

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

## TTA's Upcoming Statewide Training Initiatives

We're excited to share all the ongoing and upcoming training opportunities available. Whether you're in operations, dispatch, administration, or leadership, our sessions are designed to strengthen skills, boost confidence, and support excellence across your agency.

### What We're Offering:

- NEMT Workshop (7/8)
- Etiquette and Effective Communication with People with Disabilities for Call Center Staff (7/10)
- Achieving and Maintaining ADA Compliance for Public Transportation Agencies (7/11)
- Rural Transit Demand Estimation (7/15&7/17)
- Strategies to Support the Ridership of Youth with Disabilities on Public Transportation (7/16)
- Hiring and Retaining Great Employees (7/22)
- Communicating so Others Can Hear the Message (7/29-30)

Please see TTA's full [training calendar](#) for all session descriptions or for registration. Remember, these courses are offered to transit agencies in Texas at no cost by grant funding through TxDOT.



New Transit Manager Training in Uvalde, TX

### In-Person & Virtual Options

We're making it easier than ever to participate, by offering training across the State of Texas in person and virtually for those unable to travel. Our goal is to meet you where you are—literally and professionally.

### Coming Up...

Make sure to watch for future registration emails and monitor the training calendar for all upcoming courses. Want to host a training session at your agency or don't see a topic that you need? Reach out and let us know!

Have questions or training suggestions? Contact **Laura** at [laura@txtransit.org](mailto:laura@txtransit.org)—we're always open to ideas and eager to support your goals.

## TTA Wage and Compensation Survey

This statewide comprehensive salary survey will help TTA gather updated wage data from transit agencies across Texas. Afterward, the results will be made public and will assist you in evaluating your agency's compensation and benefits. This information will be helpful as you prepare future annual budgets and will show how your agency compares to other agencies across the State.

Survey Link: [TTA Wage & Compensation Survey - Texas Transit Association](#)

# RSVP! TTA invites you for an Evening Reception at the Punch Bowl Social in Austin!



Please join the Texas Transit Association for an Evening Reception in Austin’s vibrant Domain district Tuesday, July 8, 2025. The Punch Bowl Social is the perfect place to enjoy a few appetizers and cocktails while networking and catching up with several of your peers from around the State.

**Remember to save the date:**

**Day:** July 8, 2025

**Location:** 11310 Domain Dr, Suite 100, Austin, TX 78758

**Time:** 5:30 – 7:00 PM

**Please RSVP Here!**

We look forward to seeing you there for a memorable evening!

# SWART Rolls Out New Transit Service

SWART held a ribbon-cutting in Uvalde to roll out its new transit service...SWARTworks. The new services in partnership with Enterprise Commute offers workforce transportation routes throughout the region.

Regional public officials and local dignitaries along with various community organizations and residents supported the event. Speaking at their event were SWART General Manager Sarah Hidalgo-Cook, SWART Board chairperson and Real County Judge Bella Rubio, Uvalde County Judge and Board member Bill Mitchell, Kinney County Judge and Board member John Paul Schuster, and Uvalde Mayor Hector Luevano. Also providing information about the new service was Mario Rodriguez, Enterprise Commute representative.



In addition to the ribbon-cutting, SWART also celebrated its 13th anniversary as a standalone transit system by hosting an open house.

SWART concluded its Try Transit Week and celebration of its 13th anniversary with a Ribbon-Cutting Ceremony and Open House in Eagle Pass, celebrating the rollout of SWARTworks Workforce Vanpool Service. This is a partnership between SWART and Enterprise Commute, offering a transportation alternative for residents in the Middle Rio Grande Region to access employment opportunities.

Speaking at their event were SWART General Manager Sarah Hidalgo-Cook; Judge Ramsey English-Cantu, Maverick County; Homero Barrientos, City of Eagle Pass City Manager; Mike Garcia, Eagle Pass Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors; and Genevieve Vasquez, Enterprise Commute Representative.



