

**Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority  
Board Action/Information Summary**

<div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-around;"><span>Action</span><input checked="" type="radio"/></div> <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-around;"><input type="radio"/> Information</div>	MEAD Number:	Resolution: <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-around;"><span>Yes</span><input checked="" type="radio"/></div> <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-around;"><span>No</span><input type="radio"/></div>
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**TITLE**

Update on Roadway Worker Protection

**PRESENTATION SUMMARY**

The Department of Safety & Environmental Management (SAFE) will brief the Board on the Roadway Worker Protection (RWP) training and enhanced protection to prevent employee injuries.

**PURPOSE**

The Board Safety Committee will receive an update on RWP training, steps implemented to ensure continued compliance and actions being implemented to further protect our employees as recommended by the NTSB. Further, the committee presentation provides transparency to our stakeholders, employees and public in the Washington metropolitan area community.

**DESCRIPTION**

WMATA continues to work and is committed to identifying and mitigating hazards that pose a safety issue to our employees and customers. A comprehensive RWP program is part of the safety defenses to keep employees from harm while working in the roadway.

**Key Highlights:**

- Currently all employees are compliant with their RWP certifications prior to the September 2016 deadline.
- RWP procedures were revised to ensure employees remain in compliance.
- Management is exploring enhanced technology as another layer of defensive as recommended by the NTSB.

**Background and History:**

Over five years ago, the Authority redeveloped from the ground up the RWP program inclusive of training and employee certification. One of the findings from the Federal Transit Administration's Safety Management Inspection confirmed employees' lapses in maintaining their certification. Corrective action was established to not only ensure all

required employees were properly certified but processes were developed to confirm the overall integrity of the program. Additionally, the NTSB had recommended enhance protection through the use of technology to add another layer of protection to our track workers.

**Discussion:**

The actions taken to ensure employee safety while working on track right-of-way is another step towards protecting our employees. The revisions to the RWP program as well as amended procedures will close the gaps in the process and ensure employees are trained, qualified and remain qualified. Additional safeguards through use of technology is being explore and tested to mitigate the potential hazards while working on the tracks.

**Funding Impact:**

No additional funding is necessary at this time.

**Timeline:**

Previous Actions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Implemented corrective actions</li><li>• Train and certify required employees</li></ul>
Anticipated actions after presentation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Continue to implement all corrective actions</li><li>• Continue to review advanced technology for roadway worker protection</li><li>• Select and pilot technology</li></ul>

**Recommendation:**

To inform the Board's Safety Committee of the status of RWP compliance program and enhanced protection to ensure worker safety.



**Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority**

# **Update on Roadway Worker Protection (RWP)**

Safety Committee  
July 28, 2016



# RWP Training Update

- As of June 2016, all RWP card holders are compliant, ahead of the September 2016 deadline
- A revised RWP SOP was implemented in July that ensures the priority and compliance of the RWP Program
  - Out of Compliance badges are destroyed
  - Those without badges are NOT permitted on Roadway
  - Testing procedures modified to reflect stricter consequences of failing
- Increased consequences anticipated to reduce the number of noncompliant employees



# RWP Enhanced Protection

## NTSB Recommendation R-08-4

Implement appropriate technology to automatically alert wayside workers of oncoming trains and alert train operators the presence of wayside workers.

## Proposed/Current Actions

- Phase 1
  - Speed restrictions and train horn alerts improve wayside worker protection (in place)



# RWP Enhanced Protection

## Proposed/Planning Actions

- Phase 2
  - Reviewing the use of flashing amber lights / flag to alert train operators of wayside workers
  - Currently assessing available technologies that would meet the NTSB Recommendation
  - Conducted a survey of similar properties that utilize existing advance technologies