



Michigan Transportation Planning Association

Notice of Meeting

Date/Time: Tuesday, December 12th, 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. Approval of the November 21st, 2023 Meeting Minutes*	Laurel Joseph
5. Treasurer's Report	Lindsay Wallace
6. Education Committee	Joel Fitzpatrick
7. FHWA / FTA 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
12. MDOT	
SPS General Update	Don Mayle
13. Other New Business	
14. Adjournment	Laurel Joseph



MEETING MINUTES / NOVEMBER 21, 2023 / 10:30 AM

1. CALL TO ORDER

Chair Joseph called the meeting to order at 10:32 AM.

2. INTRODUCTIONS

No introductions were made.

3. CHANGES TO THE AGENDA

There were no changes to the agenda.

4. APPROVAL OF THE OCTOBER 17, 2023 MEETING MINUTES*

A motion was made by Steve Stepek, supported by Ryan Buck, to approve the October 17, 2023 meeting minutes. The motion passed unanimously.

5. TREASURER'S REPORT

Lindsay Wallace indicated that the current balance is \$19,469.

6. EDUCATION COMMITTEE

Joel Fitzpatrick stated that suggestions on training for the Tuesday Technical Session included ADA compliance, Title VI, and LEP plans.

7. FHWA / FTA UPDATE

Andrew Sibold provided an overview of the information provided in the agenda packet. Andrew specifically pointed out the DOT Navigator Tool, which assists local governments and MPOs to apply and deliver grants. Jenny Staroska indicated that the National Household Travel Survey data and a 1-page document related to eligibility of funding for Complete Streets was now available.

Kathleen Russell indicated that a list of FTA updates has been included in the agenda packet.

8. TAMC UPDATE

Ryan Buck mentioned that the request to increase the FY25 budget from \$1.8 million to \$2.3 million total. Sarah Plumer stated that MPOs will receive an email soon related to scheduling meetings about how each agency interacts with TAMC.



9. FINANCE COMMITTEE

Chair Joseph stated the committee will meet immediately after this meeting.

10. POLICY COMMITTEE

Steve Stepek stated the group has not met but any suggestions for future topics is welcomed.

11. JOBNET TECH

Luke Walters indicated that there were no major updates and the next meeting will be January 8th.

12. MDOT UPDATES

SPS General Update: Don Mayle stated that MDOT is allowing for changes to FY 2024 Federal Buyout Program projects. Don also indicated that the status of the FY 2025 Federal Buyout Program is unknown. The language outlining the process for what MPOs should do if/when it receives a complaint has been sent to FHWA for review.

Financial Update: Matt Lyle stated that MDOT has received the final allocations from FHWA. The allocations for FY24 have been created and the next step will be putting them into JobNet.

ACUB / 2020 Statewide Review Update: David Fairchild indicated MDOT anticipates the new urbanized areas will be finalized in the next few months and will be submitted to the federal government afterwards.

MTP 101 Training: Brad Sharlow reminded the committee that the final MTP 101 training will take place on Thursday.

13. OTHER NEW BUSINESS

John Lanum stated that the MOUs have been sent to the Contract Services Division, then they will be sent out for signatures by the MPO in the next month or two. Anton Schauerte stated that the December MTPA meeting will take place on the second Tuesday of the month, on December 12th.

14. ADJOURNMENT

Chair Joseph adjourned the meeting at 10:58 AM.

