Federal Transit Administration

Arkansas Transit Association
Annual Meeting
North Little Rock, AR

October 14, 2026



U.S. Department of Transportation
Federal Transit Administration

U.S. Public Transportation Industry Profile

FTA provides ~**$21 billion** annually, primarily for infrastructure to transit providers delivering **8 billion passenger trips**. FTA also provides financial and safety oversight of transit providers.



Agencies & Suppliers

~4,000
U.S. public transportation providers

2,000+
U.S. businesses in 48 states supplying transit providers



Assets & Revenue

~$1.2 Trillion
In assets, including 170k transit vehicles and 15k miles of guideways

~$90 Billion
Total industry funding from federal, state, local, & direct sources



Workforce

430,000+
People working for public transit agencies

96% Operations & Maintenance
4% Capital & Administration

Sources: 2023 FTA National Transit Database, 25th Edition FHWA-FTA Conditions and Performance Report, 2024 APTA Fact Book

U.S. DOT / FTA Leadership



Transportation Secretary

Sean P. Duffy



FTA Acting Deputy Administrator & Chief Counsel

Matthew Cahill

FTA's Mission

Improve America's Communities through Public Transportation



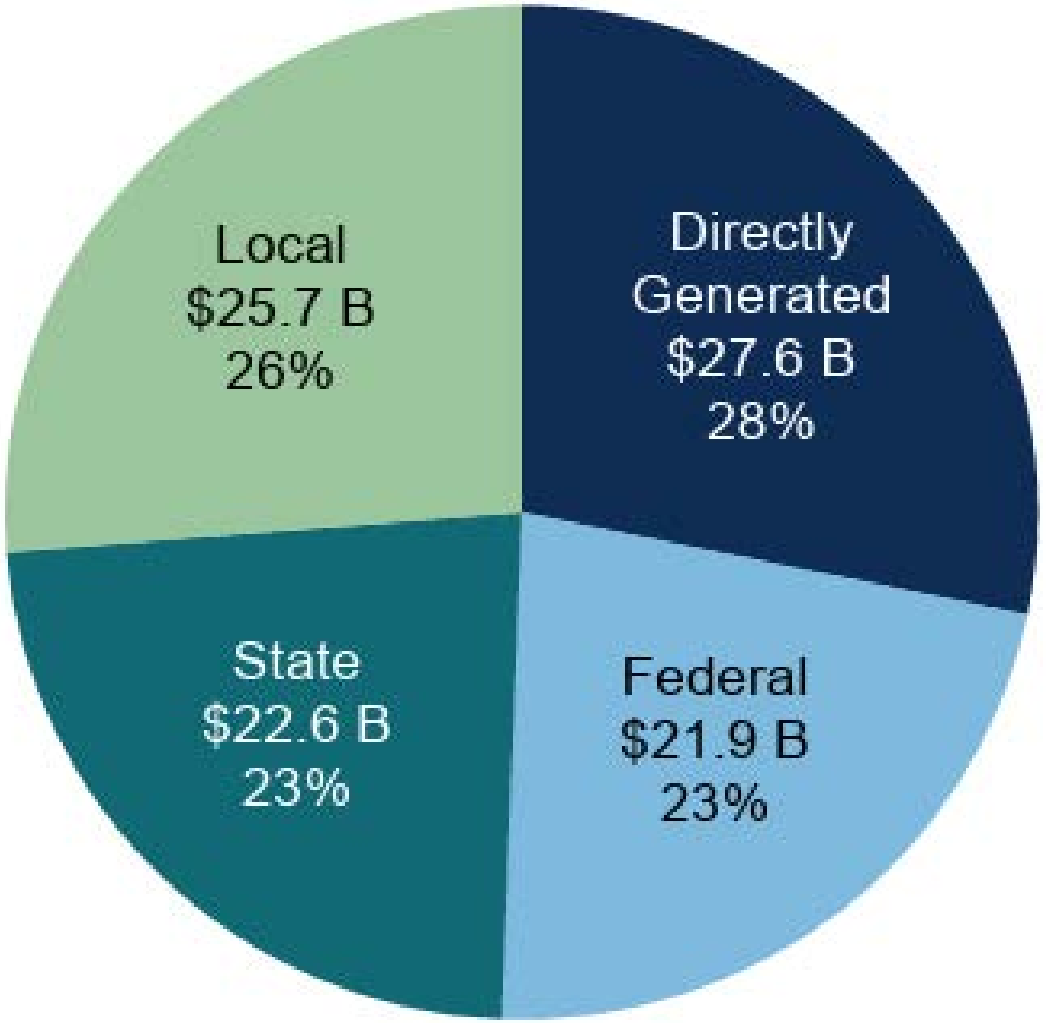
Transit Funding Overview

All Sources: $98 Billion

FTA provides ~$1 of every $4 (23%) for overall U.S. transit funding

Capital Funding Only

FTA provides ~$1 of every $2.50 (~39%) for capital spending

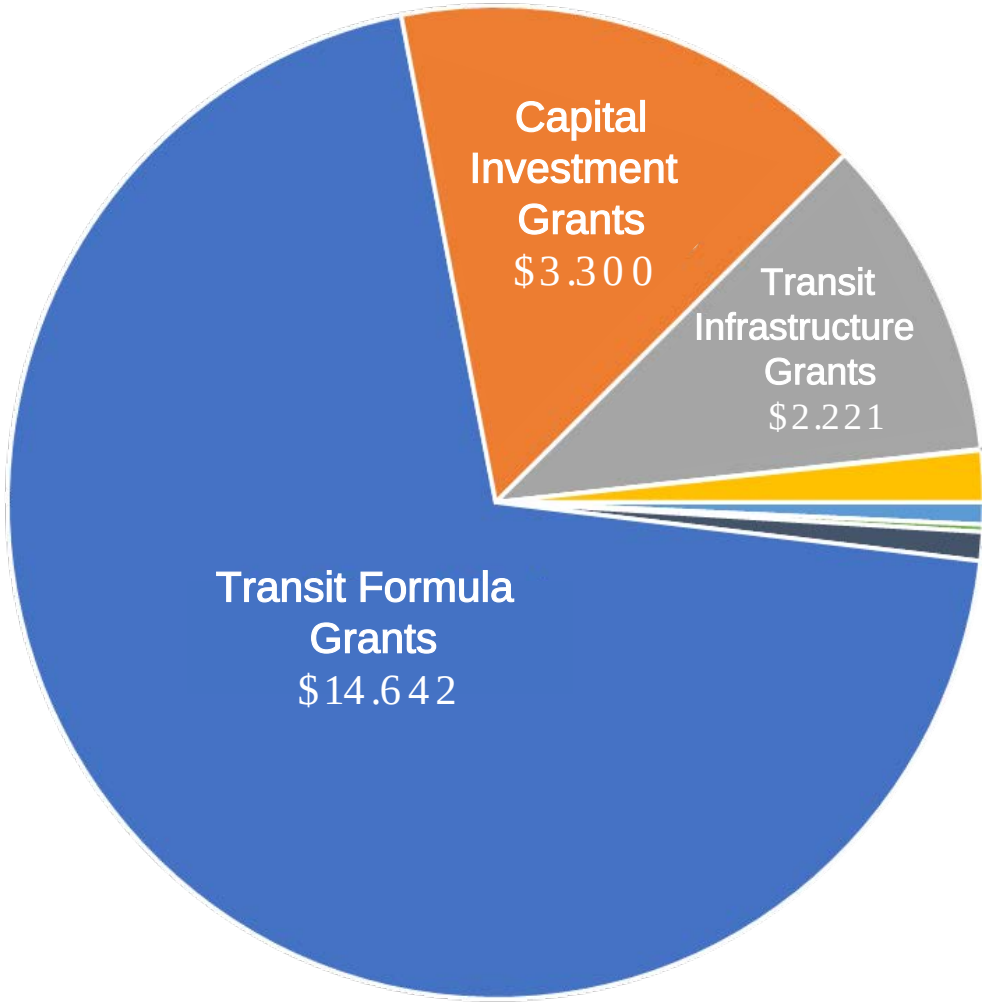


Source: 2024 FTA National Transit Database (Full Reporters), National Transit Summaries and Trends

