

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

TTA Welcomes a New Board President



Incoming TTA Board President Serena Stevenson of Waco Transit, presents Vince Huerta of ETCOG (Outgoing Board President) with a plaque for his dedicated service and commitment.

We are excited to announce the appointment of Waco Transit System's General Manager, Serena Stevenson, as the new President of the Texas Transit Association. She brings a wealth of experience, dedication, and passion for advancing our mission. We look forward to her leadership in shaping the future of transit in Texas. Together, with the support of our members and partners, we are confident that Serena will guide us through the challenges and successes ahead.

We also want to express our deepest gratitude to Vince Huerta for his outstanding leadership and service. He leaves a lasting legacy, and we are grateful for the dedication and commitment he brought to the role.

Registration Coming Soon for TTA Conference, Expo and Roadeo

Planning has already started for the [2025 TTA State Conference, Expo, and Roadeo](#) which will be hosted in McAllen March 7-12, 2025.

[Registration is coming soon!](#)

The Conference Planning Committee is now accepting abstracts for presentations. If you have a topic or presentation you would like to share at this year's conference, please select the link below.

[Link to submit abstract](#)



TTA Maintenance Training Hosted by VIA San Antonio



Our second Maintenance Training will be hosted at VIA's facility in San Antonio on October 7-9, 2024. There will be two training sessions; one will focus on heavy duty and the other will focus on paratransit systems. These classes will offer valuable insights and hands-on experience tailored to the need of maintenance professionals. Training is free!

[Register Today!](#)

CCRTA CEO Elected as TTA’s President-Elect



Corpus Christi Regional Transportation Authority (CCRTA)’s Chief Executive Officer, Derrick Majchszak, was recently elected as Texas Transit Association’s (TTA) President-Elect during the TTA Board of Directors meeting on September 11, 2024. Majchszak’s one-year term began immediately following the election, and he will be eligible for the role of President after his term concludes. Additionally, Majchszak was also re-elected for his second term on the TTA Board of Directors.

Majchszak has served as CCRTA’s CEO since July 2023, following a nationwide search led by CCRTA’s Board of Directors. Shortly after assuming the CEO role, he was appointed to the TTA Board, filling the position of his predecessor.

With more than 18 years of experience in public transportation, Majchszak’s career includes service as a U.S. Navy Veteran and beginning in the transit industry as a Bus Mechanic before joining CCRTA as Director of Transportation. He later served as Managing Director of Operations before being unanimously selected as CEO.

“I am honored to have been elected by my peers as President Elect of TTA. I look forward to working alongside transit agencies across the state as we enhance public transportation, improve mobility, and deliver innovative solutions for all Texans,” said Derrick Majchszak.

Founded in 1986, the Texas Transit Association (TTA) advocates for public transportation systems across the state, promoting education and statewide support. Its members include metropolitan, small urban, and rural transit agencies, as well as private and public entities from across the country.

TTA’s Board Workshop

A strong and informed Board of Directors is key to success. Our Board participated in an annual workshop focused on enhancing its knowledge and effectiveness. Participation is vital to continued success.

Thank you to everyone who attended. We also want to thank our sponsors, Hendrickson Transportation Group, Legacy Resources, Model 1, and Island Metro, for hosting the event as well as Carol Wright Kenderdine for leading the insightful discussion.



The Senate Transportation Committee



The Senate Transportation Committee in Austin, TX, invited Vince Huerta of ETCOG to testify. Representing the public transportation system, Vince highlighted transit's vital role across rural, urban, and metro areas throughout Texas. Emphasizing the growing demand for public transportation, citing the significant number of one-way trips provided annually. This data underscored the critical

need for increased funding to support the expanding needs of our communities. His insights aimed to bring attention to continued investment in public transit, which remains essential for many Texans who rely on these services for work, healthcare, and daily life.



Houston METRO Introduces Electric Buses into its Fleet

Passengers on two local bus routes will experience a quieter, smoother ride as METRO rolls out its first zero-emission electric buses for regular service. This pilot project represents a significant step toward enhancing the customer experience and improving service reliability.



As part of the September [service change](#), the [402 Bellaire Quickline](#) has transitioned to an all-electric fleet, replacing aging buses. The [28 OST - Wayside](#) now has five electric buses in its fleet.

Breathe Easy in September



Fort Bend County partnered with Houston-Galveston Area Council Commute solutions to offer Free Fare Fridays for September. The free fare was available for Demand Response and Commuter services on Friday, September 6, 13, and 20.

This fall marks the 30th anniversary of Commute Solutions joining the Houston-Galveston Area Council (H-GAC). As part of their continued effort to improve the air quality of their region, they invite you to take part of Ozone Action Month and make it easier to BREATHE.

