

### I'm a Transit Manager, Now What?

Arizona Transit Association (AzTA) November 16, 2021 Mesa, AZ







U.S. Department of Transportation Federal Transit Administration

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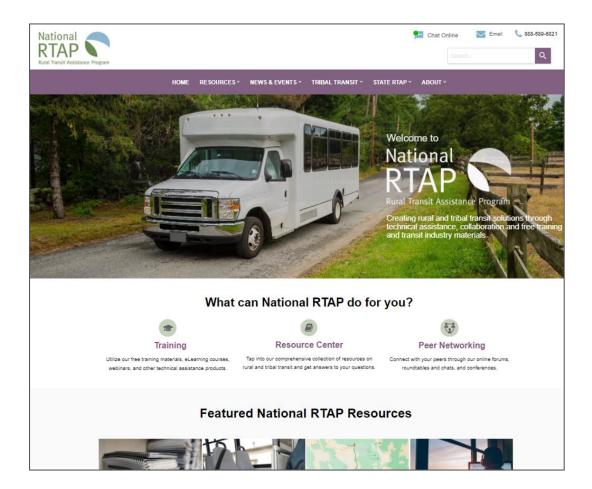
store and download

"Mentimeter App'

Mentimeter

## National Rural Transit Assistance Program

- Technical assistance center funded by FTA through the Section 5311 Program
- Provides free training materials and technical assistance to rural and Tribal transit providers and state RTAP programs
- Review Board state DOT and rural and Tribal transit agency staff
- National RTAP offices are in MA and DC
- Learn more at nationalrtap.org



### TACL: The Transportation Technical Assistance Coordination Library



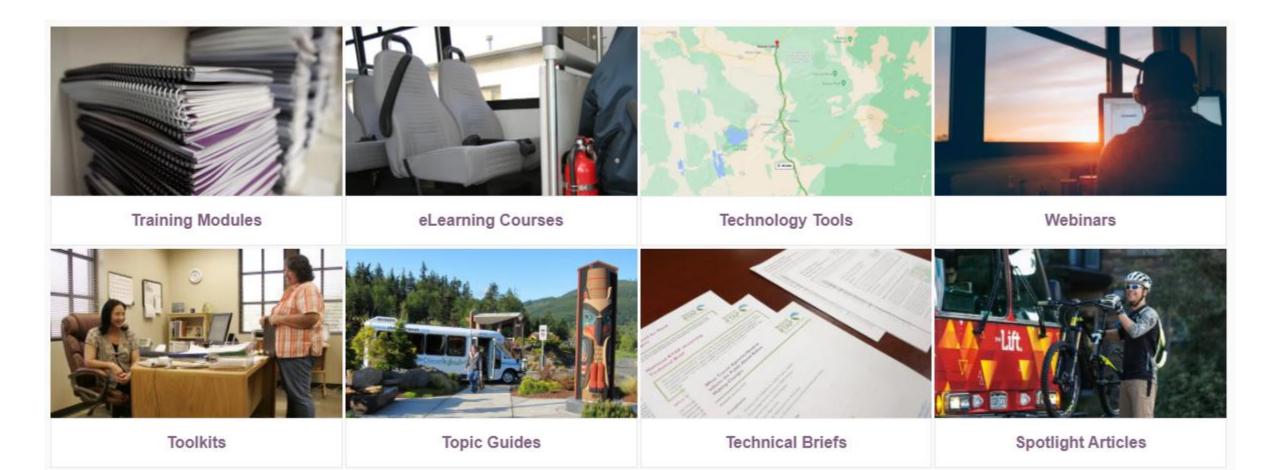
http://transportation-tacl.org

The Transportation Technical Assistance Coordination Library (TACL) provides a sustainable methodology and platform to access rural and tribal transportation coordination resources across a diverse range of transportation technical assistance centers and the Federal Transit Administration (FTA).

