

FTA

FEDERAL TRANSIT ADMINISTRATION

National Online Dialogue for FTA's 5-Year Research Strategic Plan

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Kenneth Blacks**

Office of Research Management, Innovation and Outreach



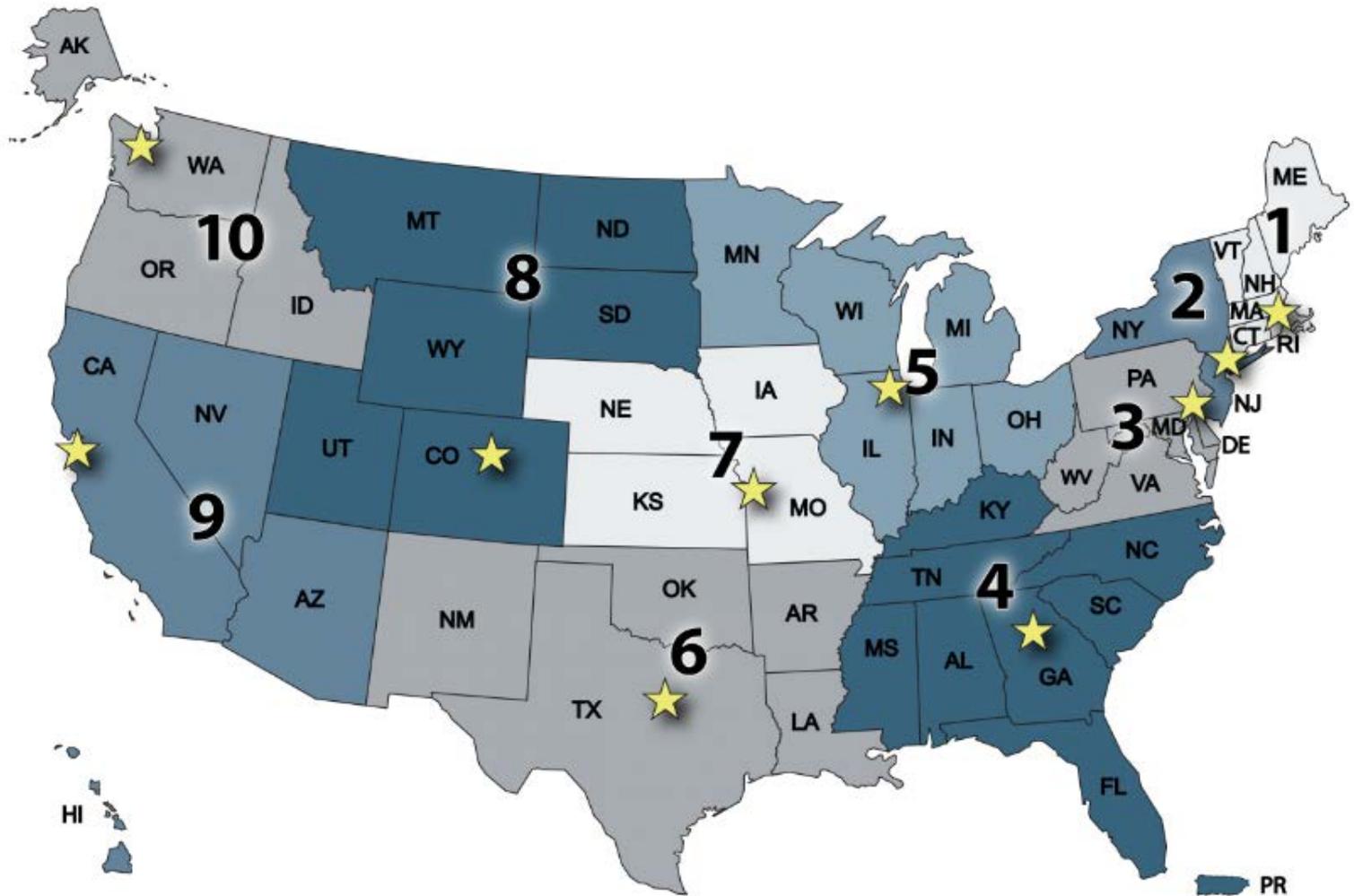
U.S. Department of Transportation
Federal Transit Administration

August 11, 2016

Webinar Agenda

- Introductions of Federal Transit Administration (FTA) & FTA's Office of Research
- What is the FTA's 5-Year Research Strategic Plan?
- Why is input important, how are we gathering it, and how will we use it?
- What is the National Research Online Dialogue?
- How do you participate in the Online Dialogue?
- Q&A
- Contacts

Regional Offices



Federal Transit Administration (FTA) Mission & Vision

- FTA's mission is to improve public transportation for America's communities.
- FTA's vision is to ensure that the U.S. has a world-class public transportation system that provides access and mobility for all.