## El Metro Transit System's Largest Fleet Expansion and Regional Connection



El Metro Transit System in Laredo, Texas, proudly announced the arrival of 19 brand-new Compressed Natural Gas (CNG) buses — marking the single largest fleet expansion in the city's history. This milestone reflects a significant investment in the future of public transportation and underscores their commitment to modernizing transit services for the residents of Laredo.

These new buses represent more than just an upgrade in fleet — they embody their dedication to providing a cleaner, more efficient, and more accessible transit system for all Laredoans.

### Key Features of the New CNG Buses:

- **Environmentally Friendly:** Powered by clean-burning CNG fuel, these buses significantly reduce harmful emissions and support a greener Laredo.
- **Improved Rider Experience:** Updated interiors include modern seating, enhanced climate control, and a quieter, smoother ride.
- **Device Charging Options:** Convenient USB and low-voltage DC power ports at every seat help passengers stay connected while on the move.
- **Modern Farebox System:** The new Fast Fare system supports multiple payment methods, including contactless cards and mobile payments, for a quicker and more convenient boarding experience.



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## Valley Metro Zapata Express Route

El Metro Transit Director, RJ Garza, along with members of the El Metro staff, proudly attended a ribbon-cutting ceremony celebrating the launch of a new regional transit connection between Rio Grande City, Zapata, and Laredo. Residents of Laredo can now travel to Zapata, Texas via the newly introduced Valley Metro Zapata Express Route. This regional service enhances mobility and access across South Texas, providing an affordable and convenient transportation option for work, school, shopping, and medical appointments.



## SPARTAN Launches Same Day Rider App

SPARTAN Public Transportation, the South Plains most trusted provider of rural transportation, is proud to announce two major service improvements designed to better serve our community: the launch of the Same Day service and rider app along with an enhanced customer portal for convenient online booking. These two updates are in coordination with the new Plains Trail Transit brand operated by SPARTAN.

Since June 9th, SPARTAN passengers in Levelland and Plainview have been able to request rides on demand through the **QRyde** app, similar to an UBER/Lyft service. This new update offers riders flexibility for appointments, shopping trips, and other essential travel needs. This service marks a significant expansion aimed at improving mobility and accessibility in rural communities. See video here: [Noon Notebook: SPARTAN Transportation Launches New Same Day Rider App](#)



## ETCOG Secured a Grant from the Texas Veterans Commission



ETCOG just secured a \$250K grant from the Texas Veterans Commission to provide free GoBus rides for veterans and their families—helping them get to medical appointments, basic needs, and more.

See how this funding will make a difference across their 14 counties: <https://ow.ly/H45G50W4Vuq>

### Share Your Transit Story!

Have a powerful, funny, or heartwarming story about public transportation? We'd love to hear it! Help us shine a light on the real people and moments that keep our communities moving.

Email your story to Laura at [laura@txtransit.org](mailto:laura@txtransit.org).



## U.S. Transportation Secretary Sean P. Duffy Clears 1/3 of Backlog

U.S. Transportation Secretary Sean P. Duffy announced the Department has cleared another 529 infrastructure grants to get America building again. The latest grants, which total more than \$2.9 billion, bring the total number approved to more than a third of the unprecedented 3,200 project backlog from the previous administration. Secretary Duffy has now cleared 1,065 projects worth roughly \$10 billion since the start of this historic administration.

*“While cynics in the press hysterically warned of doomsday delays, USDOT has been hard at work to get America building again,” said **U.S. Transportation Secretary Sean P. Duffy**. “We’ve done this by refocusing the department on core infrastructure – not enacting a radical political agenda. With a third of the last administration’s unprecedented backlog cleared, we will continue to rip out red tape roadblocks to get dirt moving.”*

These latest grants include projects announced more than three years ago. Secretary Duffy finally delivered \$21 million for rail safety improvements just north of Ann Arbor, Michigan, announced in June 2022; nearly \$12 million for the Manatee County Port Authority in Florida, announced in September 2022; \$110 million for a North Carolina bridge to the Outer Banks, announced in January 2023; and \$47 million for the Port of Baltimore, announced in December 2023.

