TRANSIT NEWSLET ASSOCIATION

February 2023

Supporting the needs of Texas' public transportation systems through statewide advocacy and education.

Registration is still open for the TTA Conference, Expo and Roadeo, April 11-15, 2023

You don't want to miss out on this year's Annual Conference, Expo and Roadeo in beautiful **Corpus Christi!**

REGISTER TODAY!

Schedule of Events



NOTICE:

Exhibitor Booths and Sponsorships are selling quickly!

There are just a few spaces left in the Expo Hall! So complete your Exhibitor Space registration today to assure your company receives top recognition.

TTA State Conference, Expo and Roadeo info

Expo Layout

Sponsorship Opportunities

Sponsorship benefits: Recognition in the TTA newsletter – before, during, and following the conference. Opportunity for special enhancements in the upcoming TTA Membership Directory including the chance to add Logos, photos, multiple emails, phone numbers, links to web pages, and any additional information you would like to include in your directory listing.

Contact Janet Nors: Janet@txtransit.org







2023 TTA State Roadeo, April 14-15, 2023 Corpus Christi, Tx.

The Texas Transit State Bus and Maintenance Roadeo is a special one-of-a-kind event dedicated to honoring and celebrating our transit operators and maintenance personnel. This year's Roadeo will be the first State Roadeo since 2019. Register Today!

Please note that we would like to hear from you to gauge how many people your agency will be sending to ensure a successful event. Therefore, please respond to the very short survey below to give us an idea of how many from your agency will attend.

Complete this brief Survey to let us know how many people are coming

Drivers and maintenance teams that are able to arrive on Thursday will have the opportunity to visit the Expo and enjoy the big night out. There will also be training on Friday Morning from 9 am -12 pm for both operator and maintenance personnel.

Schedule at a glance

Roadeo Guide Book

Volunteers and Judges:

You can participate in the Roadeo even if you aren't a driver! Please help us by volunteering for the various scoring elements around the competition site on Saturday, April 15. Register Today!

Assistance needed for Course Layout:

The course layout is scheduled to take place at Whataburger Field in Corpus Christi on March 23 and 24 (Thursday and Friday). Anyone interested in assisting with the course layout is welcome to attend. We will meet at Whataburger Field at 8:00 AM Thursday, March 23. Just email Allen@TxTransit.org so that we have a headcount. TTA will have a room block at the Omni Hotel for \$139 per night (each person/or agency will be responsible for their hotel but breakfast and lunch will be provided by CCRTA on Thursday, as well as breakfast on Friday)

Become a Roadeo Sponsor Today!

Texas Transit Association Launches New Statewide Training Initiative

TTA is now expanding access to educational resources by launching a Statewide training initiative covering the many obstacles that transit staff face, including funding, procurement, and regulatory compliance. This training opportunity is made possible with a grant through TxDOT.

To administer this program, TTA will work closely with Easterseals, which has over 34 years of experience developing and implementing training programs and workshops for rural, suburban, and urban transit agencies. This training curriculum will be designed and delivered to be relevant to transit providers at various levels of management, accounting, and procurement professionals, front-line supervisors, dispatchers/ call center staff, and drivers. It will incorporate best practices from both the public and the private sector.

All courses, workshops, and webinars, in-person or virtual, are designed to be interactive and participatory. These courses will be offered to Transit agencies in Texas at no cost, but space is limited, so make sure that you and your staff don't miss out on this great opportunity.

Training Calendar

Service and Safety: Finding the Right Balance (Webinar)

March 14, 2023 – 1:30-3:00 PM CST Cost: (Free to Transit Agencies in Texas)

Zoom Registration

Trainer: Lenzy Williams

Session Description:

The primary goal of a transit professional is to provide excellent service while also observing required safety protocols – and finding the right balance in these two areas can be challenging. This webinar includes a strong focus on providing proper ADA assistance, observing safe driving habits, and the importance of open communication.

Regulatory Compliance and Equitable Transit Through DEI&A Service (In-Person/McAllen TX)

March 28-29, 2023 All day each day

Registration

Training Location: McAllen Convention Center, Meeting Room-102-ABC, 700 Convention Center Blvd, McAllen, TX 78501

Hotel: Cambria Hotel McAllen Convention Center (Rate \$119 per night) 701 S Ware Rd, McAllen, TX 78501



CreativeBusSales.com 800.326.2877



The Largest, Most Experienced and Trusted Dealer

Creative Bus Sales offers dedicated sales, parts, and service departments to help you in all stages of bus ownership. Our customers benefit from our strong manufacturer partnerships, the largest in-stock inventory, and a nationwide team of experts. As a family-owned business with experience in the transportation industry since 1980, it's no coincidence that we've grown to become the nation's largest bus dealership.



