

Transportation Networking Companies and Transit: Resolving Legal Concerns to Foster Innovation

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Why partner with TNCs?

- Innovation and continued relevancy
- Ease & convenience of rider connections (at lower cost)
- Rider expectations
- Recent APTA study: 20+% already using TNC in some way to connect to transit
- Shared goals, like:
 - alternatives to congestion,
 - Minimizing SOVs,
 - Service to those who do not have cars,
 - Ease and affordability of transportation, and
 - Seamless options.
- Options outside of usual transit fixed route hours.
- At "sweet spot" environmentally responsible transportation solution/partner.
- Continued first and last mile barrier to transit use.

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Risks to address

- ADA; Service Animals
- Liability/indemnification
- Insurance
- Public records and data sharing // overall transparency
- Labor Unions and employment classification
- Public safety: background checks; vehicle inspections; business license; drugs/alcohol
- Title VI disparate impact/disproportionate burden
- FTA requirements
- Parking/ROW sharing
- Signage/advertising
- Procurement requirements
- Access for non-tech/smart phone users
- Regional coordination (separate contracts per agency but overlapping service areas)
- Data breach/customer information

...and probably more!



ADA accessibility/Equivalency

TNCs are subject to ADA requirements Via Transit Agency, must provide "equivalent service"

- Service must be accessible; even if individual vehicles not
- Some ADA service via TNC is acceptable as long as it meets requirements (complementary paratransit)
- If TNC provides fixed route, must be WAV

Options:

- TNC provides enough WAV vehicles;
- additional contract with WAV contractor; or
- dispatch your own fleet.



Drug & Alcohol Testing

49 CFR 655 - D&A requirements applicable to independent drivers of ridesharing companies contracting with transit agencies.

But:

- "taxicab exemption" not when patron chooses company that provides service (voucher)
- not if funded by research funds
- not pilot programs

FTA Sandbox Grant Recipients w/ TNCs

















We'll Get You There



Different Models



- Coupons/discounts: Using TNCs within zones and if begin/end at a stop or transit center, \$X off of trip. Associated on-demand option for paratransit. (PSTA; Denton Cty; San Diego MTS)
- Shared or Hosted Marketing: Advertising an official "ride share partner" w/ discounts
 (Chicago Metra); allowing for discounted TNC rides in exchange for advertising space on
 transit facilities or fleet (SEPTA)
- **App Integration:** Transit as an option on the TNC's app/information sharing "complete trip" (DART); partnering with TNC on TransLoc Rider mobile app (Memphis ATA; Go Triangle); "Bus Detective" (SORTA)
- Partnering with TNCs for limited services: ERH, special event connections
- Micro Transit either provided by private carrier or run on App by Transit Agency (Valley Transit; KC Transit)



Thank you

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