The FTA-funded technical assistance centers participating in this ongoing work with links to their coordination resources are:

- <u>National Aging and Disability Transportation Center</u> (NADTC)
- National Center for Applied Transit Technology (N-CATT)
- National Center for Mobility Management (NCMM)
- National Rural Transit Assistance Program (National RTAP)
- <u>Shared-Use Mobility Center (SUMC)</u>

### eLearning - Tutorials - Toolkits - Peer Support



Let's hear from you: menti.com / 8554 2759

# What Are Your Top Priorities/Concerns?

### Transit Manager's Toolkit Overview

- Developed for new rural & tribal transit managers.
- Provides information they will need on day one to ensure their rural transit organizations are operating smoothly.
- Assures compliance with the federal regulations associated with receiving FTA Section 5311 funding.
- Updated in 2020.

https://www.nationalrtap.org/Toolkits/Transit-Managers-Toolkit/Welcome

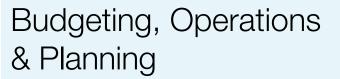
### Accessing the Toolkit

#### http://www.nationalrtap.org, mouse over Resources and Toolkits Transit Manager's Toolkit

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		HOME RESOURCES - NEWS & EVENTS -	TRIBAL TRANSIT $\sim$ STATE RTAP $\sim$	ABOUT ~
-	INFORMATION	TRAINING	TOOLKITS	TECHNOLOGY TOOLS
	Resource Library	National RTAP Training Overview	ADA Toolkit	Overview
200	Resource Catalog	National RTAP eLearning	Bus Roadeo Toolkit	Cost Allocation Calculator
	Topic Guides	2 The Point Training	How to Find Anything Toolkit	GTFS Builder
-	Technical Briefs	Directory of Trainers	Marketing Toolkit	ProcurementPRO
	Best Practices Spotlight	Webinars	State RTAP Manager's Toolkit	Website Builder
	COVID-19 Information	Peer Roundtables & Chat	Transit Manager's Toolkit	Rural iNTD
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### Leader? Manager? Visionary - Voice





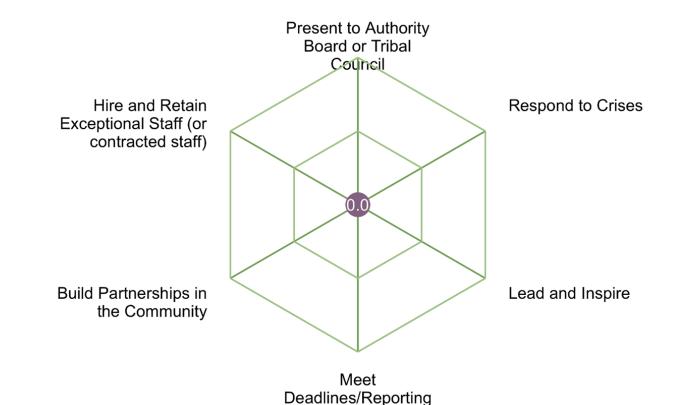








# As A Transit Manager My Focus Is



# Leadership





### Ideas for Improving Employee Satisfaction and Morale



- 1. Create a culture of safety.
- 2. Always be open and honest in communicating with staff, even if you don't have all the answers.
- 3. Encourage work-life balance.

## Leading During a Crisis

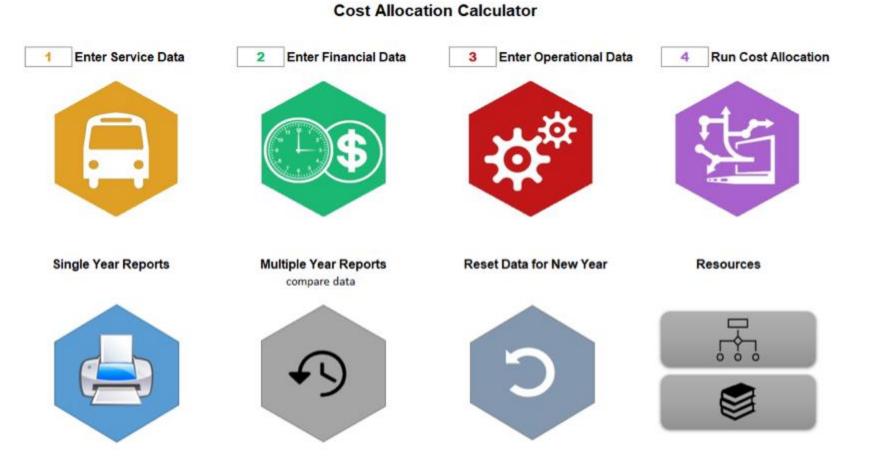




https://www.pexels.com/photo/grayscale-photo-of-people-standing-near-the-wrecked-vintage-car-78793/

Photo Credit: Jeremy Bell, Mississippi Band of Choctaw Indians.

