



## Public Transit COVID-19 Emergency Funding Talking Points #SavePublicTransit

*February 3, 2021*

- The COVID-19 pandemic has driven home the vital role public transit plays in our communities, bringing healthcare professionals to the frontlines, delivering groceries and medicine to at-risk populations, and connecting essential workers to their places of work.
- APTA requests **\$39.3 billion of public transit emergency funding.**
- This request is based on an independent, economic analysis that found that public transit agencies face revenue shortfalls of \$39.3 billion over the next three years.
- This emergency funding is an important step in ensuring the survival of the public transportation industry. It is supported by APTA, labor organizations, and passenger advocates.
- According to the Federal Transit Administration (FTA), as of February 2, 2021, **public transit agencies have obligated 96 percent of CARES Act transit funds** through 783 grants totaling nearly \$23.9 billion of the \$25 billion appropriated; nearly two-thirds (64 percent) of these funds have been fully expended.
- Based on January 2021 APTA surveys of transit agencies and businesses, **without additional emergency funding, four in 10 transit agencies will have to consider additional service cuts to close their budget gaps.**
- In addition, **nearly four in 10 manufacturers, engineering firms, and other transit industry businesses will be forced to lay off employees** if Congress does not provide additional COVID-19 emergency funding for public transit.
- APTA urges Congress to provide additional funding to address a devastated public transportation industry that continues to serve Americans every day. The public transportation industry's very survival is at stake.