



Accessible Transportation Resource Center

NATAN Newsletter

National Accessible Transportation Accelerator Network

January 24, 2024

Hi NATAN Members! This month in accessible transportation:

- The Transportation Research Board is hosting a webinar on accessible transportation during COVID-19,
- The USDOT published data on ADA transition plans and equitable transportation,
- The AARP released their 2024 Community Challenge,
- And, a Johns Hopkins expert unpacks the links between access to transportation and public health.

The National Accessible Transportation Accelerator Network (NATAN) Newsletter is the ATRC's monthly update on accessible transportation around the nation. Keep reading to learn about upcoming events, resources, opportunities, and more.

Events & Trainings

[TRB Webinar: Alternative Services for ADA Paratransit Riders](#)

January 25, 2024 | 1:00PM - 2:30PM Eastern Time

Transit agencies are looking for ways to provide expanded mobility options to their ADA paratransit customers while reducing the overall cost. Alternative services - on-demand services provided by transit agencies as an alternative option - accomplish both objectives. This webinar will include successful examples of alternative services.

[TRB Webinar: Transportation for People with Disabilities and Older Adults in COVID-19](#)

January 30, 2024 | 2:00PM - 3:30PM Eastern Time

Transportation services need to remain available and accessible during emergency situations for all, including persons with disabilities and older adults. Many challenges arose during the COVID-19 pandemic, including impacts to available service capacity, scheduling trip reservations, service eligibility assessment, use of wheelchair lifts, boarding assistance, and wheelchair securement. This webinar will provide actionable strategies for transportation organizations to use in emergency situations to ensure continuity of service for persons with disabilities and older adults.

[National RTAP and NADTC Learn About TACL, The Transportation Technical Assistance Coordination Library](#)

February 8, 2024 | 2:00PM – 3:00PM Eastern Time

TACL, the [Transportation Technical Assistance Coordination Library](#), helps rural and tribal transit agencies access information about public transportation coordination. The session will include a Resource Feature by Jane Mahoney on the National Aging and Disability Transportation Center's (NADTC) [Coordination Committee Toolkit](#).

Featured Resources

USDOT Resources on Transportation Accessibility

- [Frequently Asked Questions on Incorporating Accessibility in Transportation Projects](#) will help grant applicants understand accessibility-related requirements and best practices.
- Check out the data on [ADA Transition Plans](#) to understand legacy inaccessible transportation infrastructure across the nation and opportunities to improve accessibility.
- The [Equitable Transportation Community \(ETC\) Explorer](#) is an interactive web application that uses 2020 census tracts and data to explore the cumulative burden communities experience as a result of underinvestment in transportation in the following five components: Transportation Insecurity, Climate and Disaster Risk Burden, Environmental Burden, Health Vulnerability, and Social Vulnerability.

[NADTC: Resources on Rides for Employment for Older Adults and People with Disabilities](#)

The National Aging and Disability Transportation Center recently released a technical assistance brief on different options for rides for employment depending on the geographic area.

[Best of 2023: Top Veteran Resources of the Year](#)

Browse the Top 10 most popular Veteran resources from VA's 2023 newsletters, including discounts, benefits, jobs, events, and more.

From Our Partners

NCMM's 2024 Mobility Management Forum

This year's event will cover the role of public transit in the delivery of non-emergency medical transportation, including a review of the recently released CMS "Medicaid Transportation Coverage Guide"; mobility management in "wrap around" support services; transportation and substance use disorder treatment; and multiple other promising practices, including a highlight on what's happening in Florida. [Register for the forum now.](#)

National Center for Applied Transit Technology Request for Quotations

N-CATT is excited to present an RFQ in search of vendors to support the Center's tech tool development. [Please see the RFQ for full details on its webpage.](#) Responses are due by 11:59 pm Eastern on February 6th, 2024. Please email carpenter@ctaa.org if you have any questions regarding this RFQ. All questions will be answered on the RFQ's webpage.

Federal Opportunities

National Institute of Justice FY24 Older Adult Research Solicitation

The Department of Justice's [National Institute of Justice released its FY24 Older Adult research solicitation.](#) The deadline for submissions is April 15, 2024. The solicitation seeks applications for the funding of rigorous research and evaluation projects in four topical areas.

2024 AARP Community Challenge Grants

Applications for the [2024 AARP Community Challenge](#) are due March 6. Nonprofits and governmental entities can apply for small grants to fund quick-action projects to enhance livability for people of all ages, including through transportation and mobility improvements.

FCC Announces Disability Advisory Committee Meeting

The Federal Communications Commission (FCC) [Disability Advisory Committee](#) (DAC) is scheduled to meet on Tuesday, January 30, 2024, from 9:00 AM until approximately 12:00 PM ET. The DAC meeting will be held in the Commission Meeting Room at FCC Headquarters, located at 45 L Street, NE, Washington, DC 20554, and livestreamed [on the FCC website](#).

Accessible Transportation News

[May Mobility launches its first driverless service](#)

May Mobility has launched its first driverless service for riders on public roads in Sun City, Ariz. May Mobility's rider-only vehicles, which leverage its proprietary Multi-Policy Decision Making (MPDM) technology, will operate daily during the week without an operator sitting in the driver's seat. *Source: Mass Transit*

[Unreliable Mass Transit and American Public Health](#)

Missed doctor appointments, school tardiness, air pollution—a Johns Hopkins expert unpacks a new CDC report on access to transportation. *Source: Johns Hopkins University*

[Despite Decades of Cries for Help, Chicago Failed to Aid Blind Pedestrians. Now, City Wants Lengthy Timeline to Fix Problem](#)

Fewer than 2% of Chicago's signalized intersections have an accessible pedestrian signal that provides auditory and tactile guidance to blind, low-vision and deafblind pedestrians — despite more than two decades worth of requests and years of internal acknowledgement from city staffers about the need for such accommodations. *Source: WTTW*

[Research shows one public amenity has the power to reduce depression, loneliness in older adults amid epidemic](#)

A study from the United Kingdom suggests that increasing the accessibility and affordability of public transportation may significantly benefit social engagement and mental health among older adults. *Source: Yahoo*

[Feds tout pedestrian, cyclist safety measures in new road design rules](#)

The federal government issued new road design standards Tuesday for the first time in 14 years, and Biden administration officials say the long-delayed manual will make roads safer for walkers, cyclists and even motorists on crowded streets. *Source: Route Fifty*

[MTA plans ADA work at four subway stops](#)

Four Queens subway stations are among 13 that will be getting handicap-accessible upgrades under contracts that were announced on Dec. 20 by the Metropolitan Transportation Authority. *Source: Queens Chronicle*

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