Michigan Transportation Planning Association (MTPA)

Meeting Attendance - 11/21/2023

AGENCY	NAME	AGENCY	NAME
BCATS	Jeff Franklin	MDOT	Jim Sturdevant
BCATS	Pat Karr	MDOT	John Lanum
EMCOG	Cody Bodrie	MDOT	Josh Grab
FHWA	Andrew Sibold	MDOT	Lindsey Dowswell
FHWA	Christina Nicholaides	MDOT	Luke Walters
FHWA	Jenny Staroska	MDOT	Matt Lyle
FTA	Kathleen Russell	MDOT	Max Gierman
GCMPC	Jacob Maurer	MDOT	Meredith Fryer
GCMPC	McKenna Dutkiewicz	MDOT	Michele Zawerucha
GVMC	Andrea Faber	MDOT	Michelle Weber-Currie
GVMC	Laurel Joseph	MDOT	Richard Bayus
GVMC	Mike Zonyk	SATS	Demetra Manley
KATS	Ali Townsend	SCCOTS	Lindsay Wallace
KATS	Megan Mickelson	SEMCOG	Adam Elghoul
KATS	Steve Stepek	SEMCOG	Ally Racisz
MACC	Alec Miller	SEMCOG	Michele Fedorowicz
MACC	Eric Dykstra	SEMCOG	Steve Brudzinski
MATS	Bryan Gillett	SWMRPC	Brandon Kovnat
MATS	Maja Bolanowska	SWMRPC	Kim Gallagher
MDOT	Andrea Strach	TAMC (HRC)	Sarah Plumer
MDOT	Blake Wright	TCRPC	Jim Koenig
MDOT	Brad Sharlow	TCRPC	Laura Tschirhart
MDOT	Brian Sanada	WATS	Anton Schauerte
MDOT	Brian Stark	WATS	Maggie Huntley
MDOT	Bruce Kadzban	WATS	Nick Sapkiewicz
MDOT	Craig Newell	WATS	Ryan Buck
MDOT	David Fairchild	WMSRDC	Joel Fitzpatrick
MDOT	Deanna Donahoo		WaitheS
MDOT	Dennis Kent		
MDOT	Don Mayle		
MDOT	Ed Fowler		
MDOT	Ellen Kent		
MDOT	Heather Bowden		
MDOT	James VanSteel		
MDOT	Jim Ashman		

**Updates from FHWA to MTPA
December 12, 2023**

Grants - Key NOFO List

Currently open notices of funding opportunities (NOFOs) include:

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

Final Rule Establishing a Greenhouse Gas (GHG) Performance Measure

A public webinar will be held December 13, 2023 from 11-12:30 ET. Please register via https://usdot.zoomgov.com/webinar/register/WN_inL-zur4RWKct87Z_gursw.

FHWA has issued a [final rule](#) that establishes a greenhouse gas (GHG) performance measure for State Departments of Transportation (State DOTs) and Metropolitan Planning Organizations (MPOs). The measure is part of the National Highway Performance Program and assesses the percent change in carbon dioxide (CO2) emissions on the National Highway System relative to 2022 levels (23 CFR 490.507(b)).

Consistent with the framework of [Transportation Performance Management \(TPM\)](#), State DOTs will establish 2- and 4-year statewide emissions reduction targets, and MPOs will establish 4-year emissions reduction targets for their metropolitan planning areas (§ 490.105(e)-(f)). In addition, the

rule requires certain MPOs serving UZAs with populations of 50,000 or more to establish additional joint targets. FHWA will soon be posting applicability tables to help identify MPOs that are required to set joint UZA targets.

State DOTs and MPOs have the flexibility to set targets that work for their respective climate change policies and other policy priorities, so long as they are declining. State DOTs and MPOs are also required to report on their progress in meeting the targets. To realize the benefits of a GHG measure as soon as is practicable, State DOTs will first establish targets and report those targets by February 1, 2024. Subsequent targets will be established and reported no later than October 1, 2026, in line with other TPM measures (§490.107(b)-(d)).

The U.S. Department of Transportation Climate Change Center webpage lists a number of [GHG analysis tools and resources](#) that can be used to evaluate the impact of GHG reduction strategies and help set targets. CO2 emissions factors for use in State reporting in 2024 are available on the State Initial GHG Report form, which will be available through the docket of the final rule.