USDOT Goals

- Safety
- State of Good Repair
- Quality of Life in Communities
- Economic Competitiveness
- Environmental Sustainability



FAST Act Goals

- Improve mobility of people and goods
- Reduce congestion
- Promote Safety
- Improve infrastructure durability
- Preserve the environment
- Preserve entire transportation system

FTA's Office of Research, Demonstration, & Innovation (TRI)

- Associate Administrator, Vince Valdes
- Deputy Administrator, Jamie Pfister
- Three Offices & Directors
 - Research Management, Innovation & Outreach (Mary Leary, PhD)
 - Mobility Innovation (Gwo-Wei Torng, PhD)
 - Infrastructure & Asset Innovation (Mike Baltes)
- Develops, oversees and manages FTA's Research portfolio to drive public transportation innovation
- Currently three research priorities:
 - Safety
 - Mobility
 - Asset Management & Asset Innovation

FTA's Research Strategic Plan

- Department of Transportation's authorizing legislation – the Fixing America's Surface Transportation Act (FAST Act) states that the strategic plan shall “describe how the plan furthers the primary purpose of the transportation research and development program.”
- Five year plan mirroring the five year FAST Act
- Grounded in public transportation issues and needs
- Sets research priorities and commensurate research investments
- Notes major program goals and desired impacts
- Discusses research to practice implementation strategies

Why is input important and how are we gathering it?

Why do we need input?

- FTA's research is driven by public transportation industry needs
- Public transportation riders and providers know what the issues are and needs are
- Industry is continually evolving
- Many potential stakeholders – public, private, nonprofit, academic

How will we gather input?

- Polled internal FTA research leads
- National Online Dialogue we are holding now and previous public engagement efforts, ex:
 - Beyond Traffic
 - Xpedite
- Transit Research Analysis Committee (TRAC)



FTA TRI Strategic Planning

Strategic Planning Process

- Re-vitalize TRAC
- Leverage 5312 Annual Research Report information
- Utilize information developed through Departmental planning process
- Engage in major outreach and participation
- Finalize by December 2016

FTA TRI Integrated Planning & Evaluation Model

Create and sustain an integrated, seamless process of discovery and information sharing



National Online Dialogue for FTA's 5-Year Research Strategic Plan

- What is the Online Dialogue?
 - Web forum for individuals to provide ideas, comments, and votes on the structure of the 5-year Research Strategic Plan
- Who can participate?
 - Anyone can read it. Register to submit ideas, comment, and vote
- When will it launch?
 - August 1 to September 8
- What has the activity to date been?
 - 54 ideas, 76 comments, and 294 votes

Questions. . .we need your input!

- Key social, demographic, economic, technological trends?
- What specific areas should be the focus of FTA research?
 - mobility, asset management and asset innovation, and safety?
- What major goal should the FTA research program pursue to support transit's mission? FTA's mission?
- What performance measure metrics should FTA use for research?
- How should FTA drive research to practice?
- How should FTA publicize useful research results?

Getting started

Access the Online Dialogue – Step 1

- Go to FTA's website - <https://www.transit.dot.gov/>
- Click on the Dialogue link on the main banner



Access the Online Dialogue – Step 2

- Background page - <https://www.transit.dot.gov/research-innovation/fta-5-year-research-strategic-plan-national-online-dialogue>

The screenshot shows the Federal Transit Administration website. The header includes the DOT logo and navigation links for 'About DOT', 'Our Activities', and 'Areas of Focus'. The main navigation bar features 'About', 'Funding', and 'Regulations & Guidance'. The page title is 'FTA 5-Year Research Strategic Plan National Online Dialogue'. A sidebar on the left lists various categories like 'Research & Reports', 'Technology', and 'Bus Rapid Transit'. The main content area includes a large image of a bus and a person, followed by text explaining the need for new mobility options. A 'Related Links' section on the right provides links to participate in the dialogue, register for a webinar, and view research reports. Contact information for the Office of Research, Demonstration, and Innovation is also provided.

United States Department of Transportation

About DOT | Our Activities | Areas of Focus

Federal Transit Administration

About Funding Regulations & Guidance

Home » Research & Innovation

Research & Innovation

Research & Reports

Technology

Training and Workforce Development

Bus Rapid Transit

International Public Transportation Program

Bus Testing

Related Links

FTA 5-Year Research Strategic Plan National Online Dialogue



Today's mobility options are dramatically shifting, in part due to an aging population, communities becoming more diverse, and more young people postponing getting a license or owning a car.

New tools like smart phones and other advanced technologies are making it easier to schedule and deliver rides. Shared mobility options increasingly complement and expand transportation options, often improving connections to public transportation systems. At the same time, public transportation systems continue to confront enormous investment challenges to achieve maintenance and safety targets and service levels. For the past three years, FTA's [research program](#) has focused on mobility, asset management/asset innovation, and safety.