FY26 Appropriations Overview

$20.916 billion

FTA manages the **third - largest** budget in USDOT (70% Formula Grants)



FTA Funds Are...

(The Five A's of the Funding Process)

01

Authorized

by Law in a Surface Transportation Bill such as IIJA

02

Appropriated

annually by Congress to FTA

03

Apportioned

by FTA to States, Urbanized Areas, and Tribes

04

Allocated

by Recipients to specific projects and operations

05

Awarded

by FTA in a grant after documentation /approval is completed

National FTA News



U.S. Department of Transportation
Federal Transit Administration

FTA National News

Surface Transportation Authorization – FTA Priorities

- Ensuring safe and reliable projects
- Accelerating project delivery
- Expanding economic
- Strengthening partnerships

Global Sports / Major Events

- **2026 FIFA World Cup:** $100.3 million
- **2028 Summer Games:** $94.3 million

Transit Moves America **online tool**

General Directive 24-1: Effective Mitigation Practices Fact Sheet

- Shares insights from transit agencies to reduce assaults on transit workers.

Electronic Categorical Exclusion (CE) Worksheet

- Modernizes and streamlines the CE process.

Concept Papers for Research to improve Public Transportation – Concept Papers due October 19, 2026

2026 Proposed CIG Policy Guidance – Comments due November 15, 2026

Global Sports & Major Events

Over a ***10-year period, beginning in 2025*** , the US is hosting at least seven global sporting events and a celebration of the nation's 250th Anniversary, providing many opportunities to showcase America's values and stature.

