

Authority: 23 U.S.C. 139(l)(1).

**Maiser Khaled,**

Director, Technical Services Team, Federal Highway Administration, Sacramento, California.

[FR Doc. 2019-04130 Filed 3-6-19; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4910-RY-P

**DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION**

**Federal Transit Administration**

**Notice of Meeting of Transit Advisory Committee for Safety**

**AGENCY:** Federal Transit Administration, DOT.

**ACTION:** Notice of meeting.

**SUMMARY:** The Federal Transit Administration (FTA) announces a public meeting of the Transit Advisory Committee for Safety (TRACS). TRACS is a discretionary Federal Advisory Committee established by the U.S. Secretary of Transportation (Secretary) in accordance with the Federal Advisory Committee Act to provide information, advice and recommendations to the Secretary and FTA Administrator on matters relating to the safety of public transportation systems.

**DATES:** The TRACS meeting will be held on March 26, 2019, 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., and March 27, 2019, 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

**ADDRESSES:** The meeting will be held at the National Highway Institute, 1310 North Courthouse Road, Arlington, Virginia 22201.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Henrika Buchanan, TRACS Designated Federal Officer, Acting Associate Administrator, FTA Office of Transit Safety and Oversight, (202) 366-1783; or Kara Waldrup, FTA Office of Transit Safety and Oversight, (202) 366-7273.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** This notice is provided in accordance with the Federal Advisory Committee Act (Pub. L. 92-463, 5 U.S.C. App. 2). TRACS is composed of 15 members representing a broad base of expertise necessary to discharge its responsibilities. Please see the TRACS website for additional information at <https://www.transit.dot.gov/regulations-and-guidance/safety/transit-advisory-committee-safety-tracs>. A conference line will be available during the meeting and the number to dial-in will be posted to the TRACS website. The tentative agenda for the March 2019 TRACS meeting is set forth below:

**Agenda**

(1) Welcome Remarks/Introductions

- (2) Facility Use/Safety Briefing
- (3) Review of TRACS Task and Work Plan
- (4) Nominations for Chairperson, Vice-Chairperson, and other Volunteer Positions
- (5) Future TRACS Activities
- (6) Public Comments
- (7) Summary of Deliverables/Concluding Remarks

**Public Participation**

This meeting will be open to the public. Members of the public who wish to attend are asked to send an email to [kara.waldrup@dot.gov](mailto:kara.waldrup@dot.gov), in order to be added to the meeting location's visitor list. Attendees who are on the visitors list may access the building by presenting a current state-issued driver's license, state-issued identification card, or other valid photo identification issued by the Federal government. Members of the public wishing to make an oral statement, participate by phone, or seeking alternative formats or services because of a disability at the meeting must contact Kara Waldrup by close of business on March 22, 2019. Members of the public may submit written comments or suggestions concerning the activities of TRACS at any time before or after the meeting at [TRACS@dot.gov](mailto:TRACS@dot.gov), or to the U.S. Department of Transportation, Federal Transit Administration, Office of Transit Safety and Oversight, Room E45-131, 1200 New Jersey Avenue SE, Washington, DC 20590. Attention: Kara Waldrup. Information from the meeting will be posted on FTA's public website at <https://www.transit.dot.gov/regulations-and-guidance/safety/transit-safety-oversight-tso>. Written comments submitted to TRACS will also be posted at the above web address.

Issued in Washington, DC.

**K. Jane Williams,**  
Acting Administrator.

[FR Doc. 2019-04112 Filed 3-6-19; 8:45 am]

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**DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION**

**Federal Transit Administration**

**[Docket FTA-2019-0001]**

**Notice of Establishment of Emergency Relief Docket for Calendar Year 2019**

**AGENCY:** Federal Transit Administration (FTA), DOT.

**ACTION:** Notice.

**SUMMARY:** By this notice, the Federal Transit Administration (FTA) is establishing an Emergency Relief Docket for calendar year 2019, so that grantees

and subgrantees affected by a national or regional emergency or disaster may request temporary relief from FTA administrative and statutory requirements.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Bonnie L. Graves, Attorney-Advisor, Office of Chief Counsel, Federal Transit Administration, 90 Seventh Street, Ste. 15-300, San Francisco, CA 94103; phone: (202) 366-0944, fax: (415) 734-9489, or email, [Bonnie.Graves@dot.gov](mailto:Bonnie.Graves@dot.gov).