The Final Rule language can be found here: <https://www.fhwa.dot.gov/tpm/rule.cfm>
Additional information on the rule is posted on the [GHG Performance Measure](#) page

FTA Publishes Guidance for MPOs Serving Urban Areas Under 50,000 in Population

On November 1, 2023, FTA published [guidance](#) for MPOs that previously served an urban area with a population of at least 50,000 but now serve an urban area under 50,000 in population, as determined by the 2020 Census. More information is available [here](#).

USDOT Announces \$1.5 Billion in Available Funding for the RAISE Discretionary Grant Program

On November 30, 2023, the U.S. Department of Transportation (USDOT) [announced](#) the availability of \$1.5 billion in funding through the Rebuilding American Infrastructure with Sustainability and Equity (RAISE) discretionary grant program. RAISE grants will be awarded on a competitive basis for planning or constructing surface transportation infrastructure projects that will improve safety; environmental sustainability; quality of life; mobility and community connectivity; economic competitiveness and opportunity, including tourism; state of good repair; partnership and collaboration; and innovation. The application deadline is February 28, 2024. More information is available [here](#).

FHWA Announces \$120 Million in Available Funding for Advanced Technologies and Innovations

On November 20, 2023, FHWA [announced](#) the availability of \$120 million in funding through the Advanced Transportation Technology and Innovation (ATTAIN) Program. The ATTAIN Program awards grants to eligible entities to deploy, install, and operate advanced transportation technologies to improve safety, mobility, efficiency, system performance, intermodal connectivity, and infrastructure return on investment. The application deadline is February 2, 2024. More information is available [here](#).

FTA Announces \$4.7 Million in Available Funding for Innovative Access and Mobility

On November 15, 2023, the Federal Transit Administration (FTA) [announced](#) the availability of approximately \$4.7 million in funding through the [Innovative Coordinated Access and Mobility \(ICAM\) Pilot Program](#). The ICAM Pilot Program provides competitive funding to support innovative projects for

the transportation disadvantaged that will improve the coordination of transportation services and non-emergency medical transportation services for older adults, people with disabilities, and people of low-income. The application deadline is February 13, 2024. More information is available [here](#) and [here](#).

USDOT Announces \$3.4 Million in Awards for Rural and Tribal Grants

On November 20, 2023, the USDOT [announced](#) \$3.4 million in awards from the Rural and Tribal Assistance (RTA) Pilot Program. The RTA Pilot Program supports early-stage development of transportation solutions in rural and Tribal communities with grants funding technical, legal, and financial assistance. More information is available [here](#).

USDOT Publishes Survey Results of Equity Practices in Transportation Planning

On November 9, 2023, the USDOT published a report entitled, "[2022 Survey of Equity Practices in the Transportation Planning Process](#)." This report summarizes research into the state of the practice of State DOTs and MPOs in addressing equity in the transportation planning process. The goal is to provide information to the transportation planning community, and to the public, about how transportation agencies are addressing equity and conducting meaningful public involvement.

FHWA Resources on ADA, Tribes, Micromobility, Shared Mobility, and Congestion

FHWA recently published the following resources:

- [Americans with Disabilities Act \(ADA\) Transition Plan and Inventory](#);
- [Making Transportation Planning Applicable in Tribal Communities Research Study](#);
- [Micromobility Regulations and Permitting Equity Synthesis](#);
- [The Role of Metropolitan Planning Organizations in Planning for Equitable Shared Mobility](#); and
- [Urban Congestion Trends Report, 2022](#).

President Approves Fiscal Year 2024 Appropriations Through January 19th and February 2nd

On November 16, 2023, the President signed a [continuing resolution](#) to approve appropriations for Fiscal Year (FY) 2024. For the Federal agencies and programs that were funded in the following appropriations acts, the continuing resolution provides funding through January 19, 2024:

- Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2023;
- Energy and Water Development and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2023;
- Military Construction, Veterans Affairs, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2023; and
- Transportation, Housing and Urban Development, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2023.

For most other Federal agencies and programs, the continuing resolution provides funding through February 2, 2024.

