

Community Transportation Association of America



What's Happening in DC and What You Can Do
Minnesota/Wisconsin Transit Conference
Oct. 8, 2025

Fall 25 DC UPDATE

IIJA REAUTHORIZATION UNDERWAY

T&I Bill?, Senate Engaging, Administration proposal being developed

FTA REORGANIZATION

New leadership, significant staff reductions, capacity concerns, Bus NOFA decisions

FY26 APPROPRIATIONS

CR likely, Growth in Formula Programs



IIJA REAUTHORIZATION UNDERWAY

HTF Reality Check

Key factor: When
does the HTF run out
of money?

House T&I

Wants to finalize a
bill in 2025. Hearings
being held.
Determined
leadership.

IIJA Expires
Sept. 30, 2026

Right in the middle of
the mid-term
elections

Senate Banking

Progress underway
in EPW, with Banking
starting to engage.

Administration Proposal

The Administration's
proposal is being
finalized.

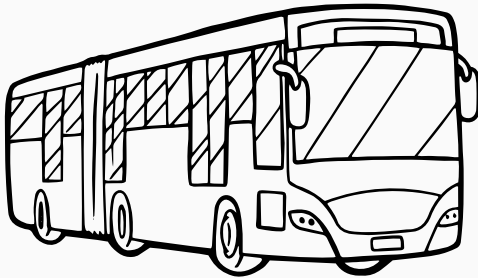
Continued
Federal
Investment
in Public
Transit

A Consistent
Federal
Share for
Operating
Investment

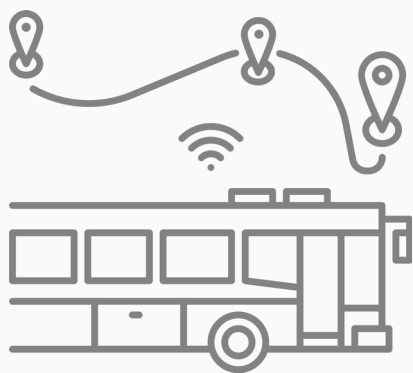
Regulatory
Reform for
Smaller
Transit
Agencies

Increasing
the Small
Transit
Intensive
Cities
Program
(STIC)

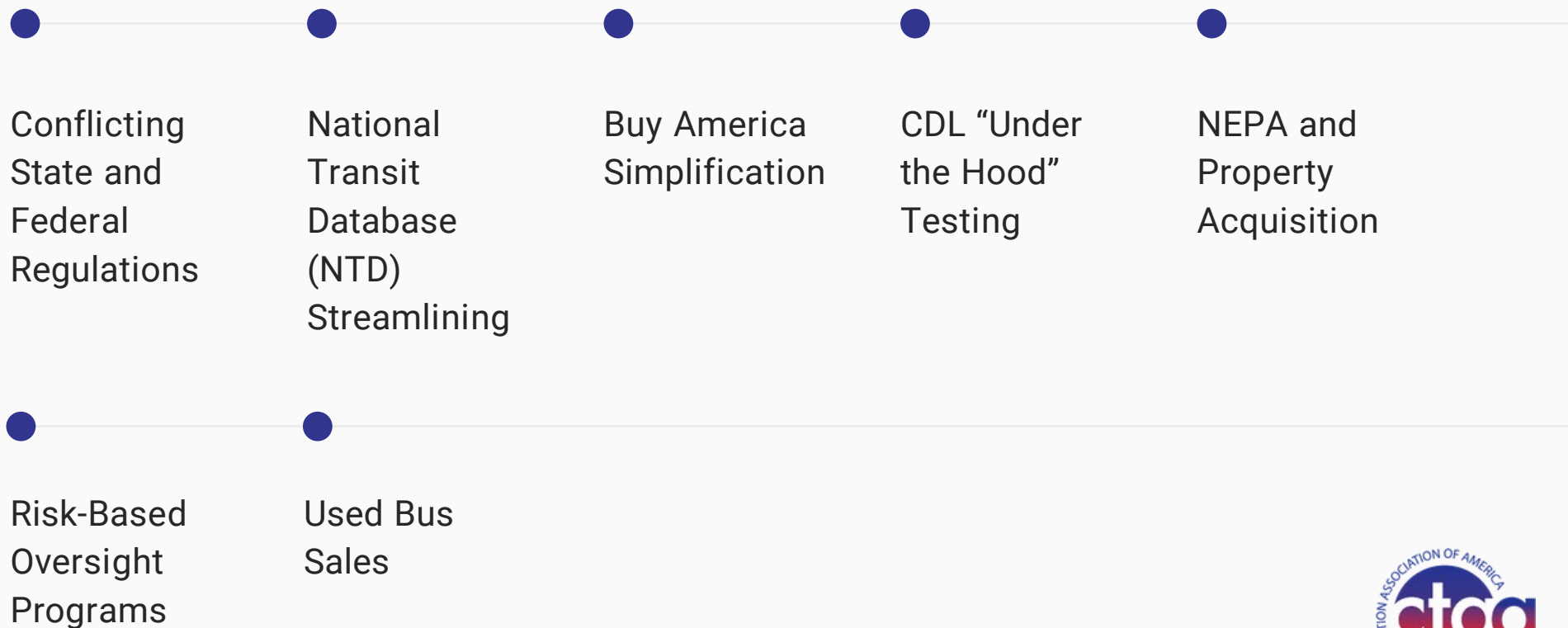
Increase
Formula
Funds for
Rural and
Statewide
Bus and Bus
Facilities
Investment