ARBOC Spirit of Mobility

Elkhart Coach ECII

Gaval Universal II



Lone Star ProMaster



BraunAbility Entervan



Fast Delivery

Largest In-Stock Inventory Expert Sales Staff



In-House Financing

Flexible Structures Seamless Transactions



Great Pricing

Volume Discounts Intelligent Purchasing



Nationwide Network

Warranty & Customer Care Parts & Service Departments

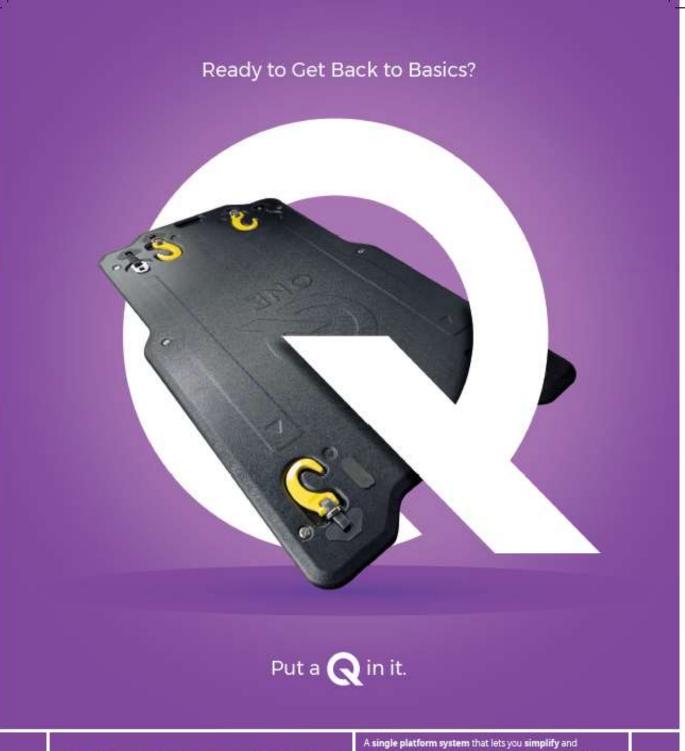
West Texas Opportunities, Inc. TRAX Transportation

West Texas Opportunities, Inc. TRAX Transportation issued a request for proposals in August 2022, for a centralized web-based scheduling and dispatching solution. West Texas Opportunities (WTO) has used a centralized web-based software for a number of years, but they wanted to make sure they were using the most efficient and effective solution to schedule and dispatch its rural demand-response and NEMT trips.

After reviewing proposals from five companies, WTO determined Ecolane software would be the best fit. Interaction between WTO and Ecolane began in mid-October, planning and preparing for a Go-Live date of February 14. Enjoy the photo of Go-Live day shared here.

Two specialists from Ecolane spent ten days onsite at WTO headquarters in February, making sure all the boxes were checked for a successful Go Live. A few weeks out from the startup, WTO team members are still learning new things daily, and the Ecolane team is only a phone call away.





Q'STRAINT ONE.

ALL-IN-ONE WHEELCHAIR SECUREMENT PLATFORM A single platform system that lets you simplify and standardize your securement procedures, replacing the many parts and obstacles of traditional 4-point securement.

Learn more at qstraint.com/ONE



MARING SAFETY ACCESSIBLE



Harris County Transit celebrates 1 millionth ride milestone in Baytown

On January 6, 2023, the Harris County Transit fixed route bus service in the City of Baytown reached 1 million passenger boardings.

Shortly after the Harris County Community Services Department (HCCSD) created the Harris County Transit division, a two-route bus service in Baytown was established July 28, 2008. Two months later, Harris County Transit provided evacuation transportation for the City of Baytown prior to Hurricane Ike's landfall. In 2009, a third bus route was added accompanied by the installation of 20 bus stop shelters to support the growing demand in Baytown.

In April 2017, a fourth route was added to the west side of Baytown. "This is a huge milestone, one that is a testament to the community's desire for affordable transportation options," said Thao Costis, Interim Executive Director of Harris County Community Services Department. "Our Transit division would not be able to fulfill that need without our strong historic partner-ship with the City of Baytown."

