



# Accessible Transportation Resource Center

## NATAN Newsletter

National Accessible Transportation Accelerator Network

February 29, 2024

Hi NATAN Members,

February may be short, but it held many exciting trainings and resources:

- Learn about accessible pedestrian infrastructure through two new webinars (*Featured Resources*),
- Explore new grants and opportunities from technical assistance centers (*From Our Partners & Federal Opportunities*),
- And, read about the USDOT's new AI Complete Streets initiative (*News*).

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

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### Upcoming Events & Trainings

#### **FY2024 Bus/Low-No Webinar - Rural/Tribal**

March 5, 2024 | 2:00PM Eastern Time

FTA will discuss the FY 2024 Bus Competitive Program and Low-No Program NOFO, including application requirements and changes from FY 2023. This 90-minute webinar is open to the public and will include a Q&A session focused on rural and tribal applicants. [Register for the Bus/Low-No Webinar here.](#)

#### **Meeting of the President's Committee for People with Intellectual Disabilities**

March 21, 2024 | 12:00-5:00 PM Eastern Time

The [President's Committee for People with Intellectual Disabilities](#) (PCPID) will host a virtual meeting for its members to address issues surrounding home and community-based services (HCBS) to be examined in the Committee's Report to the President. All the PCPID meetings, in any format, are open to the public. This virtual meeting will be conducted in a discussion format with committee members addressing the issues and recommendations identified by PCPID workgroups proposing to be incorporated in the PCPID Report to the President. [Register for the meeting of the President's Committee for People with Intellectual Disabilities here.](#)

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### Featured Resources

#### **[US Access Board Webinar: Designing Accessible Crosswalks](#)**

This webinar reviews the requirements in the Public Rights-of-Way Accessibility Guidelines (PROWAG) for designing accessible crosswalks.

#### **NCMM: [Don't Forget about the Sidewalk! The Role of Mobility Management Professionals and Coordination](#)**

The FTA funded [National Center for Mobility Management](#) (NCMM) and colleagues from projects funded by the National Science Foundation conducted a webinar related to collecting data about the condition of

sidewalks. These data can inform mobility managers, community planners, transit providers, and ADA Coordinators about pedestrian access to community settings, including transit service.

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

Transportation enables older adults and individuals with disabilities to access and sustain paid employment or volunteer work activities. Transportation options can vary considerably depending on the geographic area, this TA brief provides resources and best practices from the transportation industry that can assist in finding what's best for your area.

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

Transit agencies are looking for ways to provide expanded mobility options to their ADA paratransit customers while reducing the overall cost. Alternative services accomplish both objectives. Alternative services are on-demand services provided by transit agencies as an alternative option. TRB hosted a webinar on Thursday, January 25, 2024 from 1:00 PM to 2:30 PM Eastern that included successful examples of alternative services.

### **[NADTC Office Hours: A Conversation on Transportation in Tribal Communities](#)**

On Wednesday, December 20, 2023, at 1:00 – 2:00 PM ET, NADTC hosted an office hours session focused on the importance of access to transportation in tribal communities. The Cherokee Nation Transit, Choctaw Tribe of Mississippi, and Muscogee Nation Transit will join us in a discussion on how their transportation programs serve their tribal and rural communities. Learn about the variety of partners, operations, specialty programs provided.

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## **From Our Partners**

### **NCMM is offering free access to Candid's Foundation Directory**

Access to private funders, such as foundations, can make a difference to communities in funding transportation services. However, with only about 10% of U.S. foundations having websites, how do you find these funders? For a limited time, NCMM is giving up to 50 nonprofit, transportation-related organizations access to [Candid's Foundation Directory](#) at no cost. The Directory provides detailed grant information, including recipients, descriptions, and types of support. If you are interested in applying for NCMM/Candid access, [please fill out this survey](#). Email [kashner@ctaa.org](mailto:kashner@ctaa.org) with any questions.

### **N-CATT State of the Industry Demonstration**

[The National Center for Applied Transit Technology](#) is accepting applications for our first-ever State of the Industry Tech Demonstration, which will take place in Grand Rapids, Minnesota, from July 22nd-25th. We will gather a small group of transit operators to study goMARTI: an automated vehicle (AV) deployment in a small-town setting. The demonstration aims to help agencies already considering AV deployment get a better understanding of how AVs can work in transit systems to see how or if it would work for their community. Applications are due on May 3rd at 5:00 pm. [Please see our website for detail about the application](#) and the draft agenda.

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## **Federal Opportunities**

### **Safe Streets and Roads for All (SS4A) Grant Program is Now Accepting Applications!**

The [Safe Streets and Roads for All \(SS4A\) Grant Program](#) funds regional, local, and Tribal initiatives through grants to prevent roadway deaths and serious injuries. Funds for the fiscal year (FY) 2024 SS4A grant program are to be awarded on a competitive basis to support planning, infrastructural, behavioral, and operational initiatives to prevent death and serious injury on roads and streets involving all roadway users, including

pedestrians; bicyclists; public transportation, personal conveyance, and micro-mobility users; motorists; and commercial vehicle operators.

## **USAgging Announces Opening of Applications for Grants to Support Community Care Hubs**

USAgging's [Center of Excellence to Align Health and Social Care](#) (COE) is now accepting applications for grants to support innovation and infrastructure costs for up to 20 community care hubs (CCHs). The grants are intended to bolster CCH partnerships with health care organizations for coordinated access to and delivery of social care programs and services. They are part of the COE's effort to develop, expand, and support sustainable, high-functioning aging and disability CCHs and their networks of social care programs and service providers.

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## **Accessible Transportation News**

### **2024 Final Rule to Update Older Americans Act Regulations**

On February 6, 2024, the Administration for Community Living (ACL) released a final rule to update the regulations for implementing its Older Americans Act (OAA) programs. The new regulations will take effect on March 15, 2024, but regulated entities have until October 1, 2025 to comply.

*Source: Administration for Community Living (ACL)*

### **The Paratransit Evolution is Here, But Where is it Headed?**

Paratransit is starting to evolve at a faster pace than it did 30 years ago, as agencies are starting to offer more services to seniors and people with disabilities.

*Source: Metro Magazine*

### **Transportation launches \$15M AI effort to improve US street infrastructure**

The program marries existing agency priorities with emerging technologies, and asks small businesses to drive innovation in infrastructure data visualization.

*Source: Nextgov/FCW*

### **Study on travel experience reveals flaws in transportation accessibility**

City of Madison makes steps toward promoting equitable access to safe transportation.

*Source: The Badger Herald*

### **Collins, bipartisan group introduce bill to help veterans in rural areas access VA health care**

WASHINGTON, D.C. — U.S. Sens. Susan Collins, R-Maine, Jon Ossoff, D-Georgia, and John Thune, R-South Dakota introduced the Rural Veterans Transportation to Care Act, a bipartisan bill that would help veterans living in rural areas get transportation to VA and VA-authorized healthcare facilities to access the benefits they've earned through their service.

*Source: The Piscataquis Observer*

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