



Light Rail Technical Forum

Sunday, June 29th, 2025

8:00am – 9:30am

APTA Rail Conference

Marriott Marquis, San Francisco, CA

Room Pacific G-H (4th Floor)

(Reminder to confirm room location when you are onsite as rooms may change)

Mission Statement

To provide a forum for the study and discussion of technical and operational issues inherent in light rail transit systems and to advance the growth and public acceptance of light rail transit.

Buffet breakfast provided

Forum Officers: Mike Eidlin, Chair; Shankar Rajaram, Vice Chair; Casey Blaze, Secretary

APTA Staff: Bryan Sooter

Welcome & Introductions

Mike Eidlin, *KKCS*

Minutes from Anaheim

Shankar Rajaram, *Sound Transit*

Light Rail System Updates

Chris Walker, *Hatch*

SFMuni Train Control Upgrade Project (TCUP)

Dan Howard, *SFMTA*

Redmond Link Extension Challenges During Design and Construction

Tony Raben, *Sound Transit*

Obsolescence Management Strategies on LRV Mid-Life Overhauls

Jess Montes, *LA Metro*

Interactive Discussion (see questions on back of agenda)

Shankar Rajaram, *Sound Transit*

LRT Project Roundtable

All

Other Business/Q&A

Mike Eidlin, *KKCS*

- LRV Session – Monday 2pm-3pm: Future of Transit: Innovations and Trends in Light Rail Vehicles
- Capital Projects Workshop: Wednesday 10:15-12:15 after Closing General Session - Using Urgency as a Call to Action: a Crisis is a Terrible Thing to Waste

Next Meeting: APTA TRANSform Conference, September 14, 2025 in Boston, MA



Discussion Questions for Meeting - for Agencies & Consultants

1. What are the top obsolescence system -tracks, signals, rolling stock
2. Do you have scarcity of spare parts?
3. Do you source your spare parts from the sub-supplier, OEM provider, or do you have to source it from other vendors or come up with engineering solutions? Do you have a spare parts obsolescence management program?
4. Is there a strategy or vision document in your organization to proactively address obsolescence issues?
5. Do you have plans to replace or upgrade your signaling/train control system? Are you seeing the cost of keeping up the legacy system go up?
6. Do you have a Concept of Operations document in your organization and how often do you update it?
7. If an agency opens a new alignment or expansion, do you have to go back and adjust the train frequency, peak and off-peak service, etc. based on reality after opening the segment being slightly different than modeling? In that case, would it be better to lay emphasis on system capacity more than tie the performance to headways (the headways serving as a goal/target during the planning and design stage)?

Discussion Questions for Vendors

1. What strategies do you use to manage electronics and communications system configuration during warranty period of new rolling stock delivery?
2. Would a long-term service and spare parts supply agreement be beneficial to the industry? Are you geared up to support such a system?
3. In case of a long-term service and spare parts supply contract, would you prefer to store spare parts at your own storage and make just in time delivery or store at the agency's facility and help maintain a buffer inventory?
4. What are types of refurbishment/upgrade support services are you able to extend to help agencies extend the life of their equipment currently in use?