans outlining strategies to reduce GHG emissions. Plans cover such strategies as converting fleets to electric buses, making facilities more energy efficient, and generating power through renewable energy sources.

Those who have not yet signed up are encouraged to [participate in the Challenge](#). Agencies of all sizes are welcome, and new or existing sustainability, climate action, electrification or zero-emission transition plans are accepted.

New, existing, or updated plans submitted by March 1, 2024, are eligible for recognition during FTA's Earth Day celebratory event scheduled for April 2024.

To learn more and to sign up for the FTA Climate Challenge, visit the [FTA Climate Challenge site](#).

## USDOT Seeks Public Input on Improving Accessibility of Transit Facilities for People with Disabilities

To promote equity in public transportation, the U.S. Department of Transportation has published a [Request for Information](#) (RFI) in the Federal Register to seek public comment on ways to improve the accessibility of public transportation facilities for people with disabilities.

The Department strives to provide equitable access so that people with disabilities are able to use and navigate public transit with the same ease, reliability, and independence as any other user. Input from transit riders, adaptive technology professionals, and the transit industry is critically important in informing USDOT as it contemplates potential enhancements to the [ADA standards](#).

Please visit the [RFI link](#) to provide feedback by January 5, 2024.

## REGISTER: Transit Worker Hours of Service and Fatigue Risk Management ANPRM Virtual Listening Session

[Registration](#) for the virtual listening session concerning the [Advance Notice of Proposed Rulemaking \(ANPRM\) on transit worker hours of service and fatigue risk management](#) is now open. The listening session will be held on Tuesday, December 5, 2023 at 2:30 p.m. ET. The listening session will allow interested persons to present comments, views and relevant research on those topics.

On October 30, 2023, FTA published an Advance Notice of Proposed Rulemaking (ANPRM) on Transit Worker Hours of Service and Fatigue Risk Management in the [Federal Register](#) to request feedback and comments from a wide array of stakeholders, including the public and industry.

The requested feedback will help FTA better understand current practices, priorities and requirements, as well as the costs and benefits of developing Federal requirements. FTA will use the information received in response to the ANPRM to inform FTA's future decision-making on whether and how to pursue Federal regulatory action.

The ANPRM will be open for comments until Friday, December 29, 2023.