2025

FIFA Club World Cup
Jun 15 – Jul 13

CONCACAF Gold Cup
Jun 14 – Jul 6

2026

FIFA Men's World Cup
Jun 11 – Jul 19

America 250

2028

LA28 Summer Olympics
Jul 14 – 30

LA28 Paralympics
Aug 15 – 27

2031

Men's Rugby World Cup
Host: United States

2033

Women's Rugby World Cup
Host: United States

2034

Winter Olympics
Host: Salt Lake City, UT

See FTA's Major Events Playbook for guidance and best practices!

Transit Safety Updates

2026 FTA Safety Priorities



Impact of Transit Worker Fatigue on Safety



Street -Running Rail Vehicle Collisions



Emerging Safety Issues: Line Overruns and Overhead Catenary Systems



Rail Transit Roadway Worker Protection



Risk-Based Inspection Programs

Safety Management Systems:
Lessons Learned from General Directive (GD) 24-1

Safety Risk Management

- Identify hazards
- Assess risk
- Mitigate risk

"What's wrong?"

"How bad is it?"

"How will we fix it?"

Safety Assurance

- Monitor mitigations
- Measure performance

"Are our fixes working?"

"Are we meeting our safety objectives?"

Lessons Learned from GD 24-1

Leverage agency **Safety Risk Management** processes needed prompting

- *Only 10% of agencies had conducted safety risk assessments on the topic in the 12 months prior to GD 24-1*

Safety Assurance processes proved more challenging for the industry

- *While agencies were generally able to assess safety risk, monitoring the effectiveness of mitigations proved more difficult*

Intersection Issues

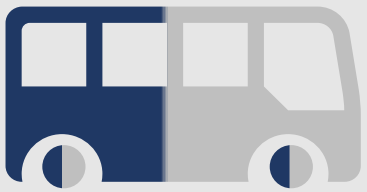
From 2014 to 2024, the largest percentage of bus collision events occurred within intersections.

Bus collisions at intersections accounted for:



48%

Bus-to-POV Events



42%

Bus-to-Person Events

27% of fatalities and injuries (2,504) resulting from bus-to-person collisions within intersections occurred when the transit vehicle was turning left.

Transit Moves America

Overview, Scope, and Key Performance Metrics

Platform Scope & Purpose

Purpose: A national data platform maintained by USDOT and FTA to track public transit performance, passenger security, and operational efficiency.

Data Sources: Built on NTD products including monthly ridership, safety events, modal time series, and station inventories.

Covers all rail operators, bus operators ⩾ 100 VOMS

Scan to access Transit Moves America

Key Visualized Metrics

Ridership | Unlinked Passenger Trips (UPT)

Boardings counted each time a passenger enters a vehicle.

Passenger Safety | Major Security Event Rate

Six month rolling average of major events (assaults, robbery, homicide, rape) per 1M trips.

Worker Safety | Transit Worker Assault Rate

Six month rolling average of physical/non-physical worker assaults per 1M trips.

Overall Safety and Security | Monthly Transit Related Fatalities

National data from Major Safety Events includes all NTD full reporters Metric is sum of fatalities per month.

Accessibility | ADA Station Compliance

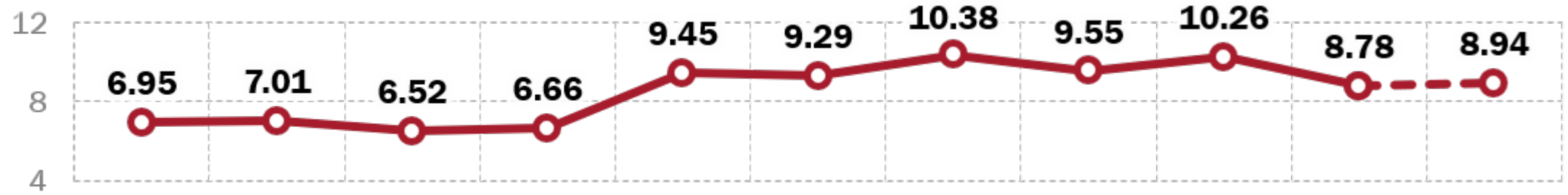
Percentage of transit rail stations meeting 1990 ADA barrier-free standards.

Cost Efficiency | Operating Cost per Passenger Trip

Operating expenses relative to overall unlinked passenger trip boardings.

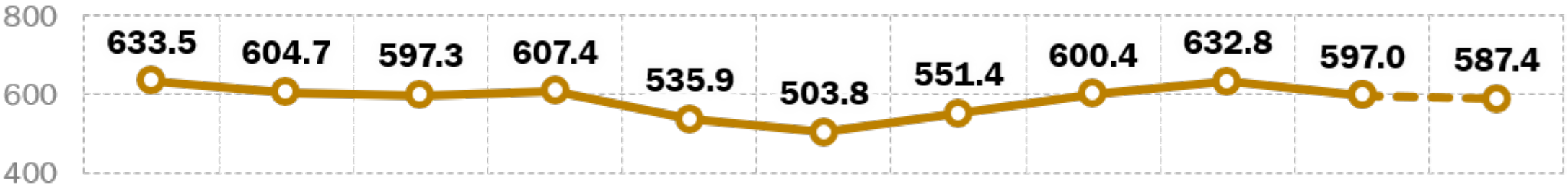
Overall Transit Safety & Security – Annual Trends

Fatality Rate per 100 Million Vehicle Revenue Miles (100M VRM) by Fiscal Year (FY)



FY	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026
Fatality Count	260	264	246	255	308	293	339	326	363	321	165

Injury Rate per 100M VRM by Fiscal Year



FY	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026
Injury Count	23,711	22,772	22,550	23,254	17,457	15,882	18,011	20,489	22,379	21,838	10,839

Source: NTD. Data are subject to revision. Data based on release version 7/7/2026 with events through Mar 31, 2026.