CTAA's Reauthorization Priorities



CTAA's Regulatory Reform Targets



FTA Changes

Staff Reductions

From 780 to 500, with a lot of familiar names leaving. Re-organization underway. Core capacity concerns.

Molinaro Takes the Helm

Former Congressman Marcus Molinaro (R-NY) was named FTA Administrator in August. Focus on outcomes, accessibility and innovation.



Appropriations & Budget Reconciliation

FY 2025

Finalized in March
with slight increases
to transit; follows
IIJA

President's Budget

Lightly targets
transportation
programs; few
details

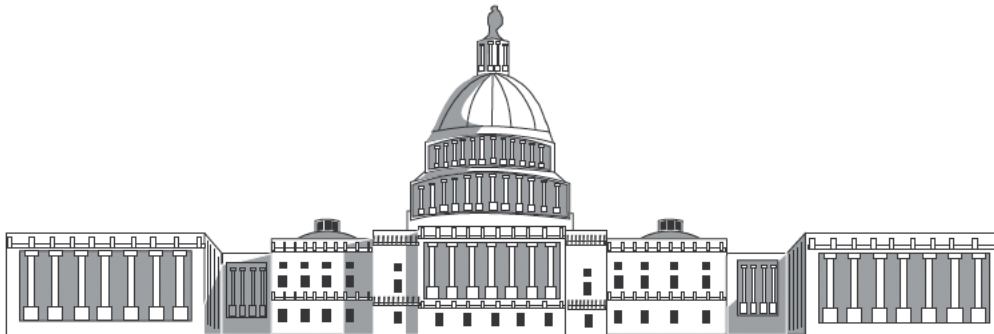
FY 2026

Transit and the Big
Beautiful Bill,
potential
appropriations
delays

IIJA
Reauthorization

Senate
Banking
Committee
Rural Transit
Bill

House and
Senate
stand-alone
bills with bi-
partisan
support
increasing
STIC set
aside



CTAA's Key Congressional Efforts

Key Transition Issues

Discretionary Grants & Rescissions

Some discretionary grants are still "under review"

Master Agreements

Sanctuary states and Executive Orders

Bus Capital

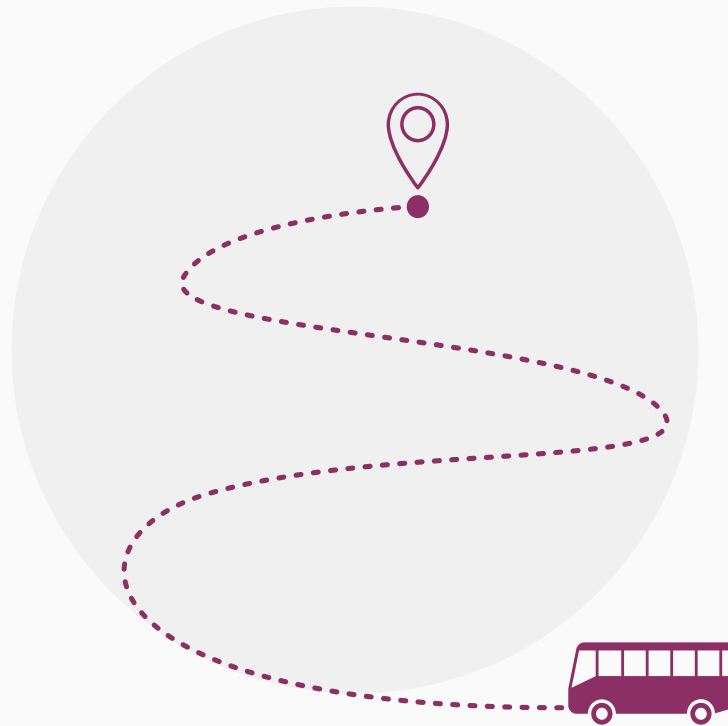
Bus NOFA, new priorities, continued support, no-low survives

Formula vs. Competitive

What type of funding do you prefer?

