

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

The U.S. Senate Confirms the 16th FTA Administrator



WASHINGTON, D.C. – The U.S. Department of Transportation announced [Marcus J. Molinaro](#) has been confirmed by the U.S. Senate as the 16th Administrator of the Federal Transit Administration (FTA). He was confirmed by the U.S. Senate on August 02, 2025.

"I applaud the U.S. Senate for confirming Administrator Molinaro earlier today. Marc's leadership, experience, and commitment to Making Transit Safe Again will be a strong asset to the Department," said U.S. Transportation Secretary Sean P. Duffy. "I am confident Administrator Molinaro will help usher in the golden age of transit helping our transit partners maintain safe and clean systems that move American families forward."

"I am grateful to President Trump for placing his trust in me, and to Secretary Duffy for his confidence in my leadership," said FTA Administrator Molinaro. "I am committed to supporting our nation's public transportation systems and ensuring a safer, more accessible, and better-connected America."

Learn more here: <https://transit.dot.gov/.../us-department-transportation...>

Save the Date!

The 2026 TTA State Conference, Expo, and Rodeo will be held in **Lubbock, April 28 – May 2, 2026.**

Mark your calendars for this exciting week of learning, networking, and collaboration. We are now accepting presentation abstracts — click the link below to submit your proposal and be part of this year's conference program!

[Link to submit abstract](#)



Hosted By:



Last call for TTA's Wage Survey

This is our final reminder to complete the **Wage Survey**! We are currently gathering feedback through a short survey. Your voice truly matters — your input will help us better understand industry needs and directly guide how we move forward. The survey only takes a few minutes, but your responses will have a lasting impact.

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

Get Involved – Join a TTA Committee!

We're excited to announce a call for members to join our **Safety & Security Committee** and **Marketing Committee**. While these committees aren't new, we're ready to kick them off again with fresh energy and participation from our members. In addition, we'll soon be starting meetings for the **Roadeo Committee**. If you're interested in contributing to the planning and success of this year's competition, we'd love to have you involved.

If you'd like to participate in any of these committees, please sign up here:

[Join a TTA Committee - Texas Transit Association - Texas Transit Association](#)

2025 SWTA Spotlight Award Winners

At the 2025 LPTA/SWTA Summer Conference in New Orleans in late July, SWTA presented its 36th Annual [Spotlight Awards](#), which are among the oldest awards recognizing marketing campaigns and projects in the public transportation industry, first awarded in 1990.

SWTA recently presented 22 awards to 13 agencies. We are proud to share that the following Texas agencies were among the winners:

- **East Texas Council of Governments**—Hit the Spot Award—Social Media, Rural Systems
- **CARTS**—Spotlight Campaign, Rural Systems
- **Corpus Christi RTA**—Hit the Spot Awards for Social, Print & Events—Medium-sized Urban Systems



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.



Gulf Coast Transit District Welcomes New Buses to Fleet

Gulf Coast Transit District, is always looking for ways to serve their community. They're thrilled to announce that two brand-new buses have joined their Ride The Wave on-demand fleet! These vehicles mark the first step in updating their fleet, with even more new buses coming later this year. What really makes these buses stand out is their vibrant exterior wrap featuring the service's signature wave design. The eye-catching graphics celebrate the Gulf Coast's character while making the vehicles easily recognizable throughout their community.



TTA's Paratransit Maintenance Training—San Antonio, TX

September 23-24, 2025 | Hosted by VIA Metropolitan Transit



This hands-on Paratransit Maintenance Training provides participants with practical knowledge and skills to perform effective preventive maintenance and identify common defects in paratransit vehicles.

The training emphasizes best practices in vehicle care, system troubleshooting, and maintenance documentation. Attendees will work through real-world maintenance scenarios and receive take-home digital resources to support ongoing learning.

Designed for paratransit maintenance technicians, this session is focused on enhancing operational efficiency, minimizing vehicle downtime, and promoting the long-term safety and reliability of transit fleets.

Location: VIA Metropolitan Transit, San Antonio, TX

Date: September 23-24, 2025

Time: 8:00 a.m.—5 p.m. Day 1

8:00 a.m.—12:00 p.m. Day 2



Registration Link:

[Paratransit Maintenance Technician Workshop - Texas Transit Association](#)

Don't miss this opportunity to gain targeted training and network with peers in the industry.

TxDOT Changing Lives, One Rider At a Time

The Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) is dedicated to making it easier and safer for people who choose not to drive alone. TxDOT works on both local and statewide planning efforts to improve transit and active transportation options—like biking, walking, and public transit—so that getting around is more accessible for everyone. TxDOT also provides funding, technical support, and coordination to help rural and urban transit programs. These programs assist Texans everyday who rely on public transportation to get them to their jobs, schools, medical appointments, and other essential destinations. In the past year, funding supported by TxDOT to both rural and urban transit districts provided over 24 million rides, connecting people to their communities and families. Here are a few personal stories on how lives are impacted with ease of access to transportation and how lives are changed one rider at a time.