### Reminder:

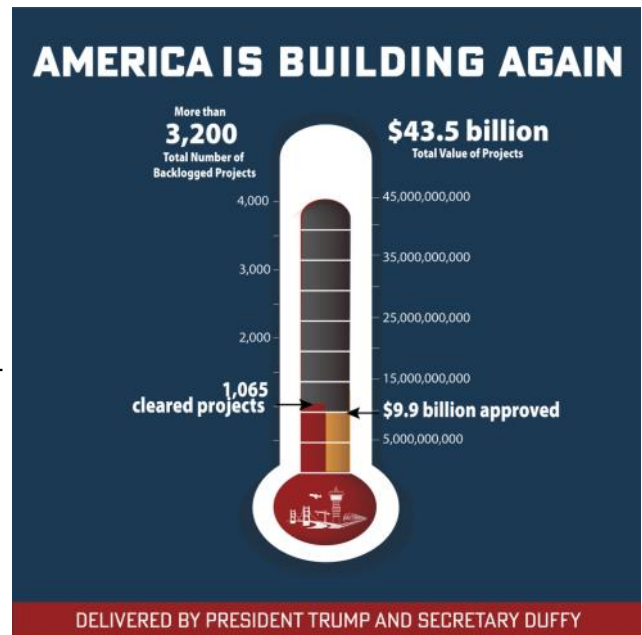
The Trump Administration inherited more than 3,200 unobligated grants that had been announced by the previous administration but never obligated. This unprecedented backlog of unobligated grants delayed critical investments in communities across the country. Under Secretary Duffy’s direction, the Department is working diligently to accelerate the distribution of these long-overdue funds and address core infrastructure projects.

As part of this process, the Department has ripped out burdensome DEI, Green New Scam, and social justice requirements that Congress deliberately did not mandate. This includes social cost of carbon accounting, pointless greenhouse gas emission reporting, and discriminatory DEI language.

Additional examples of removed leftist requirements can be found [here](#).

Removing these requirements will save taxpayers millions. Road construction costs [skyrocketed](#) roughly 70% under the last administration. The greenhouse gas reporting burden alone increased project costs and added months to the permitting process.

Read more in the [USDOT Newsroom](#).



## METRONow Community Connector

This new METRO service is provided through a partnership with the City of Houston and Evolve Houston to serve specific neighborhoods in response to the community's need for convenient access to public transit. Community Connector is an on-demand microtransit service that bridges the gap between the "first and last mile" of your journey by getting you to a fixed-route service or a destination where access to transit is challenging. The service uses climate-friendly, electric vehicles that operate within a defined zone. You must download the **Ride Circuit app** to request a ride anywhere in your designated coverage area.

Click here to learn more: <https://bit.ly/4a4yl9G>.



## VIA Conducted a Ceremonial Groundbreaking

**Construction for the Green Line will begin with utility relocation later this summer**



Local leaders and VIA Metropolitan Transit officials conducted a ceremonial groundbreaking for the VIA Rapid Green Line on the southern portion of the corridor, officially kicking off the project's construction phase. Work on the Green Line is slated to begin in late July, starting with key utility relocation and other grade-level preparations along the 10.35-mile route.

"This project is part of our commitment to deliver on what San Antonians have asked for: better, more reliable and more frequent service,"

VIA President & CEO Jon Gary Herrera said at the groundbreaking ceremony, held at Roosevelt Park. "This isn't just about infrastructure. It's about access, about connecting people to opportunity and to the friends, family, places and things that are important to them. The Green Line will do so with the highest frequency and most reliable service."