For more information, please visit [yourcommutesolution](https://yourcommutesolution.com)

TxDOT: Texas Gulf Coast Transit Agencies Helped Recover and Rebuild After Hurricane Beryl

On the morning of July 8, 2024, Category 1 Hurricane Beryl made landfall in Matagorda, Texas, hitting Houston and surrounding areas with winds ranging from 74 to 95 mph and a drenching 5 to 8 inches of rain. The storm's severe conditions led to flash floods, widespread wind damage, power outages, medical emergencies, fallen trees, nonfunctioning traffic signals, stranded vehicles—and a community left in severe distress. In the face of these challenges, the people united in their resilience and determination to support one another, and as they navigated Beryl's aftermath, nearby Texas transit agencies' focus remained on ensuring their safety and beginning the process of recovery and rebuilding.

In the wake of the storm's severe impacts, many people were stranded in their homes, and numerous businesses remained closed. After three days of disruption, the Colorado Valley Transit Agency resumed operations, implementing alternate routes for their buses and partnering with the Red Cross to deliver water and aid to the community. Meanwhile, Galveston Island Transit (GIT) was called out to senior citizen homes and its buses were utilized as cooling centers for those that could not travel to cooling centers due to lack of electricity. For two weeks after the storm, GIT was called out six times to support local senior homes on the island, ensuring that vulnerable residents had access to much-needed cooling and comfort as temperatures reached over 100 degrees.



Galveston Island Transit –Cooling Bus



Photo from Colorado Valley Transit

Fort Bend Transit was able to support its community by providing 144 medical trips over a period of three days, transporting citizens to and from cooling centers and assisting with food delivery to emergency responders in the field. "Hurricane Beryl tested our resilience, but our Fort Bend Transit team rose to the occasion," Executive Director Perri D'Armond said. "Flexibility was definitely a key factor in providing assistance to the Fort Bend County Emergency Operations Center and the residents of Fort Bend County to ensure the safety and well-being of our community. I'd like to thank FTA Region VI and TxDOT Public Transportation Division for partnering with us throughout the event. Witnessing our team's collaboration and dedication during such a challenging time was incredibly rewarding."

Aransas County took a proactive approach. In preparation of Beryl's arrival, Aransas County began evacuating residents July 7, partnering with Alice's Rural Economic Assistance League (REAL Inc.) for transportation services. In a display of community spirit, twenty-five REAL Inc. bus drivers volunteered to transport evacuees. The drivers not only ensured that evacuees were safely transported but also went the extra mile to keep them calm, ensure they had their luggage and medications, and even transported their caged pets. Working tirelessly from 4 a.m. to 3 p.m., they successfully transported residents to the designated secure location. After the emergency declaration was lifted on the evening of July 8, the drivers began the important task of returning evacuees to their homes. REAL Inc. Director Martin Ornelas expressed his gratitude, saying, "Our bus drivers truly were the heroes of the day. This experience reinforced the value of strong teamwork and highlighted the importance of community collaboration. We are proud of the vital role we played and the seriousness with which we approached our responsibilities."

The transit agencies in the coastal areas played a crucial role in ensuring safe transportation for their communities. They reached out to assist their partners and stepped up as true community stewards, embodying the spirit of mutual support and care.

Thank you to our coastal transit agencies!



REAL Bus Drivers

DART Named Agency of the Year by Latinos In Transit

The Agency received the recognition at the Latinos In Transit Annual Leadership Summit Dallas Area Rapid Transit (DART) was named Transit Agency of the Year, earlier this month by Latinos In Transit at their annual leadership summit which was held in Portland, Oregon.

Founded in 2016, Latinos In Transit (LIT) was created to promote the advancement and development of Latinos and other minorities in transportation. Membership is comprised of public and private transportation professionals from across the nation.

“It is an immense honor to represent DART and join the other storied organizations who have been recognized by Latinos In Transit,” said Jeamy Molina, DART’s Executive Vice President and Chief Communications Officer

who accepted the award on behalf of the agency. “To receive this award, especially during Hispanic Heritage Month, is incredibly humbling. I can’t help but to reflect on the incredible strides the DART team has made to ensure our organization is delivering on our mission of creating best-in-class mobility experiences that help people and communities connect and flourish.”

Latinos In Transit’s Transit Agency of the Year award has several selection criteria including an agency’s ability to champion access, diversity equity and inclusion, customer service, sustainability, a strong workforce, multicultural marketing as well as community relations.