Today, the City of Baytown has a total of 54 bus stop shelters serving the four bus routes. The monthly ridership for Baytown averages 6,900 passenger trips a month, with 83,000 passenger trips completed annually.

In addition to standard bus service in Baytown, Harris County Transit runs two other area programs: RIDES, a curb-to-curb service for elderly and persons with disabilities, and the Baytown Express Park and Ride from the San Jacinto Mall area to the Houston Downtown Central Business District.

Further, Harris County Transit has invested in sidewalk improvements, with Phase I of the project completed prior to the COVID-19 shutdown. Phase II of the sidewalk improvement project will start later this year, followed by Phase III once Garth Road is widened.

"One million Baytown riders served by Harris County Transit is a remarkable milestone. This necessary service provides dependable transportation to those who need it most and it shows there is an incredible demand for this service, not only in Baytown but other nearby communities as well," said Jason Calder, Public Information Coordinator for the City of Baytown. "The City of Baytown looks forward to celebrating the next big milestone with Harris County Transit."

About Harris County Transit

Harris County Transit was established in 2007, providing fixed bus routes, Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) paratransit service, and other alternative transportation services for residents outside the METRO service area in Baytown, La Porte, and Crosby. For more information on the full range of services offered by Harris County Transit, please visit transit.harriscountytx.gov

spare

Spare is a leading provider of On-Demand Transit Software with a mission to make every ride possible since 2015.

Spare's tech-enabled platform empowers over 200 services and empowers transit and mobility innovators, both in the public and private sectors, to streamline their network's day-to-day on-demand mobility operations. Spare's philosophy, which rests on its open API, is that anyone can and should be able to launch an efficient, well-run transportation network with ease.





Delivering a successful transit software RFP

Download Spare's Guide to Delivering a Successful Transit Software RFP



Spare's 2022 Global Impact Report

Leading the way for sustainable, accessible, and inclusive transportation

Download RFP Guide



<u>Citibus</u> revolutionizes ondemand transit options in Lubbock through datadriven service decisions.



DART Drives Growth With Award Winning Microtransit.

Download Impact Report



<u>Collin County Transit</u> cuts per ride costs by 47% with brokered trips.

Ready to learn more? Send an email at <u>hello@sparelabs.com</u> to know how Spare uses it's innovative Open Fleets module to help transit agencies deliver same-day paratransit cost-effectively.

Transit Agency Membership

Don't forget to renew your annual membership if you have not done so already!

Transit Agency Membership

Annual Dues for public transit agencies serving metropolitan areas, small urban areas, and rural areas may join at the rate of 0.15 percent of the transit agency's most recent non-capital budget. Non-capital budgets necessarily include planning, operations, and administrative items and exclude capital budget items, such as vehicles and facilities.

- TTA Membership year is September 1 through August 31.
- Membership dues are calculated based on 0.15% of your non-capital expenditures from federal, state, and local funding from the previous year. Please have this figure ready before you fill out the form below.
- Dues are capped at \$9,250 per year.
- Note: 20% of TTA dues are used for lobbying expenses

Regular Transit Members Form and Payment

Please download this <u>form</u>, and send the completed form, along with a check, to 501 Congress Ave, Suite 150, Austin, Texas 78701. Contact <u>Allen Hunter</u> if you would like to pay using a credit card.

TTA-Membership-Invoice-FY22-23-Transit-Agency

TTA Associate Member Invoice 2022-2023 – \$750

Associates members are governmental entities, city or county administrative offices, metropolitan planning organizations, other associations, consultants, subcontractors to transit operators, vendors, manufacturers, suppliers, and similar entities not actually in the business of operating public transit systems.