As FTA drafts its 5-year research strategic plan, we invite you to participate and lend your ideas to inform FTA's research priorities. The research strategic plan will establish a framework to guide how FTA prioritizes and

Related Links

- [Participate in the Online Dialogue on FTA's Research Strategic Plan](#)
- [Register for Webinar on Online Dialogue \(August 11\)](#)
- [FTA's FY15 Research Report](#)
- [FAST Act Factsheet: Research & Innovation Program](#)
- [FTA Research and Innovation Program](#)
- [U.S. DOT Transportation Research and Development Strategic Plan](#)

Contact Us

Office of Research, Demonstration, and Innovation
Federal Transit Administration
1200 New Jersey Avenue, S.E.
Washington, DC 20590
United States

Phone: 202-366-4052

Business Hours:

Access the Online Dialogue – Step 3

- Go to <https://usdot.uservice.com/forums/399969-national-online-dialogue-on-fta-s-5-year-research>

The screenshot shows the website for the National Online Dialogue on FTA's 5-Year Strategic Plan for Research. The header includes the United States Department of Transportation logo and navigation links for 'About', 'How it Works', and 'DOT OpenGov'. The main content area features a title, a welcome message, a list of seven guiding questions, and a 'How Can I Participate?' section. A right-hand sidebar contains a search bar, a 'Give feedback' section with several links, and a 'Knowledge Base' section.

United States
Department of Transportation

About How it Works DOT OpenGov

National Online Dialogue on FTA's 5-Year Strategic Plan for Research
← DOT's Idea Forum

Welcome to our National Dialogue!

Your input will help FTA's research program craft a strategic plan that responds to the needs of stakeholders and the public, advances legislative priorities, and incorporates current trends. For more information on FTA's strategic planning for research, please visit <https://www.transit.dot.gov/research-innovation/fta-research-strategic-plan-national-online-dialogue>.

Questions to Guide Your Ideas

1. What key social, demographic, economic, technological, and/or other trends impact public transportation today and into the future?
2. FTA's current research priorities are mobility, asset management and asset innovation, and safety. Should we maintain these priorities or should they be changed? If they should be changed, please suggest the priority research areas you recommend.
3. What specific areas within mobility, asset management and asset innovation, and safety should be the focus of FTA research?
4. Similarly, what major goal should the FTA research program pursue to support transit's mission?
5. What should FTA's major goals be for research to support FTA's mission? And what performance measure metrics should FTA use to track progress in meeting them?
6. How should FTA drive research to practice and publicize useful research results?
7. Is there anything else you want to share or say regarding FTA's research portfolio and activities?

How Can I Participate?

Participation is simple. Present your own idea, vote on someone else's idea, or simply leave a comment. Our list of

New and returning users may [sign in](#)

National Online Dialogue on FTA's 5-Year Strategic Plan for Research
Post a new idea...
All ideas
My feedback
Should FTA maintain its current research priorities: mobility, asset management and asset innovation, and safety? 8
What key social, demographic, economic, technological, and/or other trends impact public transportation today and into the future? 16

Search

Give feedback
Best Practices Procurement Manual (BPPM) Update Initiative 39
National Online Dialogue on FTA's 5-Year Strategic Plan for Research 53
National Online Dialogue on Transit Worker Assault 30
Permitting Dashboard 1
Private Sector Participation in Public Transportation 43
XPEDITE 57

Knowledge Base

Register for the Online Dialogue

- Click “Sign In” (red box) on the top right corner to post an idea, comment, or vote

United States
Department of Transportation

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How Can I Participate?

Your email address or sign in with

Sign in

National Online Dialogue on FTA's 5-Year Strategic Plan for Research

Post a new idea...

All ideas

My feedback

Should FTA maintain its current research priorities: mobility, asset management and asset innovation, and safety? 4

What key social, demographic, economic, technological, and/or other trends impact public transportation today and into the future? 7

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Give feedback

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XPEDITE 57

Add a new idea to the Online Dialogue

- Search for an idea or start a new idea by typing your idea in the box (green box);
- You may select a category (blue box): Two - key trends or priorities;
- Add a description (red box); and
- Click on “Post Idea” (yellow box).

How should FTA prioritize and invest in research activities over the next several years?

Category (optional) ▾

Describe your idea... (optional)

Your email address or sign in with  

Post idea Cancel

Comment on an idea

- Click on the idea and enter your comment in the comment box (green). Select “Post comment.”

