

# **The Hidden Traffic Safety Solution: Public Transportation**

*Quotes from Traffic Safety, Public Transit, and Public Health Leaders*

**The Honorable Dr. Bella Dinh-Zarr, the Vice Chair, The National Transportation Safety Board (NTSB)**

“We face the greatest annual increase in highway deaths in 50 years and public transportation is a tool to help keep high risk groups out of the driver's seat. For example, distracted driving can be prevented if we commute by bus or train when we want to multi-task. In addition, people can use public transit and ride sharing to separate drinking from driving - making interventions such as .05 BAC laws even more practical so our roads are safer for everyone.”

**Jeffrey Knueppel, General Manager, The Southeastern Pennsylvania Transportation Authority (SEPTA)**

“SEPTA’s investments to catch up on a \$5 billion backlog of capital repair needs are about more than state of good repair. As this APTA report highlights, infrastructure investments that make public transportation more reliable and accessible have significant safety benefits across the multimodal transportation network. Transit is safer than driving, and in Greater Philadelphia, these benefits will grow as system improvements encourage continued ridership growth.”

**Anthony Palmere, General Manager, Unitrans, Davis, CA**

“In Davis, the complementary nature of Unitrans well-used transit service and the high rate of bicycling result in greatly reduced rates of driving, amplifying the safety benefits of public transportation that are described in the APTA report. It allows many of our residents to be able to have access to their daily destinations without needing to drive or even own a car.”