Upcoming Webinars

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

<u>Date</u>	<u>Event</u>	<u>Details</u>
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12/13	<p><u>GHG Performance Measure Final Rule</u> <u>A public webinar will be held December 13, 2023 from 11-12:30 ET.</u> <u>Please register via</u> https://usdot.zoomgov.com/webinar/register/WN_inL-zur4RWKct87Z_gursw.</p>	
12/20	<p>FHWA's Value Capture Strategies Toolkit for Practitioners: An Overview</p>	<p>The constraints on Federal transportation funding have required State, local, and tribal governments to pay even a greater portion of their transportation investment needs.</p>
12/21	<p>(\$) Association of Pedestrian and Bicycle Professionals' Lighter, Faster, Drier Series</p>	<p>In the past fifteen years, cities across North America have been constructing quick-build bike- and pedestrian-focused projects.</p>
12/21	<p>American Trails' Outdoor Electric Assist Devices: Opportunity or Opposition</p>	<p>This webinar addresses recent advancements in technology incorporated into bicycles, scooters, skateboards, and wheelchairs.</p>
1/7 – 1/11	<p>(\$)TRB's 103rd Annual Meeting</p>	<p>Details</p>

December 2023 Updates from FTA to MTPA

FTA Announces Nearly \$5 Million Funding Opportunity to Improve Transit Access for Older Adults, People with Disabilities, and Low-Income Individuals

FTA today announced the [availability](#) of \$4.7 million in Fiscal Year 2023 competitive grant funding for projects that improve access to vital services for older adults and people with disabilities, and in low-income communities.

FTA's [Innovative Coordinated Access and Mobility \(ICAM\) Grants](#), supports public transportation projects that improve state and regional coordination and will help advance the goals of the President's Executive Order on Advancing Racial Equity and Support for Underserved Communities Through the Federal Government.

Applications for funding will be evaluated based on criteria outlined in the Notice of Funding Opportunity in the [Federal Register](#) including how the project will enhance access and mobility to vital community services for older adults, people with disabilities, and people of low income. An additional \$4.8 million is authorized for Fiscal Year 2024 and FTA may award additional funding that is made available to the program prior to the announcement of project selections.

Applications are due by 11:59 p.m. ET Tuesday, February 13, 2024.

Reminder: Register for the Developing Community-Based Public Safety Programs for Transit Webinar — 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.

REMINDER: 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 hosted a webinar on Wednesday, November 8, 2023, that reviewed the PTSCTP NPRM proposed changes, timeline, where to submit comments and included a question and answer period. The webinar [recording](#) and [presentation](#) are now available.

FTA Seeks Stakeholder Input for Strategic Research Plan

FTA seeks your input on the agency's transit research and demonstration program. How can technology and innovation be used to improve safety, reduce greenhouse gas emissions, provide more resilient transit systems, grow the economy, improve people's mobility options, and connect communities? How can innovation improve mobility and accessibility for people with disabilities to jobs and other opportunities?

Lend your ideas to our [Future of Public Transportation online dialogue](#). Register and share your insights, experiences and suggestions on ways research, technology and innovation can help make public transit safer, cleaner, greener, more resilient, and more equitable.

- FTA seeks comments from stakeholders including:
- representatives within the industry
- community organizations representing the transportation needs and interests of people with disabilities
- organizations and groups with an interest in mobility, sustainability, and transit
- people with ideas or interest in this topic

The online dialogue will be open November 20-January 5, 2024.

FTA announces new webpage for Spare Ratio Policy Frequently Asked Questions

FTA has updated its [webpage](#) to clarify guidance regarding the spare ratio policy, which ensures that grant recipients operate within prudent financial management guidelines and do not use federal funds to acquire rolling stock until needed.

See FTA's new frequently asked questions [webpage](#) to learn about the range of options within this guidance for agencies to manage their fleets and local needs. The updated FAQ page showcases flexibilities to ensure that all agencies are aware of the range of fleet management options especially as more transit agencies transition fleets to zero emission technology. The updated FAQs do not change guidance but clarify existing policies regarding spare ratios.