### Two-Variable Cost Calculator



https://www.nationalrtap.org/Technology-Tools/Cost-Allocation-Calculator

# Budgeting and Finance 101

#### Annual or biennial federal awards?

**Section 5310:** FTA's Enhanced Mobility of Seniors and Individuals with Disabilities

**Section 5311:** FTA's Formula Grants for Rural Areas

**Section 5339:** FTA's Bus and Bus Facilities Infrastructure Investment Program

Non-Federal Match

https://www.nationalrtap.org/Toolkits/Transit-Managers-Toolkit/Administration/Budgeting-and-Finance-101



#### Pre-Budget Spring/Summer

#### To Do (Recommended)

- ★ Host a council retreat.
- ★ Host a staff budget objectives discussion.
- ★ Organize community priority forums.
- ★ Update your capital facilities plan.
- $\star$  Review and update financial policies.

The down time in the budget cycle is the perfect time for getting your priorities and policies in order.

#### Budget Estimates Summer/Fall

#### To Do

- ★ Official call to budget.
- ★ Revenue and expense estimates developed by a department head.
- ★ Clerk compiles all estimates (including debt service estimate) and presents to council.
- ★ Host a public hearing on potential property tax increases.

Provide staff with a budget information form to ensure clear and consistent estimates.

Winter

**Final Budget** 

#### Preliminary Budget Fall/Winter

#### To Do

- ★ Filing of preliminary budget with budget message.
- ★ Make preliminary budget publicly available.
- ★ Host public budget hearings.
- $\star$  Set property tax levies and file with the county.

To Do

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- ★ Adopt budget by ordinance.
- ★ File final budget with MRSC.
- ★ Make the final budget easily accessible to the public.

### Operations: Contracted vs. In-House



https://www.nationalrtap.org/Toolkits/Transit-Managers-Toolkit/Administration/In-house-vs-Contracted-Management-and-or-Operations

### www.menti.com and use the code 8554 2759

# Why Should I Work for You?



### Try New Ideas: Haunted Bus - Cotton Express



Erik Heet, Coolidge Public Transit



## Diversity, Inclusiveness, Dignity, and Respect

#### Transit Managers can Help all Employees to Feel Valued and Respected by:

- Establishing organizational values that reflect the diversity of the workforce and the community
- Adopting, providing training on, and consistently enforcing clear policies that prohibit harassment and discriminatory behavior
- Encouraging career development for all employees
- Encouraging participation in problem-solving as a team
- Being a good listener and taking employee concerns seriously
- Recognizing different cultural and religious holidays
- Leading by example

## Handling Conflict and Driver De-escalation Skills

#### **Preventing Driver Assaults:**

#### **Conflict Resulting from Pandemic Stress**

- Passengers are people with a full range of human emotions.
- Passengers should be greeted with friendliness and confidence.
- It is the driver's role to support and explain policies.
- Stay vigilant when dealing with someone who is upset.
- Staying calm is crucial.
- Non-threatening questions are powerful tools



National RTAP Problem Passengers training, Page 18

- In tense situations, the driver's first statement can influence the passenger's attitude.
- The driver can discreetly contact the dispatcher.
- Don't close the door on a dangerous passenger.

## Lessons Learned from the COVID-19 Pandemic

#### **Pandemic Plan**

- Communications
- Staff education
- Personal protective equipment (PPE)
- Policies
- Operations



HIRTA Public Transit

#### Agency Response -Recommended Pandemic Protocols

- Face coverings
- Barriers
- Cleaning
- Fare collection/Fare Free
- Mobility device securement
- Essential trip limitations
- At risk employees
- Passengers

### Drugs on the Bus



#### **Develop a Policy and Training:**

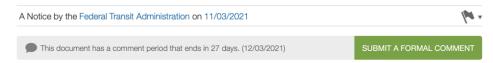
- A person under the influence of illegal drugs or alcohol may respond with anger or behavior that quickly escalates.
- The driver should treat the individual with dignity and respect but report their observations to supervisors as soon as it is safely possible.
- The driver should recognize that many passengers have various legal medications that can be easily misunderstood as illegal substances.
- Drivers should also be trained to look for suspicious items and activities to ensure that drug distribution isn't occurring on their vehicle.