2026 NTD Safety and Security Reporting Policy Manual

- An updated policy manual is now available to support National Transit Database (NTD) safety and security event reporters.
- In November, FTA issued a safety bulletin to transit agencies with important deadline reminders for reporting safety and security events to the NTD.
- FTA relies on timely safety and security data to carry out its safety oversight programs effectively.



Subscribe to Safety Updates

TSO Spotlight Newsletter:

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Sign up for GovDelivery:

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U.S. Department of Transportation
Federal Transit Administration

Transit Safety Oversight Spotlight Newsletter

May 2026
Vol. 11 No. 2

Message from the Associate Administrator

Dear Transit Colleagues,

FTA's Office of Transit Safety Oversight is having another productive start to the year. In just the first few months, with your help, we've made meaningful strides to enhance transit worker and rider safety, strengthen transit worker fatigue risk management, improve information sharing, and deepen coordination across the industry. Thanks for your continued support and commitment to safety. This spring, I want to build on this momentum and advance our shared goals.

The Rail Transit Roadway Worker Protection (RWP) final rule continues to strengthen protections for employees working on or near the tracks. While many transit agencies across our nation are rising to the challenge by routinely assessing safety protocols, updating procedures, and enhancing training, RWP events and injuries have unfortunately continued to increase over the past three fiscal years. We have more work to do to bring these numbers down and instill long-lasting change across the industry.

Joe DeLorenzo
Associate Administrator for Transit Safety Oversight and Chief Safety Officer, FTA

Coming together helps us advance the important safety work we do. A big thank you to all who attended the FTA State Safety Oversight (SSO) and Rail Transit Agency (RTA) Safety Workshop — it was great to see everyone and connect on our shared goals and objectives. I also want to thank our presenters for the invaluable information they provided on Risk-Based Inspections, RWP practices, safety processes, and more. The workshop continues to bring together rail transit safety stakeholders across the industry and provide meaningful opportunities to learn, connect, and collaborate. We appreciate your active participation and engagement in key discussions at the workshop, which helps enhance transit safety and security for our workers, riders, and communities.

I'm pleased to share that we are expanding the Spotlight newsletter to include updates on our Drug and Alcohol program. This supports our broader effort to streamline TSO's communication channels and provides stakeholders with direct access to valuable information and tools that offer a more comprehensive view of our safety mission. I encourage you to share this newsletter with any colleagues who support your organization's drug and alcohol testing program.

Recently this month, Deputy Associate Administrator Teona Edwards attended the Community Transportation Association of America (CTAA) Expo and spoke on the importance of safety culture and safety management systems. As we look ahead, we are excited to speak at many impactful events. In May and June, I'll share TSO's key initiatives and industry statistics during sessions at the American Public Transportation Association's (APTA) Mobility and Rail Conferences. I hope to see you there and look forward to an opportunity to connect.

Thank you for all that you do to continue advancing transit safety.

Contact us at: FTASafetyStakeholder@dot.gov

Program Oversight

ADA
DBE
Title VI
EEO



U.S. Department of Transportation
Federal Transit Administration

Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA)

Recipient Oversight

Contractual & Partner Compliance

- Ensure private or other public entities comply with the same ADA requirements.
- Oversee subrecipients, contractors, and partners to verify compliance and remedy deficiencies.

Accessible Vehicles

Service-Specific Standards

- **Fixed-Route:** All vehicles used in fixed-route bus service must be fully accessible.
- **Demand-Responsive:** Ensure accessibility or demonstrate equivalent service to people with disabilities.

ADA Applicability

Universal Jurisdiction

- ADA regulations *always apply*.
- Independent of whether federal funding was used.
- Applies to all services, vehicles, and facilities.

Disadvantaged Business Enterprise (DBE)

On October 3, 2025, USDOT issued the DBE Interim Final Rule (IFR), which became effective the same day.

Final Rule Published September 26, 2026.



