

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

TTA adds Paratransit Maintenance to the 2025 State Rodeo

This year's TTA State Rodeo will offer the introduction of a Paratransit Maintenance competition as an exciting addition to the 2025 State Rodeo. By including this event at the Rodeo, TTA is shining a spotlight on the essential work of our paratransit maintenance teams, giving them a chance to showcase their expertise. This competition will be for state recognition only, we're excited to offer the chance to honor participants within Texas.



Registration is coming soon!
[2025 TTA State Conference, Expo, and Rodeo](#) which will be hosted in McAllen March 7-12, 2025.

Don't Miss Out! Watch the [Metro McAllen Invitation Video](#) and be a part of the Excitement!



The Conference Planning Committee is still 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](#)

Check [TTA Website](#) regularly for:

- 2025 Schedule at a Glance
- Hotel Links
- Registration
- Sponsorship and Event Updates

Reminder: Our Address has Recently Changed!



Please update your records to ensure that all correspondence and deliveries reach us without delay. We look forward to staying connected!

New Address:
TTA - Texas Transit Association
111 Congress Ave. Suite 500
Austin, TX 78701



El Metro's Trunk or Treat



El Metro's Trunk or Treat event was a spooktacular success, and they couldn't have done it without the incredible support of their Laredo community! They had 61 local organizations and business's that participated, making this celebration one for the books.

[#ElMetroTrunkOrTreat](#)



Houston Metro's Hispanic Heritage Month Art Show



Who knew there was so much talent at Houston Metro?! Nine employees showcased more than 50 of their best art pieces at [Houston Metro's Hispanic Heritage](#) Month Art Show. They were proud to celebrate their creativity and culture.



Brownsville Metro Supporting Breast Cancer Awareness

Brownsville Metro staff and bus operators supported Breast Cancer Awareness Month, by wearing pink ribbons, displaying pink decorations, and by wearing pink every week in October. The goal was to raise awareness about the importance of early detection and screenings within the community.



DART Increased Service for Fans

Tens of thousands of people were expected to travel to the State Fair of Texas for the 2024 Allstate Red River Rivalry between the Texas Longhorns and the Oklahoma Sooners, on October 12. To meet the need, DART's team adjusted service and increased staff presence across the system to help ensure passengers reached their destinations.



There's still time to complete TTA's Legislative Priorities Survey

TTA's Legislative Committee is gearing up to establish our statewide legislative priorities for the upcoming session, and we need your voice! To ensure we're addressing the needs of all members, please take a moment to complete our brief legislative priority survey.

TTA's Legislative Priorities Survey

Your feedback is essential in helping us shape priorities and advocate effectively. Additionally if you have photos that highlight the impact of transit in your community, please share them with us. These images will be invaluable as we showcase the importance of public transportation at our Day at the Capitol event.

TTA Legislative Day

Tuesday February 25, 2025

Legislative Conference Center - LCC, E2.002

Austin, TX

Evening Reception

The Stephen F. Austin Royal Sonesta Bar and Terrace



Please invite legislators and staff you meet with to attend.

CCRTA Offering "Your Ride To Vote" for Election Day

Corpus Christi Regional Transportation Authority offered fare-free rides on Monday, October 21st for the first day of early voting will and also be offering fare-free rides on Tuesday, November 5th for Election Day.

"CCRTA is proud to be your ride to vote. Our priority is to provide safe and accessible transportation to ensure that everyone can cast their ballot on the first day of early voting and Election Day," said Derrick Majchszak, CCRTA Chief Executive Officer.

A dedicated webpage, ccrta.org/vote, includes route and accessibility information. Individuals can also trip plan using CCRTA's mobile app, [GoPass](#).

For more information, visit ccrta.org.