Consider the story of David Trigg, a U.S. Army veteran and former paratrooper who has dedicated much of his life to serving others, including his work as a certified aide supporting individuals in his community. Through that work, he saw firsthand how essential reliable transportation is to helping people maintain their independence and quality of life. Today, David relies on Concho Valley Transit services for his daily needs—such as medical appointments, shopping, and staying engaged with his community. His experience highlights the vital role public transportation plays—not only in helping people reach their destinations, but in preserving dignity, independence, and staying connected with the community. Concho Valley Transit and TxDOT's support for these programs makes a real difference for countless people in the Concho Valley, and David is proud to be part of that positive story.



With the assistance from The Valley Association for Independent Living, Inc. (VAIL), this organization provides essential support to seniors and individuals with disabilities across three counties. The organization offers individualized trip planning, travel training, and group workshops designed to meet each person's unique transit needs. One individual who has benefited from these services is Alexandra Sanchez. Ms. Sanchez, who is blind, received specialized travel training to navigate her local transit system. As a result, Ms. Sanchez gained her independence and got a job. "The travel training program changed my life. I am more independent, and I learned how to navigate the community using public transportation. I'm happy to say that I feel more confident in getting around my community for work and recreation. I never had an opportunity like that before and it's exciting."

The Wichita Falls Transit System (WFTS) is about community and collaboration and has partnered with SHARP Lines to improve transportation options for seniors and individuals with disabilities. This collaboration effort provides specialized and sustainable transit services supported by a dedicated team, resulting in increased ridership and expanded mobility choices.



Jenny Stevens, Public Transportation Administrator for WFTS shared a recent example. "A gentleman called our office needing a ride to his cardiologist appointment, but he didn't live near a bus route. The dispatcher arranged for one of our service vehicles to pick him up from his home and take him to the bus depot, where he was able to catch a bus to his medical appointment. Afterward, the dispatcher then arranged for a service vehicle to bring him back home. I often say, 'Teamwork makes the dream work,' because we truly care about our community and the services we provide. We are thankful to TxDOT for our funding as our community has grown exponentially over the years and SHARP Lines has been a great fit for our partnership. These vital partnerships create a comprehensive and supportive transportation network which benefits everyone."



TxDOT believes that transportation is more than just mobility; it's about connection, independence, and creating opportunities for people to get to their destinations safely and in a reliable manner. Across our state, the impact of transit is powerful and personal. Every rider has a story, and with each ride, lives are being transformed, one ride at a time.

CCRTA Hosts it's Second Successful Human Trafficking Summit

On August 15th, the Corpus Christi Regional Transportation Authority (CCRTA) proudly hosted its 2nd annual Human Trafficking Summit, bringing together community leaders, law enforcement, advocacy organizations, and transit professionals for a powerful day of learning and collaboration.

The summit provided a platform to share best practices, highlight warning signs, and strengthen partnerships in the fight against human trafficking. Participants heard from experts on prevention strategies, victim support services, and the critical role public transit employees can play in identifying and reporting suspicious activity.

Transit systems, as a daily lifeline for thousands of Texans, are uniquely positioned to be part of the solution. CCRTA's initiative underscores the importance of training frontline staff and creating awareness throughout the community. By fostering dialogue and equipping attendees with practical tools, this year's summit further strengthened the region's commitment to combating trafficking and protecting vulnerable individuals.

CCRTA's leadership in hosting this annual summit continues to inspire agencies statewide, reminding us all that transit plays an important role not only in mobility, but also in safety, awareness, and community well-being. CCRTA extends its gratitude to all the agencies, partners, and participants who contributed to the success of this year's summit. Your collaboration and commitment make a real difference in building safer communities across Texas.



Registration Is Now Open for the Texas Transit Leadership Institute

TEXAS TRANSIT LEADERSHIP INSTITUTE



Join us for an exclusive gathering of transit leaders and executives to broaden and develop leadership skills in (and out!) of the transit space!



Next Class Begins Fall/Winter 2025



Self development topics including:

Developing your personal brand, communicating your why, and developing personal success goals.

Leading teams including topics around communication strategies, providing feedback and developing success outcomes that move the needle for your customers.

Industry and community facing topics such as measuring value over volume, focusing on what matters most to your community, managing your message, and celebrating success.

SPACE IS LIMITED!

Interested in joining the 2025-2026 TTLI Cohort?