The IFR requires Unified Certification Program (UCP) participants to complete a certification reevaluation that does not rely on presumptions of eligibility based on race or gender to determine a business's disadvantaged status. While the reevaluation process occurs, several DBE program requirements have been paused including:

- Submitting updated DBE programs or revised DBE goals
- Implementing existing DBE goals
- Submitting reports
- Completing shortfall analysis

Recipients must continue:

- Including DBE clauses in 49 CFR § 26.13 in all contracts
- Implementing the termination and substitution requirements in 49 CFR § 26.53(f)

USDOT UCP Reevaluation Status Tracker can be found at:

www.transportation.gov/UCPstatus

Civil Rights Oversight in FY 2026



FY26 Triennial and State Management Reviews cycle:

- Did <u>not</u> assess **DBE** requirements
- Did <u>not</u> assess **EEO** compliance
- <u>Did</u> review **ADA** requirements

Questions about civil rights programs?

Email us: FTACivilRightsSupport@dot.gov

Highlights of Recent NEPA Updates

- NEPA Implementation Changes
- Updated FTA Guidance and Tools

Regulations

CEQ NEPA Implementing Regulations

40 CFR Parts 1500 -1508

Interim Final Rule (IFR)

- Issued: Feb 25, 2025
- Removed CEQ's NEPA regulations, effective April 11, 2025
- Requested public comments

Final Rule

- Issued: January 8, 2026
- Rescinded CEQ's NEPA-implementing regulations
- Responded to comments and adopted the IFR without changes

FHWA, FTA & FRA Joint Regulation

23 CFR Part 771

Interim Final Rule (IFR)

- Issued: June 30, 2025
- Maintained Part 771 but integrated key aspects from CEQ's *"Agency NEPA Procedures Template"* not otherwise covered
- Incorporated IIJA modifications to 23 U.S.C. § 139, as appropriate

NEPA Requirements and Updates

FTA NEPA Legislation and Guidance Webpage

- Current statutes, regulations, guidance, and NEPA readiness resources are maintained on the FTA website

FTA Environmental SOPs

- Currently updating Environmental SOPs to align with statute, regulation, and guidance changes

Categorical Exclusion (CE) Worksheet



U.S. Department of Transportation
Federal Transit Administration

Categorical Exclusion (CE) Worksheet

Key Benefits

Standardized Format Used consistently across all FTA regions to streamline submissions.

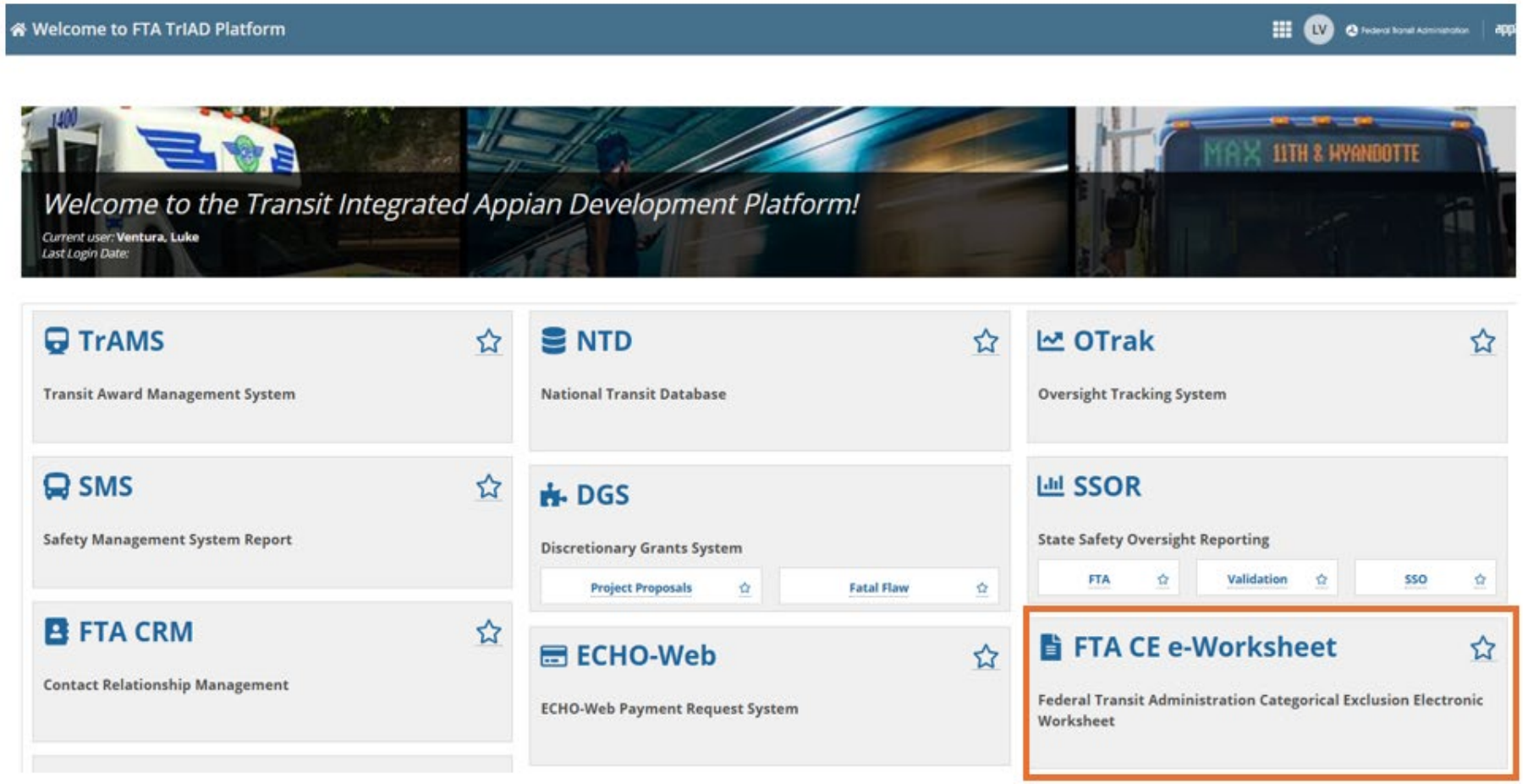
Consistent & Efficient Supports faster and more reliable CE determinations.

