



# Accessible Transportation Resource Center

## NATAN Newsletter

National Accessible Transportation Accelerator Network

November 30, 2023

Hello NATAN! This month's newsletter features a resource on making transit websites accessible, the announcement of FTA's ICAM grants for FY2023, and a hidden camera documentary on air, train, and auto travel accessibility. The National Accessible Transportation Accelerator Network (NATAN) Newsletter is the 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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### Events & Training

#### **Innovative Coordinated Access and Mobility Webinar**

Thursday, December 14, 2023 | 3:00PM Eastern Time

Join FTA at a webinar on Thursday, December 14 to learn about the current Innovative Coordinated Access and Mobility funding opportunity. The program supports partnerships between health, transportation, and other service providers to improve transportation access for underserved communities. [Join the webinar here.](#) Potential applicants to the Fiscal Year 2023 [Innovative Coordinated Access and Mobility Grants](#) are welcome to attend the webinar. FTA staff will discuss funding amounts, eligibility requirements, the application process, and the evaluation criteria during the webinar. Registration is not required for the webinar. Applications are due February 13, 2024.

#### **Making Videos Accessible Webinar from the AT3 Center**

Thursday, January 18, 2024 | 3:00PM Eastern Time

Using video content is now essential for disability service organizations. Join Lyssa Prince of Oklahoma ABLE Tech to learn about making your videos accessible to all audiences. Contact: [Marty.Exline@ataporg.org](mailto:Marty.Exline@ataporg.org). [Register for the AT3 Webinar here.](#)

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### Featured Resources

#### **N-CATT and ATRC: Helping Users Navigate Your Agency's Website**

Transit Agencies use their websites to present service information to users, but what seems easy for some to understand might be difficult for others to follow. These Best Practices, along with community feedback and expert consultancy, can help improve navigation and usability on your website. [View the best practices for information navigability here!](#)

#### **Steering Towards Inclusion: Lessons Learned on Steering Committees for Inclusive Transit Planning**

Interested in inclusive planning? This brief from Transit Planning 4 All explores inclusive strategies and lessons learned for developing steering committees that increase trust, strengthen communication, and ultimately, improve coordinated transportation services for older adults and people with disabilities. [Download the brief on Steering Committees here!](#)

## Microtransit Accessibility

This technical assistance brief from the NADTC provides resources for accessibility on microtransit services. Microtransit is a form of shared-ride on-demand transport that extends the reach of transit systems or in some cases, replaces fixed routes. [Download the brief on microtransit accessibility here!](#)

## December 4<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> is Older Driver Safety Awareness Week!

Check out the resources below.

- NHTSA Traffic Safety Marketing Older Drivers Page at [Older Driver Safety | Traffic Safety Marketing](#).
- Clearinghouse for Older Road User Safety (ChORUS) at [www.roadsafeseniors.org](http://www.roadsafeseniors.org) and connect with ChORUS on social media @roadsafeseniors.
- AOTA: Find ways to connect with AOTA to educate, empower, and enable older drivers and their families to plan for their safe transportation at [Older Driver Safety Awareness Week \(#ODSAW\) | AOTA](#)

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## From Our Partners

### National Survey of Transportation Providers

The National Aging and Disability Transportation Center (NADTC) has launched a National Survey of Transportation Providers. The survey is intended to assist NADTC in targeting our information and technical assistance activities to the needs and challenges identified by providers and is directed to three types of providers: 1) Providers of transportation rides; 2) Providers that connect riders to direct transportation rides (e.g., Mobility Managers, Transportation Information and Referral Providers, Travel Trainers); and 3) Organizations that contract with direct transportation providers. We ask that you also share the survey link with providers in your community, including transportation providers who contract with your agency. If you have any questions, please contact us at [info@nadtc.org](mailto:info@nadtc.org). [Complete the Survey Here!](#)

### NCATT: Technical Assistance Applications Now Open

The National Center for Applied Transit Technology (N-CATT) is now accepting applications for transit agencies to receive one-on-one technical assistance through the Center's [Strategic Technology Technical Assistance Teams \(STTATS\)](#). N-CATT will work with transportation providers to navigate a technology challenge or opportunity that results in a useful starting product for the agency, such as an implementation plan or ready-to-go technology solicitation. We will review and accept applications on a rolling basis based on our capacity, so please apply when you're able! Please submit your application in one document in PDF format to [carpenter@ctaa.org](mailto:carpenter@ctaa.org).

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## Federal Opportunities

### USDOT Request for Information

To promote equity in public transportation, the U.S. Department of Transportation has published a [Request for Information](#) (RFI) in the Federal Register to seek public comment on ways to improve the accessibility of public transportation facilities for people with disabilities. The Department strives to provide equitable access so that people with disabilities are able to use and navigate public transit with the same ease, reliability, and independence as any other user. Input from transit riders, adaptive technology professionals, and the transit industry is critically important in informing USDOT as it contemplates potential enhancements to the [ADA standards](#). Please visit the [RFI link](#) to provide feedback by January 5, 2024.

## **Innovative Coordinated Access and Mobility Grants**

[FTA announced the availability of \\$4.7 million](#) in Fiscal Year 2023 competitive grant funding for projects that improve access to vital services for older adults and people with disabilities, and in low-income communities. FTA's [Innovative Coordinated Access and Mobility \(ICAM\) Grants](#), supports public transportation projects that improve state and regional coordination and will help advance the goals of the President's Executive Order on Advancing Racial Equity and Support for Underserved Communities Through the Federal Government. Applications for funding will be evaluated based on criteria outlined in the Notice of Funding Opportunity in the [Federal Register](#) including how the project will enhance access and mobility to vital community services for older adults, people with disabilities, and people of low income. An additional \$4.8 million is authorized for Fiscal Year 2024 and FTA may award additional funding that is made available to the program prior to the announcement of project selections. Applications are due by 11:59 p.m. ET Tuesday, February 13, 2024.

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## **Accessible Transportation News**

### **A Welcome Move: HHS Proposes Updates to The Rehabilitation Act**

The Rehabilitation Act, largely through section 504, provides protection from discrimination for people with disabilities when federal dollars are involved. The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) recently announced a proposed rule and policy changes to the Act. [Read more about the proposed rule change here.](#)

### **Access Denied**

A video by CBC News in Canada documents challenges for people with disabilities travelling by air, train, and car. [Watch the documentary on CBC News.](#)

### **The Critical Role of Mass Transit in Disability Employment**

New York City's cosmopolitan greatness evolved largely because of its vibrant transportation network of subways and surface bus lines, along with railroads to Long Island, Westchester, Connecticut and New Jersey. And let's not forget about Amtrak, connecting us to the rest of the nation. Just as vital to the city's advancement has been the enhancement of access to public transportation for everyone. [Read more on Long Island Business News.](#)

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