FTA Issues a General Directive 24-1

General Directive 24-1

FTA issues Required Actions to Protect Transit Workers from Assaults



General Directive 24-1: Required Actions Regarding Assaults on Transit Workers protects our nation's frontline transit workers from assaults by requiring more than 700 transit agencies nationwide to take action. Transit agencies subject to FTA's [Public Transportation Agency Safety Plans \(PTASP\)](#) must conduct a safety risk assessment, identify safety risk mitigations or strategies and provide information to FTA on how they are assessing, mitigating and monitoring the safety risk associated with assaults on transit workers. The General Directive is a significant and necessary next step in FTA's efforts to address assaults nationwide to better protect transit workers who regularly interact with the public.

- [Federal Register Notice](#) - Read the General Directive and FTA's response to comments
- [General Directive 24-1 \(PDF Download\)](#)
- Webinar: [Presentation](#) | [Recording](#)

Required Reporting Transit agencies must provide information to FTA within 90 days on how they are assessing, mitigating and monitoring the safety risk associated with assaults on transit workers. Transit agencies will use [SMS Report](#), FTA's new reporting tool on the same platform as other FTA applications such as TrAMS and NTD.

[SMS Report](#) - Use this link to submit your transit agency's required report

Technical Assistance

FTA has developed resources to help transit agencies conduct safety risk assessments related to assaults on transit workers and develop safety risk mitigations.

[Addressing Assaults on Transit Workers through Your Agency's SMS](#) - Overview of how agencies can use SMS to address assaults on transit workers.

[An SMS Approach to Operator Assault](#) - Guide to identifying hazards related to assaults on transit workers through the Safety Risk Management process.

[Safety Risk Assessment in Practice](#) - Review of safety risk assessment process, including data inputs, risk matrices and outputs to support decision-making.

[Developing and Monitoring Safety Risk Mitigations in Response to a Safety Risk Assessment](#) - Practices for developing safety risk mitigations, with examples.

[De-Escalation Training Resource Directory](#) - Resources to support the transit industry in developing, implementing and updating training.

Eagle Pass Metropolitan Planning Organization

The City of Eagle Pass formed the Eagle Pass Metropolitan Planning Organization—the first in over 40 years in Texas.

The newly established Eagle Pass Metropolitan Planning Organization was created by the State of Texas in recognition of the City of Eagle Pass and Maverick County, which have a combined population exceeding 50,000.

The mission of the Eagle Pass Metropolitan Planning Organization is “to establish transportation-related policies, identify current and future local transportation needs in collaboration with the Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT), and propose and recommend projects across all transportation modes, including mass transit and active transportation, with a particular focus on freight. The EPMPO aims to identify and secure state and federal highway funding for transportation projects, such as public transportation services, highways, and bridges, benefiting Eagle Pass and Maverick County through the Texas Department of Transportation, Federal Transit Administration, and the Federal Highway Administration.

The initial EPMPO Board of Directors is composed of Eagle Pass Mayor Rolando Salinas, Jr. as Chairman, Maverick County Judge Ramsey English Cantu as Vice-Chairman, Eagle Pass City Councilman Elias Diaz, Maverick County Commissioner Olga M. Ramos, Southwest Area Regional Transit District General Manager Sarah Hidalgo Cook, Texas Department of Transportation Laredo District Engineer Epigemio Gonzalez, and Kickapoo Traditional Tribe of Texas Chairman Estavio Elizondo, Jr. Read more here: [SWART](#)



2025 TTA State Rodeo Site Visit in McAllen

On October 16, 2024, a team gathered in McAllen for a site visit in preparation for the upcoming 2025 TTA State Conference, Expo, and Rodeo. This in-depth planning visit ensures that every detail is set for a smooth, exciting event that celebrates and showcases the best in Texas transit. During the site visit, the team reviewed critical details, from course layout to safety protocols, making sure everything will be ready. The State Rodeo is more than a competition; it's a training opportunity along with a celebration, dedicated to our transit operators and maintenance teams.



Thank you to the team from VIA, Metro McAllen, Jeff Johnson from Model 1, and Oscar Gomez from El Metro for an essential site visit.