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** Pursuant to 49 CFR 601.42, FTA is establishing the Emergency Relief Docket for calendar year 2019. In the case of a national or regional emergency or disaster, or in anticipation of such an event, when FTA requirements impede a grantee or subgrantee's ability to respond to the emergency or disaster, a grantee or subgrantee may submit a request for relief from specific FTA requirements.

If FTA determines that a national or regional emergency or disaster has occurred, or in anticipation of such an event, FTA will place a message on its web page (<http://www.fta.dot.gov>) indicating that the Emergency Relief Docket has been opened and including the docket number.

All petitions for relief from FTA administrative or statutory requirements must be posted in the docket in order to receive consideration by FTA. The docket is publicly available and can be accessed 24 hours a day, seven days a week, via the internet at [www.regulations.gov](http://www.regulations.gov). Any grantee or subgrantee submitting petitions for relief or comments to the docket must include the agency name (Federal Transit Administration) and docket number FTA-2019-0001.

Interested parties may consult 49 CFR part 601, subpart D for information on FTA's emergency procedures for public transportation systems. FTA strongly encourages grantees and subgrantees to contact their FTA regional office and notify FTA of the intent to submit a petition to the docket.

A grantee or subgrantee seeking relief has three avenues for submitting a petition. First, a grantee or subgrantee may submit a petition for waiver of FTA requirements to [www.regulations.gov](http://www.regulations.gov), for posting in the docket (FTA-2019-0001). Alternatively, a grantee or subgrantee may submit a petition in duplicate (two copies) to the FTA Administrator, via U.S. mail or hand delivery to Federal Transit Administration, 1200 New Jersey Ave. SE, Washington, DC 20590; via fax to (202) 366-3472; or via email to [Bonnie.Graves@dot.gov](mailto:Bonnie.Graves@dot.gov); or via U.S. mail

or hand delivery to the DOT Docket Management Facility, 1200 New Jersey Ave. SE, Room W12-140, Washington, DC 20590. Thirdly, in the event that a grantee or subgrantee needs to request immediate relief and does not have access to electronic means to request that relief, the grantee or subgrantee may contact any FTA regional office or FTA headquarters and request that FTA staff submit the petition on its behalf.

Federal public transportation law at 49 U.S.C. 5324(d) provides that a grant awarded under Section 5324, or under 49 U.S.C. 5307 or 49 U.S.C. 5311, that is made to address an emergency shall be subject to the terms and conditions the Secretary determines are necessary. This language allows FTA to waive certain statutory, as well as administrative, requirements. An FTA grantee or subgrantee receiving financial assistance under 49 U.S.C. 5324, 5307, or 5311 that is affected by a national or regional emergency or disaster may request a waiver of provisions of Chapter 53 of Title 49 of the United States Code in connection with such financial assistance, when a grantee or subgrantee demonstrates that the requirement(s) will limit a grantee's or subgrantee's ability to respond to a national or regional emergency or disaster.

A grantee or subgrantee must include certain information when requesting a waiver of statutory or administrative requirements. A petition for relief shall:

- (a) Include the agency name (Federal Transit Administration) and docket number FTA-2019-0001;
- (b) Identify the grantee or subgrantee and its geographic location;
- (c) Identify the section of Chapter 53 of Title 49 of the United States Code, or the portion of an FTA policy statement, circular, guidance document or rule, from which the grantee or subgrantee seeks relief;
- (d) Specifically address how a requirement in Chapter 53 of Title 49 of the United States Code, or an FTA requirement in a policy statement, circular, agency guidance or rule, will limit a grantee's or subgrantee's ability to respond to a national or regional emergency or disaster; and
- (e) Specify if the petition for relief is one-time or ongoing, and if ongoing identify the time period for which the relief is requested. The time period may not exceed three months; however, additional time may be requested through a second petition for relief.