# Compliance

- Federal Regulations and Circulars
- Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA)
- Grant Compliance Requirements
- Drug and Alcohol Programs
- Civil Rights
- Procurement 101
- Procurement Beyond 101
- Transit Asset Management



#### **Title VI Implementation**



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Sign in Sign up

Notice

	PUBLISHED DOCUMENT	
:=	AGENCY:	DOCUMENT DETAILS Printed version:
•	Federal Transit Administration (FTA), Department of Transportation (DOT).	PDF Publication Date: 11/03/2021
<b>1</b>	ACTION: Request for information on Title VI implementation.	Agencies: Federal Transit Administration
	SUMMARY:	Dates: Comments should be submitted

# Marketing and Communicating with the Public

- Keeping the Public Informed about Services
- Public Notice and Engagement as Part of Planning
- Communicating in a Crisis
- Providing Customer Service
- Education and Outreach
- Hosting Public and Stakeholder Meetings





## Resources: CARES, Covid, Certifications

- Arizona DOT transit public transportation <u>https://azdot.gov/planning/transit-programs-and-grants</u>
- CARES Act <a href="https://www.transit.dot.gov/cares-act">https://www.transit.dot.gov/cares-act</a>
- FTA Emergency Relief Program <u>https://www.transit.dot.gov/funding/grant-programs/emergency-relief-program</u>
- Continuing Appropriations Act, 2021 and Other Extensions Act <u>https://www.congress.gov/bill/116th-congress/house-bill/8337/text</u>
- 49 CFR Part 380, Subpart F—Entry-Level Driver Training Requirements on or after February 7, 2020 <u>https://www.ecfr.gov/cgi-bin/text-idx?tpl=/ecfrbrowse/Title49/49cfr380\_main\_02.tpl</u>
- FY2020 Master Agreement for FTA Grants <a href="https://www.transit.dot.gov/funding/grantee-resources/sample-fta-agreements/fta-grant-agreements">https://www.transit.dot.gov/funding/grantee-resources/sample-fta-agreements/fta-grant-agreements</a>
- FTA FY2020 Certifications and Assurances <a href="https://www.transit.dot.gov/funding/grantee-resources/certifications-and-assurances/fiscal-year-2020-annual-list-certifications">https://www.transit.dot.gov/funding/grantee-resources/certifications-and-assurances/fiscal-year-2020-annual-list-certifications</a>
- FTA FY2020 Comprehensive Review Guide <u>https://www.transit.dot.gov/fy20-comprehensive-review-guide</u>
- OMB, Guidance for Grants and Agreements, 2 CFR Parts 25, 170, 183, and 200 <u>https://www.govinfo.gov/content/pkg/FR-2020-08-13/pdf/2020-17468.pdf</u>
- FTA Frequently Asked Questions Regarding Section 7613 of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2020 https://www.transit.dot.gov/funding/procurement/frequently-asked-questions-regarding-section-7613-national-defense
- FTA COVID-19 FAQs https://www.transit.dot.gov/frequently-asked-questions-fta-grantees-regarding-coronavirus-disease-2019-covid-19

### Did We Address?

# What Are Your Top Priorities/Concerns?





### Thank You

#### **National Rural Transit Assistance Program**

nationalrtap.org info@nationalrtap.org Find us on Facebook, Twitter, YouTube, LinkedIn, Instagram 888-589-6821

#### Marcy Jaffe, MBA, MPA Presenter National RTAP Consultant <u>marcy@mjcation.com</u> 360-643-1002

#### Cara Marcus, MSLIS, AHIP

Resource Center Manager <u>cmarcus@nationalrtap.org</u> 781-404-5020





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