In their submission DART outlined several key initiatives from 2023 that help underscore their commitment to the ever-growing Hispanic community in North Texas including:

- Partnering with Univision to promote job opportunities at DART
- Collaborating with the region’s Hispanic MBA Association, Prospanica DFW to host their annual conference at DART Headquarters in Downtown Dallas.
- Offering comprehensive training and development programs aimed at enhancing the skills and career advancement opportunities for all employees, including supporting the growth of minority employees.
- Prioritizing customer service accessibility for customers with limited English proficiency and non-English speakers.
- Increasing food access in underserved areas by establishing Farmers Markets in collaboration with Restorative Farms.
- Increasing job access through transit by 33% in Hispanic communities with the launch of DART’s redesigned bus network and via the on-demand Go Link service.
- Engaging with minority-owned small businesses (MWBE) through our procurement processes with more than 50% of awardees identifying as an MWBE in 2023.
- Investing in the development of minority-owned vendors via DART’s annual Small Business Academy.
- Collaborating with local chambers of commerce and minority business councils to expand outreach and support for minority-owned enterprises.

DART’s recently published Strategic Plan, Point B outlines the agency’s overarching goal: to move DART from being a service that people sometimes use, to being a valued regional economic and mobility asset. To achieve this goal, DART has committed to fostering an inclusive and diverse workforce that reflects the composition of the service areas where the agency operates.



TTA Statewide Training Initiative

These courses are offered at **no cost**, but space is limited, so make sure that you and your staff don't miss out. This training opportunity is made possible with a grant through TxDOT.

October 2024

Maintenance Training: Heavy Duty & Paratransit

VIA San Antonio
October 7-9, 2024
8:00 a.m.—5:00 p.m.

[Register Here](#)

Digital Accessibility for Transportation Professionals (Creating Accessible Documents)

Virtual
October 9, 2024
1:00 p.m.—2:30 p.m.

[Register Here](#)

Addressing Program Sustainability

Virtual
October 17, 2024
10:00 a.m.—11:30 a.m.

[Register Here](#)

The Caregiver Connection: Are You Missing Potential Riders?

Virtual
October 30, 2024
10:00 a.m.—11:30 a.m.

[Register Here](#)

[Click here for Training Calendar](#)

Legislative Priorities Survey



TTA's Legislative Committee is currently working on establishing our statewide legislative priorities for the upcoming legislative session starting in January.

We are asking for your feedback to ensure we are meeting your needs, please take a moment to take this survey.

[TTA's Legislative Priorities Survey](#)

Save the Date:

[Legislative Day at the Capitol - February 25, 2025](#)

Newsletter Sponsorship

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.



TTA Member Price

Full Page Ad single issue	\$500
Full Page One Year	\$2,000
Half Page Ad single issue	\$250
Half Page One Year	\$1,000
Business card Ad single issue	\$100
Business card One Year	\$500

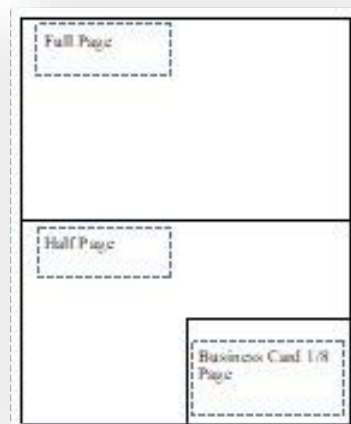
Non-Member Price

Full Page Ad single issue	\$750
Full Page One Year	\$3,000
Half Page Ad single issue	\$400
Half Page One Year	\$2,000
Business card Ad single issue	\$200
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:

Laura Herrera
 (512) 900-0550
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Allen E. Hunter
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allen@txtransit.org



Membership Announcement

September 2024

Time for Membership Renewal

Remember, the TTA Membership year is September 1, 2023 through August 31, 2024

Joining the Texas Transit Association as a member is the first step in showing your commitment to improving public transportation. Membership gives you access to valuable resources, networking opportunities, and a platform to influence policy decisions. We want to emphasize that your involvement with TTA is vital.

Not a Member?

Join Today!

Texas Transit Association

Contact us (512) 900-0550

laura@txtransit.org or allen@txtransit.org

Transit and Associate Members Form and Payment

Please download this [form](#), for Transit Agency

Please download this [form](#), for Associate Member

Completed form, along with a check, to
111 Congress Ave, Suite 500,
Austin, Texas 78701.

Contact laura@txtransit.org if you would like to pay using a credit card.

Upcoming Dates of Interest:

APTA – TRANSform - September 29 - Oct. 2, 2024

[Legislative Day at the Capitol](#) - February 25, 2025

[TTA State Conference, Expo, and Roadeo](#) - March 7-12, 2025