

# FTA

FEDERAL TRANSIT ADMINISTRATION

## **FTA Views on WMATA Safety and Financial Management Issues**

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U.S. Department of Transportation  
Federal Transit Administration

# Introduction

- WMATA safety and financial health is critical to passengers, employees and the entire national capital region.
- FTA oversight is intended to help chart a path for a stronger, safer and more accountable WMATA.

## Key Findings of FTA Safety Inspection Report

- WMATA is not complying with its own safety program.
- WMATA employees are not receiving adequate or timely safety training and certification.
- WMATA must balance safety-critical track work with demand for passenger service.

## FTA Approval of WMATA Corrective Action Plan

- FTA considers the WMATA response submitted on July 13 as preliminary and not final. Mid-September deadline for final plan.
- FTA must approve all 91 elements of the WMATA corrective action plan. None are approved to date.
- WMATA must demonstrate how a corrective action directly addresses its associated safety finding.
- WMATA corrective action plan must be prioritized by risk.
- Identify resources to implement corrective actions via current budget, reallocation of budget line items or new revenue.

## Tri-State Oversight Committee (TOC)

- TOC must improve its safety oversight of Metrorail service.
- U.S. Secretary of Transportation met with Governors of Virginia and Maryland and Mayor of Washington, D.C.
- TOC must comply with stronger safety provisions of current federal law and accelerate transition to Metro Safety Commission.

## FTA Financial Management Oversight

- WMATA has adequately responded to 35 of 38 findings. Last 3 items were submitted by WMATA on June 30 and are now under review.
- Restricted drawdown will continue until all findings are resolved, including verification by FTA.
- Controlling issue is inability of WMATA's financial management system to produce necessary documentation for reimbursement.
- Since restricted drawdown has been in effect, FTA has reimbursed \$374 million of \$384 million requested by WMATA.