Webinar for FTA Innovative Coordinated Access and Mobility Funding Opportunity (December 14)

Join FTA at a webinar on Thursday, December 14 to learn about the current Innovative Coordinated Access and Mobility funding opportunity. The program supports partnerships between health, transportation, and other service providers to improve transportation access for underserved communities.

Potential applicants to the Fiscal Year 2023 [Innovative Coordinated Access and Mobility Grants](#) are welcome to attend the webinar below. FTA staff will discuss funding amounts, eligibility requirements, the application process, and the evaluation criteria during the webinar. Registration is not required for the webinar. Applications are due February 13, 2024.

Innovative Coordinated Access and Mobility Webinar Thursday, December 14, 2023 | 3:00PM ET [Webinar](#)

REMINDER: FTA Seeks Public Comments on Transit Worker Hours of Service and Fatigue Risk Management Advance Notice of Proposed Rulemaking.

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.

Currently, there are no Federal minimum standards for hours of service and fatigue risk management programs in the transit industry. The National Transportation Safety Board (NTSB) and FTA stakeholders have identified transit worker fatigue as an area of concern, and research shows that fatigue can have a detrimental effect on transit worker performance.

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.

FTA Announces New Round of Available Funding to Make Transit Stations Accessible for All

The Federal Transit Administration (FTA) today [announced](#) the availability of \$343 million in Fiscal Year 2024 federal funding to make it easier for people with disabilities and mobility needs to access some of the nation's oldest and busiest rail transit systems through essential upgrades, such as elevators. Hundreds of transit stations built before 1990, known as legacy stations, are not accessible to people with disabilities.

The [All Stations Accessibility Program \(ASAP\)](#), created by the [Bipartisan Infrastructure Law](#) will increase access to our transportation system and advance the Biden-Harris Administration's priorities of promoting equity, addressing the workforce shortage, and boosting economic strength. Funding through ASAP ensures that those relying on rail systems can get to work and school, be less dependent on vehicles, save money, and reduce greenhouse gas emissions.

Instructions for applying and eligibility information can be found on FTA's Website and in GRANTS.GOV (FTA-2024-001-TPM-ASAP). Complete proposals must be submitted electronically through the GRANTS.GOV "APPLY" function by January 30, 2024.

FTA Announces Major Bipartisan Infrastructure Law Investments in Ferry Service

FTA today [announced](#) grants totaling \$220.2 million from President Biden's Bipartisan Infrastructure Law to modernize the nation's ferry systems. The program focuses in part on expanding ferry service in rural communities, helping communities acquire modern ferry boats (including electric boats that reduce carbon pollution), and upgrading shore infrastructure to support high-quality, low-emission ferry service.

In total, FTA is awarding [13 grants in eight states](#) and the territory of American Samoa. Federal funding will support projects such as replacing old vessels, expanding fleets, and building new terminals and docks.

The funding, made available through two FTA competitive grant programs, will boost ferry service in rural areas, modernize urban ferry systems, and lower emissions by speeding the adoption of low-and zero-emission technology.

[FTA's Ferry Service for Rural Communities Program](#) provides competitive funding to states for ferry service in rural areas. Today, FTA is awarding approximately \$170 million to six projects in four states and the territory of American Samoa.

[FTA's Passenger Ferry Grant Program](#) supports capital projects to establish new ferry service and repair and modernize ferry vessels, terminals, and facilities in urban areas. Today, FTA is awarding \$50.1 million to seven projects in four states.

Today's investment is the second ferry grant package funded by President Biden's [Bipartisan Infrastructure Law](#), which has now invested more than \$604 million to expand and improve the nation's ferry service, as well as accelerate the transition to zero emission transportation technology.

NOW AVAILABLE: FTA PTASP TAC Update: November 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 PTASP webinar mailbag episode, "Your Questions Answered" will be available in December. View [PTASP webinars](#), review Q&A highlights, access the [Agency Safety Plan Directory](#) and more.