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

The Caregiver Connection: Are You Missing Potential Riders?

October 30, 2024

Virtual

10:00 a.m.—11:30 a.m.

[Register Here](#)

November

Financial Management Level 1

November 19-20, 2024

In-Person

Commons Conference Austin, TX

8:00 a.m.—5:00 p.m.

[Register Here](#)

TTA's Upcoming Courses:

- Preparing for a Triennial Review (Virtual)
- Procurement Training (In-person)
- Civil Rights Session (Virtual)

[Click here for Training Calendar](#)

Maintenance Training: Heavy Duty and Paratransit

October 7-9, 2024 VIA hosted our second maintenance training. This session featured two training tracks: one focused on heavy-duty systems and the other on paratransit systems. These classes provided invaluable insights and hands-on experience to all attendees. A special thanks to all the vendors and Jeff Johnson of Model-1 for their efforts in making this event a success. A big thank you to VIA and everyone who participated!



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 customer’s 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.

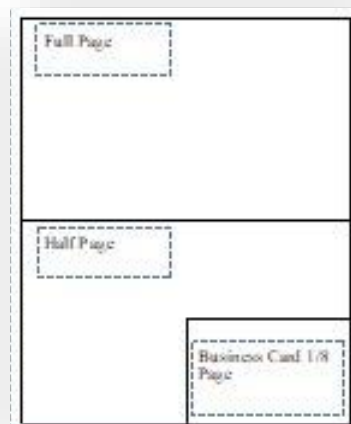


| TTA Member Price | | Non-Member Price | |
|-------------------------------|---------|-------------------------------|---------|
| Full Page Ad single issue | \$500 | Full Page Ad single issue | \$750 |
| Full Page One Year | \$2,000 | Full Page One Year | \$3,000 |
| Half Page Ad single issue | \$250 | Half Page Ad single issue | \$400 |
| Half Page One Year | \$1,000 | Half Page One Year | \$2,000 |
| Business card Ad single issue | \$100 | Business card Ad single issue | \$200 |
| Business card One Year | \$500 | 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
laura@txtansit.org

Allen E. Hunter
 (254) 405-4212
allen@txtransit.org



Time for Membership Renewal

As we move forward with our commitment to advancing public transportation in Texas, we invite all members to renew their membership for another impactful year. Together, we are shaping the future of transit and ensuring communities across Texas benefit from safe, efficient, and sustainable transportation options. Renewing your TTA membership means staying connected, informed, and engaged in the collective work we are all doing to support Texas transit.

Why Renew Your Membership?

Here's a glance at what your membership offers:

Not a Member?
Join Today!
Contact us (512) 900-0550
laura@txtransit.org or allen@txtransit.org

- **Networking Opportunities**
Connect with other transit professionals, leaders, and industry advocates across Texas. Share ideas, discuss solutions, and collaborate on projects that matter to you and your community.
- **Discounts on Event Registration**
Enjoy member-only rates for TTA's major events, including our annual State Conference, Expo, and Roadeo. This year's event, taking place in McAllen from March 7-12, 2025, will be packed with insights, innovations, and networking opportunities you won't want to miss!
- **Advocacy and Legislative Updates**
TTA represents your voice in state discussions, advocating for policies that support public transportation in Texas. Stay informed and involved in these crucial efforts to make positive changes for our communities.

Renew your membership for the term September 1, 2024 through August 31, 2025

Upcoming Dates of Interest:

| | |
|----------------------|---|
| N O V | November 19-20, 2024 <u>Finance Management Level 1</u> |
| N O V | November 28, 2024 Thanksgiving Day |
| F E B | February 18-21, 2025 <u>SWTA Conference and Expo</u> |
| F E B | February 25, 2025 <u>Legislative Day at the Capitol</u> |
| M A R | March 7-12, 2025 <u>TTA State Conference, Expo, & Roadeo</u> |

Don't forget!



Remember, clocks will fall back one hour at 2 a.m. on Sunday, November 3, 2024.