



U.S. Department  
of Transportation  
**Federal Transit  
Administration**

Administrator

1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE  
Washington, DC 20590

**JUL 19 2019**

Dear Colleague:

I am writing to alert you to an important, upcoming safety deadline, July 20, 2020. We are now one year from the compliance deadline for the Public Transportation Agency Safety Plan (PTASP) regulation. The Federal Transit Administration (FTA) published the PTASP Regulation, 49 C.F.R. Part 673, on July 19, 2018, and the regulation takes effect on July 19, 2019. The PTASP regulation implements a risk-based Safety Management System (SMS) approach and requires recipients or subrecipients of financial assistance under the Urbanized Area Formula Program (49 U.S.C. Section 5307) and rail transit agencies to have a safety plan in place no later than July 20, 2020. This Final Rule completed the regulatory foundation of FTA's National Public Transportation Safety Program.

Ensuring the safety of our nation's public transportation systems is the U.S. Department of Transportation and FTA's top priority. The PTASP regulation is not one-size-fits-all and offers flexibility for transit agencies in the development of their safety plans.

Since the publication of the PTASP regulation, the FTA has provided guidance and technical assistance to support agencies with the development of their safety plans. To date, we have hosted more than 20 webinars with over 4,000 participants attending. You can register for our monthly webinars and access other PTASP tools and resources, including past webinar materials, at <https://www.transit.dot.gov/PTASP>. The FTA will also provide a Technical Assistance Center to support transit agencies with developing and implementing their agency safety plans. We encourage you to subscribe to our monthly newsletter which includes PTASP-related articles and upcoming webinar, training, and event information, at <https://www.transit.dot.gov/regulations-and-guidance/safety/tso-spotlight-newsletter>.

As part of our ongoing technical assistance, the FTA is holding one-day PTASP bus workshops in July and August 2019, and a dedicated PTASP training for rail transit agencies at FTA's Joint State Safety Oversight and Rail Transit Agency Workshop in September. Registration is open to staff and contractors of recipients and subrecipients that are responsible for drafting or implementing safety plans. These workshops will allow you to learn more about the PTASP regulation requirements, how to implement an SMS, how to create safety plans, and share best practices. Additionally, our staff will continue to speak at major industry conferences throughout the year to provide you with helpful information to support compliance with the regulation and development of your agency safety plans.

Safety is our number one priority, and we are here to work with you to make transit even safer. If you need information or assistance, or have suggestions on how we can support your development of a compliant Agency Safety Plan, please contact Henrika Buchanan, FTA's Chief Safety Officer and Associate Administrator for the Office of Transit Safety and Oversight, at (202) 366-1783 or [henrika.buchanan@dot.gov](mailto:henrika.buchanan@dot.gov).

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "K. Jane Williams". The signature is written in a cursive style with a long horizontal flourish at the end.

K. Jane Williams  
Acting Administrator