The Fiscal Cliff

Impacts all transit systems, not just the largest UZAs



What Can You Do?

PROVIDE YOUR SERVICE

Safely and
efficiently

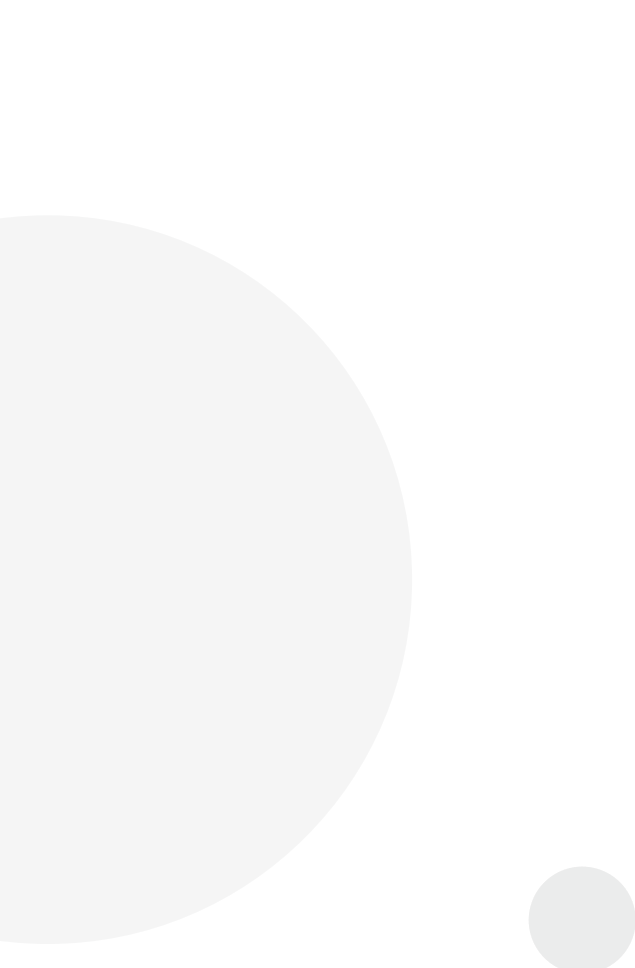
TELL YOUR STORY

Focus on your
value and
outcomes

STAY INFORMED

Keep up to date
and engaged.

Provide Your Service



Know Your
Customers and
Community

Innovate and
Adapt

Focus on
Outcomes and
Performance

Getting Back to
Pre-COVID is
NOT the Goal

Build Private
Sector
Partnerships

Telling Your Story

TARGET: LOCAL, STATE & FEDERAL ELECTEDS

Talk to everyone; tailor your message; build effective relationships; practice listening

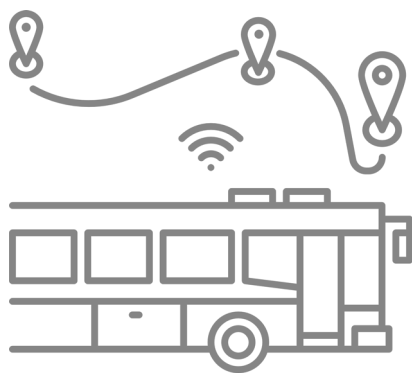
THE VALUE OF NON-RIDERS

Support from the parts of the community that do not ride is essential to success

DATA-DRIVEN STORY TELLING

Know your numbers inside and out (ridership, safety, mapping, etc) and use them to paint a picture





Common Elements in Successful Transit Systems

- Woven into community fabric
- Leadership with a long(er) range vision
- Managing bus and driver challenges
- Changing, adapting, evolving, dynamic
- Effective relationships with local leaders
- Staff has technical capacity
- Productive and engaged board

Upcoming CTAA Events

CTAA EXPO
Omaha, NE
May 10-13, 2026

CTAA Hill Day
Washington, DC
March 4-6, 2026

CTAA Leadership
Academy
Washington, DC
March 1-6, 2026



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