Modernizing Legal Operations and Collaborative Partnerships

Operational Efficiency and Fiscal Stewardship

- **Legal Efficiency in Procurement:** Transit procurement is notoriously slow. What legal "fast-track" lanes have you implemented for low-risk, high-volume operational purchases to free up counsel to focus on more complex matters?

- **Managing the Capital Project Costs:** As transit agencies face potential funding cliffs, inflationary pressures, reduced labor budgets - How are you identifying "leakage" in your legal departments? Are you adjusting supportive contracts in other areas, Trimming internal costs?

- **Alternative Fee Arrangements in Public Space:** Hourly billing is the public sector default, have you successfully utilized any alternative fee arrangements (fixed-fee, capped-fee, etc.) models with outside counsel for repetitive items (e.g., slip-and-fall or employment claims)?

- **Maximizing Federal Grant Compliance:** Are there any proactive changes are you making to your legal processes to ensure that your agency's FTA grant funded projects meet stringent "use-it-or-lose-it" deadlines?

Working with Outside Counsel and Building Great Teams

- Clear goals and expectations

- Building resilient legal teams: Tina Fey!

- Integrate legal, operations, safety, and leadership early

- Teamwork and relationship building

- Preparedness and incident/crisis responses

Strategic Innovation Applications

- **AI:** How are you addressing the unique ethical and transparency requirements for AI at your transit entity?

- **Standardization vs. Customization:** To what extent has your department standardized agreements and processes?

- **Predictive Analytics:** Are your agencies using any AI-driven predictive analytics and what role has your department played in identifying risks? Are any of you using AI analytics in your legal/risk departments to support operations?

AI and the Law: Risks and Next Steps

Questions?