Submit a letter of interest along with a current bio/resume to:
Vicki.AldrighettiMata@txdot.gov

TTA's No-Show / Late Cancellation Fee Notice

To better serve our members and ensure the most efficient use of resources, the Texas Transit Association (TTA) will implement a No-Show/Late Cancellation Fee for all Statewide training courses, effective **September 1, 2025**.

While TTA continues to offer these high-quality training opportunities **at no cost to participants**, there are real costs associated with hosting each course—such as printed materials, venue arrangements, and instructor fees. When individuals fail to attend or cancel at the last minute, it can result in unused seats, wasted resources, and missed opportunities for others who would have liked to participate.

To address this challenge and promote greater accountability, TTA will begin enforcing a **\$150 No-Show/Late Cancellation Fee** under the following conditions:

- **No-Show:** The participant registers but does not attend the course without providing advance notice.
- **Late Cancellation:** The participant cancels **less than 72 hours** before the scheduled start of the course.

We understand that emergencies happen. Participants who must cancel due to unexpected circumstances may request a fee waiver by contacting TTA directly.

This policy is not intended to penalize, but rather to improve our ability to plan, reduce unnecessary costs, and **maximize participation** in these valuable training sessions. With your help, we can ensure that every available seat is filled.

For questions or to request a cancellation or waiver, please contact:

[Laura Herrera](#) or [Allen Hunter](#).

Thank you for your continued support and participation in TTA's training programs.

We appreciate your understanding.



TTA's 89th TEXAS LEGISLATURE LEGISLATIVE RECAP

On June 2, 2025, the Texas Legislature adjourned sine die for the 89th Legislature. Soon after the Governor's veto period, the Governor called a Special Legislative Session to begin on July 21st, 2025.

House members and Senators filed a total of 9,014 bills. The Governor signed 1,155 bills and 140 bills went into law without the Governor's signature. The Governor vetoed 28 bills. The Texas Transit Association tracked 98 of these bills.

Governor Abbott and Lt. Governor Patrick accomplished a vast majority of their priorities. New House Speaker Dustin Burrows worked well with the other two leaders to pass bills to address the following State issues:

Texas Transit Issues:

Senate Joint Resolution 59 is a constitutional amendment that would create a dedicated endowment for Texas State Technical College. If approved by voters in November, TSTC will have a dedicated source of funding for capital projects and equipment purchases. The Texas Transit Association is part of a working group to ensure the additional training and education of CDL drivers. House Bill 3966 would require commercial passenger bus services to provide public notice 90 days before opening new terminals. The Texas Transit Association worked with the bill author and bill sponsor to ensure the statute exempted our public transit agencies.

Senate Bill 1 is the State Appropriations Bill. Thanks in part to TTA members, an amendment to cut \$7 million from small urban and rural transit agencies was withdrawn. Below is a comparison of funding the current biennium and the biennium starting on September 1, 2025:

2026/2027 Funding vs. 2024/2025 Funding

C. Goal: OPTIMIZE SERVICES AND SYSTEMS

For the Years Ending	
August 31, 2026	August 31, 2027
\$ 141,635,855	\$ 147,249,122

C.1.1. Strategy: PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION
Support and Promote Public Transportation. & UB

C.Goal: OPTIMIZE SERVICES AND SYSTEMS

For the Years Ending	
August 31, 2024	August 31, 2025
\$ 134,924,775	\$ 136,722,354

C.1.1. Strategy: PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION
Support and Promote Public Transportation. & UB

Education:

Senate Bill 2, which is the school voucher bill. SB 2 will allow families to use \$1 billion in state funds to pay for their children's private school tuition and home-school expenses.

House Bill 2, the school finance package. This legislation will send an additional \$8.5 billion to public schools to fund employee salaries, operational expenses, and campus safety.

Property Taxes:

House Bill 9 would exempt up to \$125,000 of businesses' inventory from taxation by any taxing entity.

Senate Bill 4 would raise the homestead exemption from \$100,000 to \$140,000.

Senate Bill 23 would raise the property tax exemption for Texans over 65 and those with disabilities from \$10,000 to 60,000.

When combined with the exemption in SB 4, their total exemption would reach \$200,000.

The passage of these bills into law is contingent on passage of Constitutional Amendments on the November ballot.

Bail Reform:

Senate Joint Resolution 5 is on the November ballot. SJR 5 would amend the state Constitution to require judges to deny bail, in certain cases, for the most violent offenses.

Water Resources:

Senate Bill 7 and House Joint Resolution 7 would dedicate \$1 billion a year for the next 20 years, beginning in 2027. The money will be divided between fixing the state's water infrastructure and projects to create new water supply. This includes desalination, conservation and flood mitigation projects.

Lottery:

Senate Bill 3070 is a major overhaul of the Texas Lottery. The bill would ban the purchase of lottery tickets online or through apps known as couriers. The bill would also abolish the Texas Lottery Commission and transfer all lottery operations to the Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation.

