



**American Public Transportation Association**

## **Legislative Committee**

### **Agenda**

**October 8, 2023**

**1:30 p.m. – 3:00 p.m. ET**

**Hyatt Regency Orlando**

**Room: Plaza International Ballroom D-E (Convention Level)**

1. Welcome and Call to Order—Matthew O. Tucker, Chair
2. Remarks from APTA Leadership
3. Approval of Minutes of March 13, 2023 Legislative Committee Meeting
4. U.S. Department of Transportation Flexible Funding Opportunities—Matthew Welbes, Executive Director, Federal Transit Administration
5. Federal Transit Administration (FTA) Update—Paul Kincaid, Associate Administrator for Communications and Congressional Affairs, Federal Transit Administration
6. Legislative Update and APTA Advocacy Strategy—Ward McCarragher, Vice President, Government Affairs and Advocacy
7. APTA Fly-In Update—Brian Tynan, Chair, Business Member Legislative Subcommittee
8. Communications Advocacy Strategy—TJ Doyle, Vice President, Communications and Marketing

9. APTA Regulatory Reform Initiative—Stacie H. Tiongson, Senior Director,  
Government Affairs and Advocacy

a. Real Property Acquisition

*Recommended Action:* Urge Congress to adopt section 168 of S. 2437, the “Transportation, Housing and Urban Development, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2024”, which expands public transit agencies’ authority to acquire land prior to the completion of NEPA review.

b. National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) and National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA) Applicability to Bus Shelter Construction

*Recommended Action:* Support the Federal Transit Administration’s efforts to create a Programmatic Agreement to streamline the NEPA and NHPA processes for bus shelter projects to reduce delays and simplify the application process.

c. Drug and Alcohol Testing for Marijuana

*Recommended Action:* Urge the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services to certify laboratories needed to conduct drug and specimen validity tests on oral fluid specimens.

d. FTA Spare Ratio Requirement for Buses

*Recommended Action:* Develop an assessment of the impact of the Federal Transit Administration’s spare ratio requirement on public transit agencies’ ability to transition to zero-emission buses.

e. Commercial Driver’s License Testing Requirements

*Recommended Actions:* Submit a request to the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration for a five-year exemption to allow States to waive the under-the-hood requirement for Commercial Driver’s License applicants seeking to operate vehicles in public transportation.

Work with Coalition partners to seek legislative changes that would exempt Commercial Driver’s License applicants seeking to operate vehicles in public transportation from the under-the-hood requirement.

10. Open Discussion

11. Adjourn

## **ENCLOSED DOCUMENTS**

- APTA Legislative Steering Committee Roster (10.01.2023)
- Minutes of March 12, 2023 Legislative Committee Meeting
- APTA FACT SHEET Government Shutdown Impacts on Public Transportation (10.08.2023)
- APTA TALKING POINTS THUD Appropriations: Public Transit (10.08.2023)
- [APTA Capital Investment Grants Project Pipeline Dashboard](#) (10.02.2023)
- APTA FACT SHEET Public Transportation Emergency Relief Program (10.08.2023)
- APTA FACT SHEET on Real Property Acquisition (10.08.2023)
- APTA FACT SHEET National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) and National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA) Requirements for Bus Shelters (10.08.2023)
- APTA FACT SHEET Drug and Alcohol Testing for Marijuana (10.08.2023)
- APTA FACT SHEET FTA Spare Ratio Requirement (10.08.2023)
- APTA FACT SHEET Commercial Driver's License (CDL) Testing Requirements (10.08.2023)
- APTA POLICY BRIEF [Transit Savings Grow as Auto Costs and Gas Prices Increase](#) (09.2023)
- APTA POLICY BRIEF [Restoring RAISE Grant Investments in Public Transportation](#) (09.2023)