The screenshot shows a web browser window displaying a UserVoice forum page. The main content area features an idea titled "Work with HUD on Affordable Housing" with 16 votes and a "Vote" button. The idea description states: "Affordable Housing should consider both the monthly housing cost and cost of the transportation commute." Below the idea, there is a section for "2 comments" with a "Post comment" button. A green rectangular box highlights the comment input area, which contains a text box with the placeholder "Add a comment..." and a "Post comment" button. To the right of the main content, there is a sidebar with a search bar and a "Give feedback" section listing various topics like "Best Practices Procurement Manual (BPPM) Update Initiative" and "National Online Dialogue on FTA's 5-Year Strategic Plan for Research".

Vote on an idea

- Click “Vote” to vote for an idea.

The screenshot shows a web browser window displaying a forum post on the UserVoice platform. The post title is "Work with HUD on Affordable Housing" and it has 16 votes. A green box highlights the "16 votes" and "Vote" button area. The post content discusses affordable housing costs and transportation commutes. Below the post, there are 2 comments, a "Post comment" button, and a "Flag as inappropriate" link. The right sidebar contains navigation links for "National Online Dialogue on FTA's 5-Year Strategic Plan for Research", "Give feedback", and "Knowledge Base".

16
votes

Vote

Work with HUD on Affordable Housing

affordable Housing should consider both the monthly housing cost and cost of the transportation commute.

[Anonymous](#) shared this idea · August 01, 2016 · [Flag idea as inappropriate...](#)

2 comments

[Tweet](#) [Like 0](#)

Add a comment...

Post comment

[Anonymous](#) commented · August 09, 2016 16:48 · [Flag as inappropriate](#)

YES the FTA should prioritize and invest in research activities over the next several years, but not with it's own staff. Fund private enterprise research in companies that have \$5 million in assets and below!!! Fund small business consortiums, and etc. not Chrysler, GM, Ford, Huges, Siemens and the like!!! Get to the core idea people who are little people in the hinterlands!

Aug. 9, 2016 – Tuesday

The biggest problem in United States ground transportation today is traffic logjam or gridlock. The federal government subsidizes light rail but only if there is a set amount of population density per

National Online Dialogue on FTA's 5-Year Strategic Plan for Research

[Post a new idea...](#)

All ideas

[My feedback](#)

Should FTA maintain its current research priorities: mobility, asset management and asset innovation, and safety? [8](#)

What key social, demographic, economic, technological, and/or other trends impact public transportation today and into the future? [16](#)

Search

Give feedback

[Best Practices Procurement Manual \(BPPM\) Update Initiative](#) [39](#)

[National Online Dialogue on FTA's 5-Year Strategic Plan for Research](#) [53](#)

[National Online Dialogue on Transit Worker Assault](#) [30](#)

[Permitting Dashboard](#) [1](#)

[Private Sector Participation in Public Transportation](#) [43](#)

[XPEDITE](#) [57](#)

Knowledge Base

[About this dialogue](#) [1](#)

[Using our UserVoice forums](#) [6](#)

[All articles](#)

Helpful Hints for Effective Participation

Please:

- Search to see if someone has posted a similar idea before you post.
- Demonstrate professionalism and courtesy in your message.
- Reference precedents, case studies, or transferable models, if possible.
- Check back and follow up on later comments.
- Do not cut and paste generic or spammy comments.

Links

- FTA - <https://www.transit.dot.gov/>
- Background on FTA's 5-Year Strategic Plan for Research - <https://www.transit.dot.gov/research-innovation/fta-5-year-research-strategic-plan-national-online-dialogue>
 - FY15 Research Report
 - FAST Act Factsheet on the FTA Research Program
 - FTA Research and Innovation Program
- National Online Dialogue on FTA's 5-Year Strategic Plan for Research Forum - <https://usdot.uservice.com/forums/399969-national-online-dialogue-on-fta-s-5-year-strategic/filters/top>

Questions and Answers

The screenshot displays a webinar interface. The main window shows a presentation slide titled "National Online Dialogue for FTA's 5-Year Research Strategic Plan" by Mary Leary, Phd, Faith Hall, and Kenneth Blacks, dated August 11, 2016. The slide features the FTA logo and the text "FEDERAL TRANSIT ADMINISTRATION".

On the left side, there is a sidebar with several sections:

- Note:** Contains a welcome message: "Welcome to FTA's webinar on the National Online Dialogue for our 5-year Research".
- Web Links:** Lists "FTA main page", "Background on FTA's 5-Year Research Strategic Plan", and "National Online Dialogue".
- File Share:** Shows a file named "FTAResearch 2 MB" with a "Download File(s)" button.
- Q & A:** A section for questions and answers, currently empty.

At the bottom of the interface, there is a "Caption IT - Caption Pod" window with a "Transcript" tab and a "Connection" indicator. Below this is a text input field with the placeholder text "Type ?s here!".

FTA Research Office Contacts

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