Houston Metro Improving Mobility



Since 2017, [Houston METRO](#) has been working to make its bus system more accessible for all riders. To date, more than 5,600 bus stops have been upgraded to include features like wider sidewalks, wheelchair ramps, and tactile paving to assist riders with visual impairments. And the work isn't done: METRO plans to make more than 700 additional bus stops fully accessible by year's end. [#ADA35](#)

To learn more about METRONow, visit our website: <https://bit.ly/44Wp7eW>

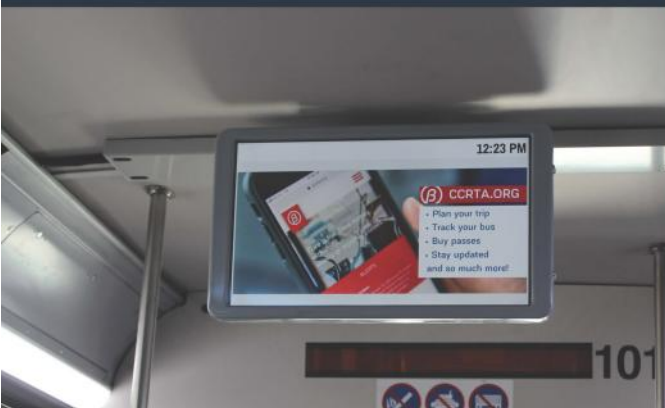


CAD/AVL SYSTEM

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

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.

September

Introduction to Travel Training

September 8-9, 2025

In-person

302 N. Staples St., Corpus Christi,

8:00 a.m.—5:00 p.m. Each Day

[Register Here](#)

September

Offering Alternatives: Creating Partnerships to Manage Paratransit Ridership

September 17, 2025

Webinar

11:00 a.m.—12:00 p.m.

[Register Here](#)

September

The Importance of Improving Your Communication

September 23, 2025

Webinar

9:00 a.m.—10:30 a.m.

[Register Here](#)

September

Paratransit Maintenance Technician Workshop

September 23-24, 2025

In-person

4902 Fredericksburg Rd, San Antonio

8:00 a.m.—5:00 p.m. Day 1

8:00 a.m.—12:00 p.m. Day 2

[Register Here](#)

September

Service Planning Concepts, Philosophy, and Service Evaluation

September 24-25, 2025

In-person

8200 Perrin Beitel, San Antonio

8:00 a.m.—5:00 p.m. Each Day

[Register Here](#)

September

CARES Advanced Transit Management

September 30-Oct 1, 2025

In-Person

509 S. Bowie St., Amarillo

8:00 a.m.—5:00 p.m. Each Day

[Register Here](#)

Please note: We've introduced a new [No-Show/Late Cancellation Fee Policy](#). We encourage you to review the full policy on our website to ensure you're aware of the updated guidelines.

[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.

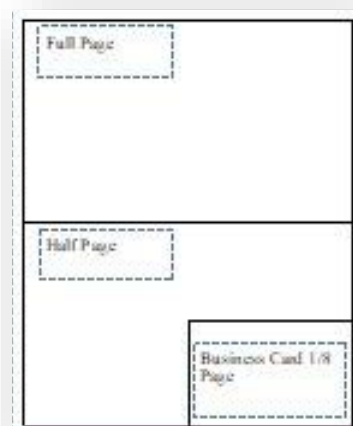


TTA Member Price		Non-Member Price	
Full Page Ad single issue	\$500	Full Page Ad single issue	\$750
Full Page One Year	\$2,000	Full Page One Year	\$3,000
Half Page Ad single issue	\$250	Half Page Ad single issue	\$400
Half Page One Year	\$1,000	Half Page One Year	\$2,000
Business card Ad single issue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



Membership Announcement

August 2025

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:

- **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. Next year's event will take place in Lubbock from April 28- May 2, 2026, it will be 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.

Not a Member?

Join Today!

Contact us (512) 900-0550

laura@txtransit.org or allen@txtransit.org

Renew your membership for the term September 1, 2025 through August 31, 2026

Upcoming Dates of Interest:

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September 8-9, 2025
[Introduction to Travel Training](#)

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September 24-25, 2025
[Service Planning Concepts, Philosophy...](#)

S
E
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September 17, 2025
[Creating Partnerships to Manage...](#)

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September 14-17, 2025
[APTA TRANSform Conference](#)

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September 23, 2025
[Improving Your Communication Skills](#)

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September 30 - October 1, 2025
[CARES Advanced Transit Management](#)

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September 23-24, 2025
[Paratransit Maintenance Technician](#)

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October 2-4, 2025
[Latino's in Transit Leadership Summit](#)