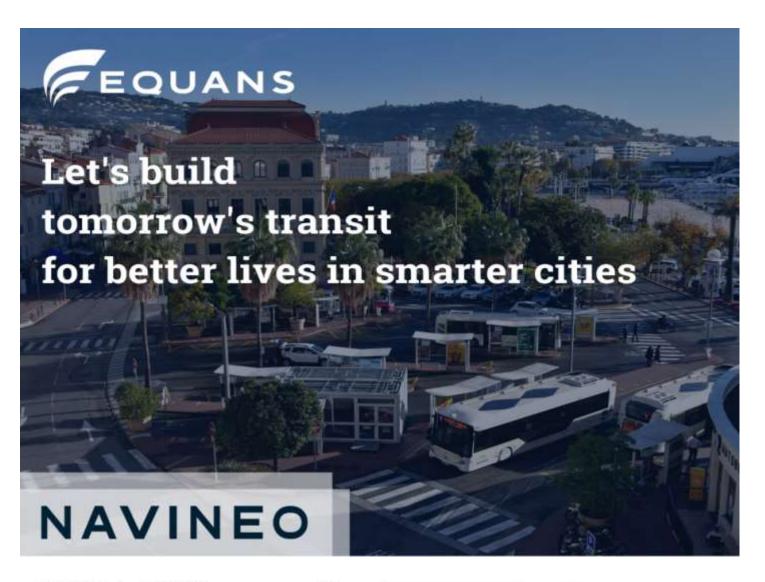
- Associate Membership Dues are \$750 for 2022-2023.
- Note: 20% of TTA dues are used for lobbying expenses.

If you have any questions, please contact (512) 900-0550.

Associate Members Form and Payment

Please download this <u>form</u>, and send the completed form, along with a check, to 501 Congress Ave, Suite 150, Austin, Texas 78701. Contact <u>Allen Hunter</u> if you would like to pay using a credit card.

TTA Associate Member Invoice_2022-2023



NAVINEO by EQUANS empowers public transport operators to improve the daily life of their passengers.

We provide CAD/AVL and intelligent transportation systems to make public transportation more sustainable, more attractive, more efficient, more innovative and more secure.



Our Navineo solutions are already used by over 40,000 buses, light rail and trains worldwide.

Contact us



kilian.ollivier@equans.com

© 571 428 9392





Newsletter Sponsorship Opportunities

Sponsoring the TTA newsletter, by purchasing ad space, can be a powerful way to reach decision makers at member agencies across the state. It will also help to increase exposure in a receptive environment (your customers' inbox) and can subtly promote your brand whilst gaining goodwill throughout the entire association. TTA newsletters are a particularly useful tool for communicating with customers, building engagement, and directing customers to key content. Please be aware, there is a limited number of space available so be sure to lock yours in today.

TTA Member Price		Non-Member Price	
Full Page Ad single issue	\$500	Full Page Ad single issue	\$750
Full Page One Year	\$2,000	Full Page One Year	\$3,000
Half Page Ad single issue	\$250	Half Page Ad single issue	\$400
Half Page One Year	\$1,000	Half Page One Year	\$2,000
Business card Ad single issue	\$150	Business card Ad single issue	\$250
Business card One Year	\$600	Business card One Year	\$1,000

There are sponsorship levels available for any budget. You are able to sponsor a single issue or the entire year. For more information or to start your ad please contact:

Janet Nors 512-900-0550 Janet@TxTransit.org

Allen E. Hunter
Executive Director
254-405-4212 cell, allen@TxTransit.org

Full Page	
II 1CD	
Half Page	
	Business Card 1/8 Page



501 Congress Ave, Suite 150

Austin, Texas 78701 Phone: (512) 900-0550 Email: info@txtransit.org

https://txtransit.org/

TTA's Mission is to support the needs of Texas' public transportation systems through statewide advocacy and education.

Upcoming dates of interest:

TTA's Legislative Day at the Capitol, March 7, 2023 (RSVP today)

Service and Safety: Finding the Right Balance (Webinar) March 14, 2023 (1:30-3:00 PM CST)

Roadeo Course Set up, Corpus Christi March 23-24 2023 Link to Hotel Block

TTA State Conference, Expo and Roadeo
April 11-15, 2023

Allen E. Hunter
Executive Director

TTA's Day at the Capitol Details

March 7, 2023 — TTA Legislative Day at the Capitol

7:00-8:15 a.m. Breakfast and Materials Pick Up

The Stephen F Austin Royal Sonesta Hotel

8:00-8:15 a.m. Brief presentation on the day's expectation (Eron Linn, Wade Long)

8:30 a.m. Shuttle to Capitol, (CapMetro)

Lunch On Your Own

After Lunch Continue meetings at the Capitol.

1:30-3:30 p.m. Ice Cream Social in Extension Legislative Conference Center—LCC, E2.002

5:30-7:30 p.m. Evening Reception

Location: The Stephen F Austin Royal Sonesta Bar and Terrace

Voted the Best Evening Reception location in downtown Austin, with a balcony overlooking Congress Avenue and a gorgeous view of the Texas State Capitol.

701 Congress Ave., Austin, TX 78701

Please RSVP so that we can plan for your arrival.