Comprehensive Resources Worksheet and step-by-step video tutorials are readily available.

SCAN TO ACCESS

Quickly navigate to worksheets and official video guidance

User Access in TrIAD



e-Worksheet Notes

- The CE e-Worksheet is a **compliance and concurrence tool, not a planning tool** .
  a. It serves as the final documentation demonstrating compliance with NEPA and other environmental requirements.
- **Always coordinate with your FTA Regional Office** to confirm that a CE e-Worksheet is appropriate for your project.
- **See the FTA website** for resources such as a training video and user guide.

Notices Of Funding Opportunity (NOFOs)



U.S. Department of Transportation
Federal Transit Administration

USDOT Competitive Programs – Transit Eligible

Office of the Secretary (OST)

- Better Utilizing Investments to Leverage Development (BUILD)
- Nationally Significant Multimodal Freight and Highways Projects (INFRA)
- Rural Opportunities to Use Transportation for Economic Success (ROUTES)

Federal Highway Administration (FHWA)

- Advanced Transportation Technologies & Innovative Mobility Deployment (ATTIMD)
- Nationally Significant Federal Lands and Tribal Projects (NSFLTP)

Federal Railroad Administration (FRA)

- Consolidated Rail Infrastructure and Safety Improvements (CRISI)
- Crossing Safety Program

Federal Transit Administration (FTA)

- All Stations Accessibility Program (ASAP)
- Bus Safety, Accessibility, & Innovation (BSAI)
- Buses & Bus Facilities
- Capital Investment Grants (CIG)
- Innovative Coordinated Access and Mobility (ICAM)
- Ferry Programs
- Rail Vehicle Replacement (RVR)
- Research Grants
- Transit Oriented Development
- Tribal Transit

Recipient Tools Highlight



U.S. Department of Transportation
Federal Transit Administration

Recipient Award Toolkit

This toolkit serves as a reference for developing applications in the **Transit Award Management System (TrAMS)** . The toolkit is intended to provide helpful information to recipients regarding application development, consistent with FTA Circulars and other information materials.

By following the recommended language and documentation standards outlined in the toolkit, recipients can:

- Streamline application review
- Facilitate grant management

The toolkit has been updated to expand the General Applicant Development section, and to add six new program-specific sections, to support applications for these programs.