A petition for relief from administrative requirements will be conditionally granted for a period of three (3) business days from the date it is submitted to the Emergency Relief

Docket. FTA will review the petition after the expiration of the three business days and review any comments submitted regarding the petition. FTA may contact the grantee or subgrantee that submitted the request for relief, or any party that submits comments to the docket, to obtain more information prior to making a decision. FTA shall then post a decision to the Emergency Relief Docket. FTA's decision will be based on whether the petition meets the criteria for use of these emergency procedures, the substance of the request, and any comments submitted regarding the petition. If FTA does not respond to the request for relief to the docket within three business days, the grantee or subgrantee may assume its petition is granted for a period not to exceed three months until and unless FTA states otherwise.

A petition for relief from statutory requirements will not be conditionally granted and requires a written decision from the FTA Administrator.

An FTA decision letter, either granting or denying a petition, shall be posted in the Emergency Relief Docket and shall reference the document number of the petition to which it relates. FTA reserves the right to reconsider any decision made pursuant to these emergency procedures based upon its own initiative, based upon information or comments received subsequent to the three business day comment period, or at the request of a grantee or subgrantee upon denial of a request for relief. FTA shall notify the grantee or subgrantee if FTA plans to reconsider a decision.

Pursuant to FTA's Charter Rule at 49 CFR 604.2(f), grantees and subgrantees may assist with evacuations or other movement of people that might otherwise be considered charter transportation when that transportation is in response to an emergency declared by the President, governor or mayor, or in an emergency requiring immediate action prior to a formal declaration, even if a formal declaration of an emergency is not eventually made by the President, governor or mayor. Therefore, a request for relief is not necessary in order to provide this service. However, if the emergency lasts more than 45 calendar days and the grantee will continue to provide service that would otherwise be considered charter service, the grantee or subgrantee shall follow the procedures set out in this notice.

Issued in Washington, DC.

**K. Jane Williams,**

*Acting Administrator.*

[FR Doc. 2019-04110 Filed 3-6-19; 8:45 am]

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## DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

### Federal Transit Administration

#### Summary of Fiscal Year 2018 Grants for Buses and Bus Facilities Infrastructure Investment Program Project Selections

**AGENCY:** Federal Transit Administration (FTA), DOT.

**ACTION:** Notice; summary of project selections. Grants for Buses and Bus Facilities Infrastructure Investment Program.

**SUMMARY:** The U.S. Department of Transportation's (DOT) Federal Transit Administration (FTA) summarizes the allocation of \$366,162,440 to projects under the Fiscal Year (FY) 2018 Grants for Buses and Bus Facilities Infrastructure Investment Program (Bus Program) and provides administrative guidance on award management.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Successful applicants should contact the appropriate FTA Regional Office for information regarding applying for the funds or program-specific information. A list of Regional Offices can be found at [www.fta.dot.gov](http://www.fta.dot.gov). Unsuccessful applicants may contact Mark G. Bathrick, Office of Program Management at (202) 366-9955, email: [Mark.Bathrick@dot.gov](mailto:Mark.Bathrick@dot.gov), to arrange a proposal debriefing within 30 days of this notice. A TDD is available at 1-800-877-8339 (TDD/FIRS).

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The competitive funding allocations announced in this notice are authorized by Section 5339(b) of Title 49, United States Code. Federal public transportation law at 49 U.S.C. 5338(a)(2)(M) authorizes \$246,514,000 million for competitive allocations in FY 2018. The Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2018 appropriated an additional \$161,446,000 for the Bus Program for FY 2018. After the statutory set aside for oversight, \$366,293,150 was available for competitive grants under the Bus Program.

On June 21, 2018, FTA published a Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) announcing the availability of \$366,293,150 in competitive funding under the Bus Program. These funds will provide financial assistance to states and eligible public agencies to replace, rehabilitate, purchase, or lease