



Changes in State Safety Oversight of Rail Transit and other Fixed-Guideway Systems

New Federal Law:

Moving Ahead for Progress in the 21st Century, "MAP-21"



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March 27, 2014





Presentation Overview

- CPUC rail transit safety program – review
- Current Federal Transit Administration (FTA) and CPUC safety roles.
- *Moving Ahead for Progress in the 21st Century*, “MAP-21.”
- State Safety Oversight Agency (SSO) Certification Requirements.
- Next steps.
- Transit Rail Advisory Committee for Safety (TRACS).
- Impacts to CPUC’s Rail Transit Safety oversight program.





CPUC Rail Transit Safety Program

CPUC regulates the safety of 15 active “fixed guideway” transit systems.

- Seven larger systems:
 - Systems receive funds from the Federal Transit Administration (FTA).
 - Governed by CPUC regulations.
 - Governed by FTA State Safety Oversight (SSO) regulations.
 - no direct safety regulations.
- Seven smaller systems:
 - Do not receive FTA funding.
 - Governed only by CPUC regulations.





CPUC Rail Transit Safety Program (cont.)

- Larger systems:



Bay Area Rapid Transit District
“BART”



Sacramento Regional Transit District



San Francisco “Muni”



Santa Clara Valley
Transportation Authority





CPUC Rail Transit Safety Program (cont.)



Los Angeles “Metro”



North County Transit District
“Sprinter”



San Diego Trolley





CPUC Rail Transit Safety Program (cont.)

- Smaller systems:

- SFO's "Airtrain,"



- Port of Los Angeles Red Car Line,



- Angel's Flight



- Caruso's Grove Trolley



- Americana at Brand Trolley



- Sacramento Airport "People Mover."



- Getty Museum "People Mover."



- 12 more systems in various phases of design, development, and construction.





Current FTA and CPUC State Safety Oversight of Rail Transit / Fixed Guideway Systems (Pending MAP-21 implementation)

- Limited federal safety regulations.
- Limited FTA involvement in safety oversight.
- No FTA inspection staff.
- FTA SSO program has few specific requirements.
- FTA audits of SSO programs every three years to requirements of 49 CFR Part 659.
- No funding to support SSO development or activities.
- Limited SSO staff training.





Moving Ahead for Progress in the 21st Century (MAP-21)

- Congressional Authority to Continue or Commence Federal Transit Administration (FTA) programs for the next few years.
- Signed into law by President Obama on July 6, 2012, effective October 1, 2012.
- Revises the current Rail Transit and Fixed Guideway State Safety Oversight (SSO) Program.
- Provides up to 80% of the funding for a State's SSO Program.





SSO Agency Certification Requirements

- Assumes SSO responsibilities for rail transit / fixed guideway systems from start of engineering.
- Financially and legally independent from regulated transportation agencies.
- Does not provide any rail transportation services subject to SSO oversight.
- Does not employ any person working for an SSO-regulated fixed guideway system.
- Authority to review, approve, oversee and enforce implementation of rail transit / fixed guideway agency system safety plans .





SSO Agency Certification Requirements (cont.)

- Has investigative and enforcement authority over rail fixed guideway systems.
- Conducts triennial audits of the rail fixed guideway system implementation of agency safety plan.
- Ensures adequately qualified and trained/certified employees to staff the SSO program.
- Provides an annual report on fixed guideway safety to the Governor, FTA and jurisdictional fixed guideway systems.





FTA SSO Agency Certification

- FTA developed specific certification submittal requirements.
- States required to submit certification application documents by September 6, 2013.
- 28 states submitted certification applications.
- Only California and Massachusetts qualified for initial FTA certification under MAP-21 criteria:
 - Resources.
 - Staff qualifications.
 - Enforcement and investigative authority.
 - Requisite financial and legal independence.





FTA SSO Agency Certification

- Immediate Next Steps;
 - Submit or develop necessary submittals for the FTA Grant Program
 - FTA Acceptance for CPUC to be a Grantee.
 - Set up fiscal processes.
 - Receive funds.





FTA's Transit Rail Safety Advisory Committee "TRACS"

- Consists of rail transit agency, state representatives, academics.
- Provides advisory reports to the FTA.
 - Program recommendations.
 - Regulation recommendations.
 - MAP-21 implementation recommendations.
- Consensus-based.
- Meetings only in Washington, D.C., at participants' expense.
 - Some lodging funding for full members.
 - No funding for working group members.





TRACS (cont.)

- Working groups, reports:
 - Safety planning model, safety management system (SMS) principles.
 - Best state oversight (SSO) model.
 - Close Call Non-Punitive Reporting System.
 - Prescription/Over-the-Counter Medication Testing, Notification Procedures.
 - National Public Transportation Safety Plan (NPTSP).
 - Public Transportation Agency Safety Plan (PTASP).





Impacts to CPUC's Rail Transit Safety Oversight Program

- Funding relief to Public Transportation Account.
- Some revisions to CPUC transit oversight Program Standard (procedures).
- Development of an annual report structure and format.
- Expanded opportunities for specific training on transit equipment, operations, and oversight/enforcement.
- Participation in emerging SSO Program Managers organization:
 - Collaboratively work with other state personnel.
 - Represent overall state interests to FTA.
- Time and expense commitment to TRACS involvement.