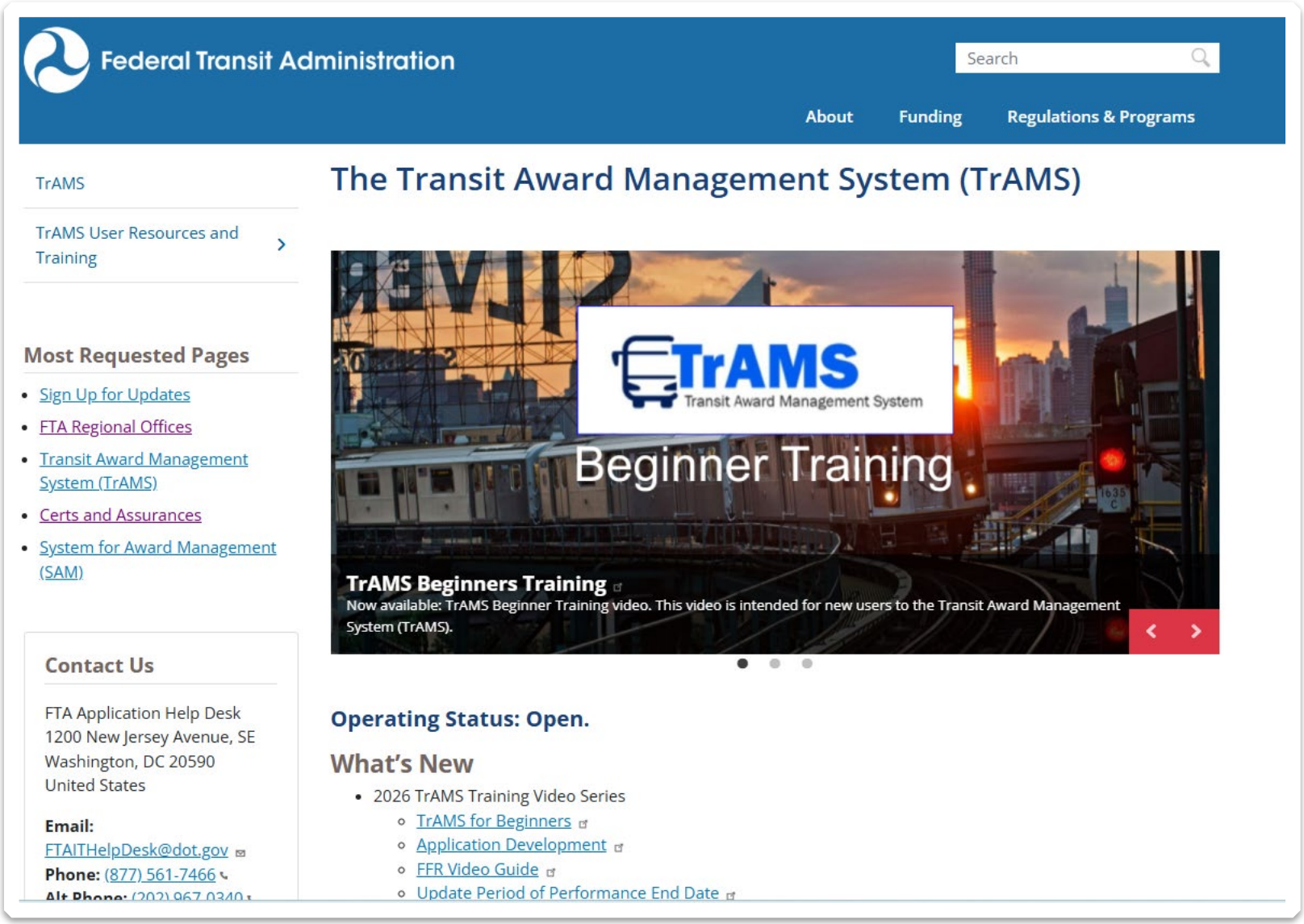
Streamlining the Application Process: New 5307 Operating Template

The new 5307 Operating Template allows users to follow the TrAMS screens, copy and paste standard, required information, and then tweak it to fit specific applications.

Templates should be paired with FTA's Recipient Award Toolkit and the new TrAMS training video series.

All of the toolkit documents are linked on the FTA website at: https://www.transit.dot.gov/funding/grants/applying/fta-recipient-award-toolkit

Updated TrAMS Website and Resources!