## CapMetro Railroad Right-of-Way

Did you know there are safety rules in place within 25 feet of the [#CapMetro](#) rail? Prior to any contractor entering CapMetro's Railroad Right-of-Way (ROW), CapMetro staff must approve all access, activities and the performance of any work.

Work safe, stay safe: [capmetro.org/railrow](http://capmetro.org/railrow)

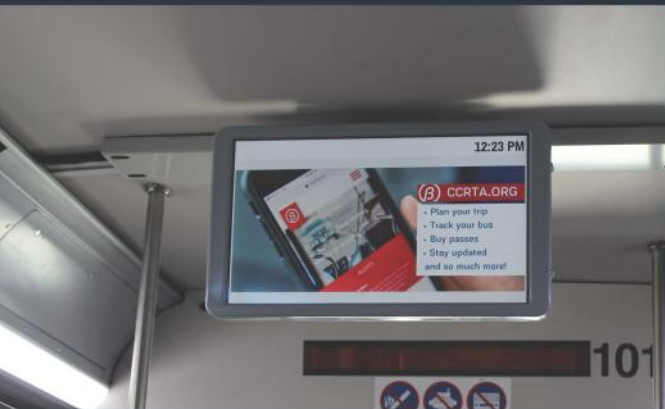


### CAD/AVL SYSTEM

## WORK SMARTER WITH NAVINEO: THE POWER OF CAD/AVL REINVENTED

EQUANS **redefines public transit operations** and **support improvement of service reliability** with **real-time CAD/AVL functionality**.

*EQUANS is proud to support CCRTA, in Corpus Christi, TX, to upgrade their Fixed route, CAD/AVL, APC and Intelligent Transportation System.*



### CONTACT US

Kilian Ollivier, Business Development Director: [kilian.ollivier@equans.com](mailto:kilian.ollivier@equans.com)

[www.navineo.co](http://www.navineo.co)



## 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.

### July

#### **Etiquette and Effective Communication with People with Disabilities for Call Center Staff**

July 10, 2025

Webinar

8:00 a.m.—12:00 p.m.

[Register Here](#)

### July

#### **Achieving and Maintaining ADA Compliance for Public Transportation Agencies**

July 11, 2025

In-person

8:00 a.m.—5:00 p.m.

[Register Here](#)

### July

#### **Rural Transit Demand Estimation**

July 15 & 17, 2025

Remote Workshop

2:00 p.m.—4:00 p.m.

[Register Here](#)

### July

#### **Strategies to Support the Ridership of Youth with Disabilities on Public Transportation**

July 16, 2025

Webinar

1:00 p.m.—2:00 p.m.

[Register Here](#)

### July

#### **Hiring and Retaining Great Employees**

July 22, 2025

Webinar

2:00 p.m.—3:30 p.m.

[Register Here](#)

### July

#### **Communicating so Others Can Hear the Message**

July 29-30, 2025

In-Person

8:00 a.m.—5:00 p.m. Day 1

8:00 a.m.—12:00 p.m. Day 2

[Register Here](#)

[Click here for Training Calendar](#)

## 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  
[laura@txtansit.org](mailto:laura@txtansit.org)

Allen E. Hunter  
 (254) 405-4212  
[allen@txtransit.org](mailto: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](mailto:laura@txtransit.org) or [allen@txtransit.org](mailto: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 Rodeo. This year’s event took place in [McAllen from March 7-12, 2025](#), it was packed with insights, innovations, and networking opportunities!
- **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, 2025 through August 31, 2026**

## Upcoming Dates of Interest:

**JUL** July 8, 2025  
[NEMT Workshop](#)

**JUL** July 23-24, 2025  
[Transit State of Good Repair—South](#)

**JUL** July 8, 2025  
[TTA’s Evening Reception](#)

**JUL** July 27-30, 2025  
[SWTA Summer U](#)

**JUL** July 9, 2025  
Semi-Annual Operator’s Meeting