FTA Publishes Calendar Year 2024 Drug and Alcohol Random Testing Rates

Today, FTA published a notice in the Federal Register to announce the [calendar year 2024 Drug and Alcohol Random Testing Rates](#) for transit employers. The minimum random drug testing rate will remain at 50 percent and the random alcohol testing rate will remain at 10 percent. FTA requires drug and alcohol testing for transit employees performing safety-sensitive functions and for employers to submit annual drug and alcohol testing reports by March 15 of each year.

[View detailed reports](#) on FTA's drug and alcohol testing data collected from transit employers on the [FTA Drug and Alcohol Program webpage](#). For more information, contact [lyon Rosario](#), FTA's Office of Transit Safety and Oversight Senior Drug and Alcohol Program Manager.

REGISTER: FTA Drug and Alcohol Virtual MIS Overview Trainings

The 90-minute Virtual Management Information System (MIS) Overview training will provide participants with an overview of MIS instructions and expectations. Attendees will have an opportunity to ask questions and see a live demonstration of the FTA Drug and Alcohol Management Information System (DAMIS) website.

[Registration](#) for the sessions is now open.

Training Dates and Time:

Wednesday, December 13, 2023, 1:00-2:30pm ET

Tuesday, January 30, 2024, 11am-12:30pm ET

Tuesday, March 12, 2024, 11am-12:30pm ET

A link to the Teams meeting will be sent to registrants the morning of the session.

FTA Announces Release of New Urban Area Boundaries in TrAMS Created by the 2020 Census

On Friday, December 7, FTA will update its [Transit Award Management System \(TrAMS\)](#) to include new and updated urbanized areas (UZAs) resulting from the 2020 Census.

In December 2022, the U.S. Census Bureau released new urban area boundaries that correspond to the [2020 Census](#). As a result, the geographic coverage and population of many UZAs -- urban areas with a population of at least 50,000 -- changed between 2010 and 2020. These changes could include:

- Contracting;
- Growing;
- Trading territory with an adjacent UZA;
- Eliminated to be completely rural;
- Eliminated, but added to another UZA; or
- Exceeded or fell below the 200,000 UZA population threshold.

FTA will apportion FY 2024 formula funding – expected in the first quarter of 2024 -- based on this new Census data. All formula funding from FY 2023 and prior years can continue to be obligated and used according to the program in the UZA in which it was previously apportioned before the 2020 Census.

To match the new UZAs and modifications to pre-existing UZAs, FTA will update TrAMS to reflect the appropriate changes to FTA’s accounting structure for formula apportionments to UZAs.

To assist with the transition, FTA will provide a variety of resources, including a [summary document](#) describing the changes in further detail. Grant recipients can view [FTA’s Census webpage](#) to learn more about the impacts of the 2020 Census and what UZAs were impacted.

NOW AVAILABLE: State Safety Oversight Notice of Proposed Rulemaking Overview Webinar

The [presentation](#) and [recording](#) from the State Safety Oversight (SSO) Notice of Proposed Rulemaking (NPRM) Overview webinar held on November 30, 2023 are now available. FTA discussed proposed new requirements for the State Safety Oversight regulation and how the public can submit comments to the Federal Register on the proposed changes.

FTA published an NPRM in the [Federal Register](#) proposing updates to SSO regulation requirements. The proposed changes included ensuring that State Safety Oversight Agencies (SSOAs) have the authority to enter rail transit facilities without prior notice to perform safety inspections; requiring SSOAs to collect safety data from the rail transit systems they oversee; and developing and implementing risk-based inspection programs.

In addition, the NPRM also proposes updates and clarifications to the current regulation including simplified requirements for the types of safety events that rail transit agencies must report to their SSOA and FTA within two hours of their occurrence.

The SSO NPRM will be open for public comment for 60 days, concluding on January 16, 2024.