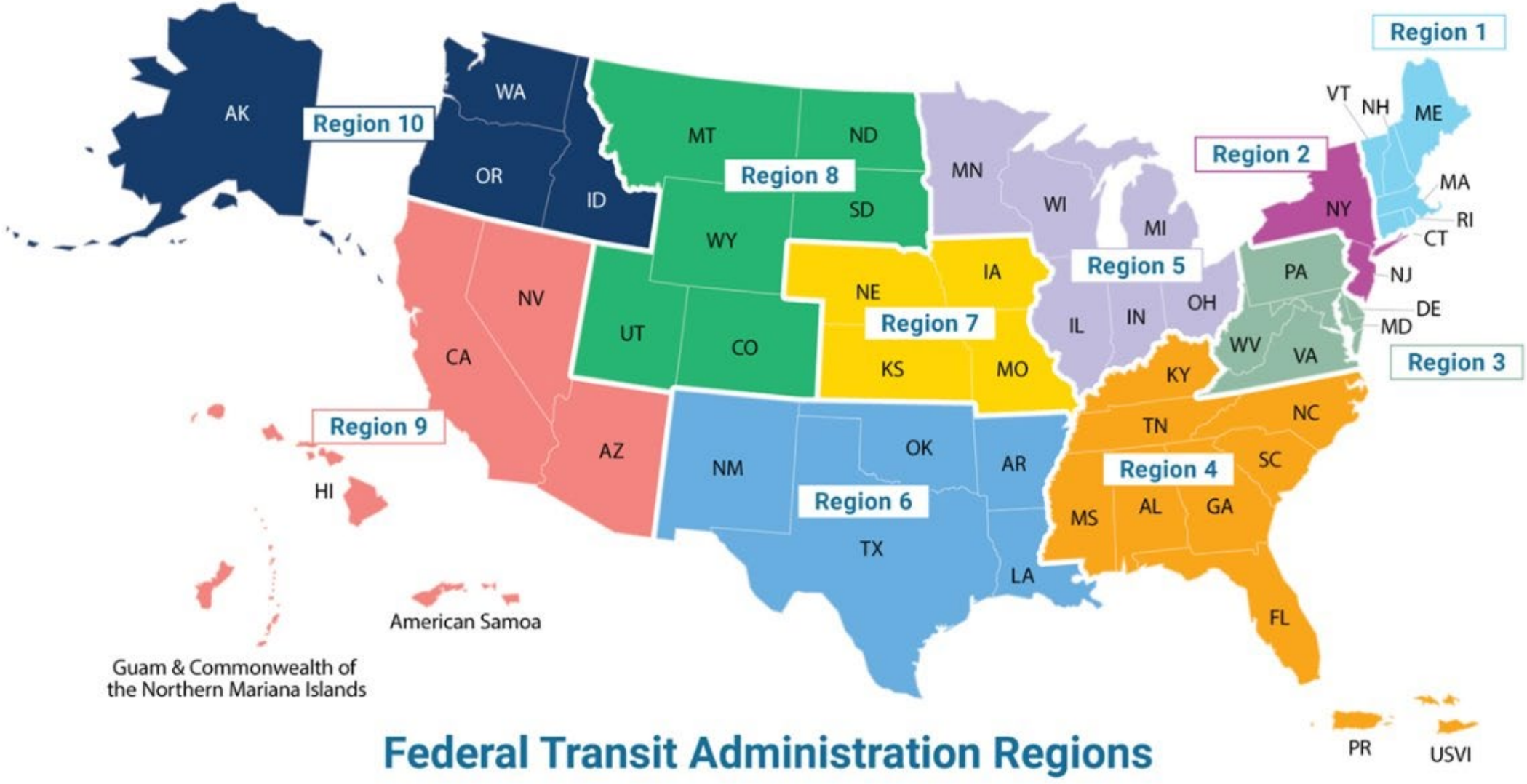


Regional Office Highlights



U.S. Department of Transportation
Federal Transit Administration

FTA Regional Offices



Regional Reminders

Period of Performance (POP)

Any grant past its POP end date will be placed on restricted drawdown

Annual SAM Registration

Lapsing Funds

Lapsing funds in grants for our review ASAP

TIP/STIP Programming

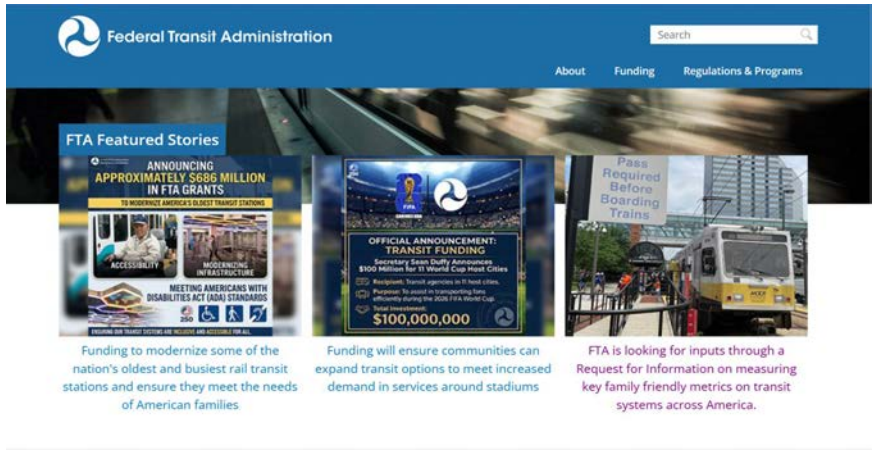
Funds must be programmed on the TIP/STIP in the current FY

Certifications and Assurances



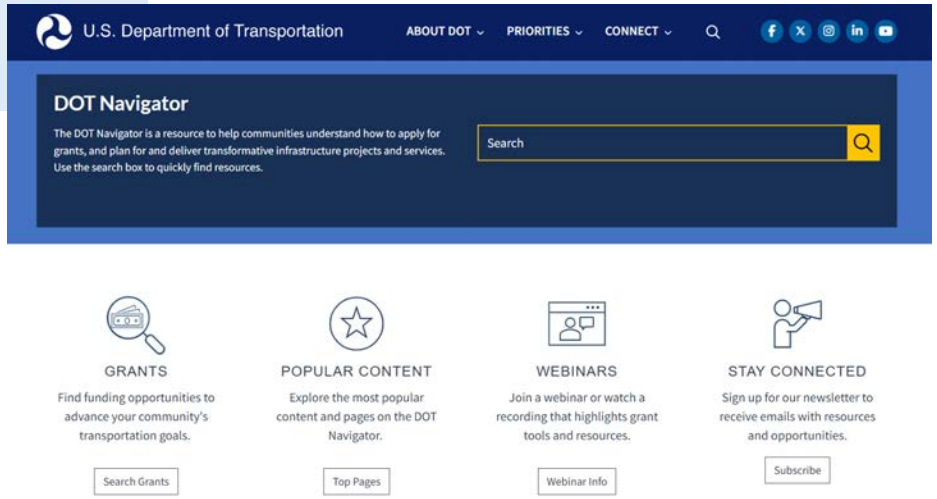
transit.dot.gov

Visit the FTA website for updates, resources, and more!



transportation.gov/navigator

Visit the US DOT website for discretionary grant programs and webinars



Gail Lyssy

Regional Administrator

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