



A Tale of Three Websites National RTAP, Resource Share and TACL

Transportation Librarian's Roundtable
July 8, 2021



U.S. Department of Transportation
Federal Transit Administration

Presenter



Cara Marcus, MSLIS
Resource Center Manager
National Rural Transit Assistance Program (National RTAP)


“It was the best of times, it was the worst of times,” Charles Dickens, A Tale of Two Cities

“Whether it’s the best of times or the worst of times, it’s the only time we’ve got,” Art Buchwald

“It’s always the best time to go to the library,” Cara Marcus

National Rural Transit Assistance Program




- Technical assistance center funded by FTA through the Section 5311 Program
- Provides free training materials and technical assistance to rural and tribal transit providers and State RTAP programs
- Review Board – State DOT and rural and tribal transit agency staff
- National RTAP offices are in MA and DC



Welcome to
National RTAP
Rural Transit Assistance Program

Creating rural and tribal transit solutions through technical assistance, collaboration and free training and transit industry materials

What can National RTAP do for you?

		
Training & Technical Assistance	Resource Center	Peer Networking
Utilize our free training materials, eLearning courses, webinars, and other technical assistance products.	Tap into our comprehensive collection of resources on rural and tribal transit and get answers to your questions.	Connect with your peers through our online forums, roundtables and chats, and conferences.

Learn more at nationalrtap.org

National RTAP Resource Library

National RTAP was established on July 1, 1987. One of the most important first year goals was “Starting a National RTAP Resource Center,” which would open that year.



The National RTAP Resource Center of Today

Urban Mass Transportation Administration

Rural Transit Assistance Program

BULLETIN

September, 1987 Volume 7, Issue 1

DelliBovi Excited About New RTAP Program

Tells Community Transportation Expo UMTA Has Acted Quickly With Implementation

Speaking to a crowd of over seven hundred attendees at the Community Transportation Expo '87 held in Indianapolis on June 19, UMTA Deputy Administrator Alfred A. DelliBovi said that his agency has "moved quickly to get this new program off the ground."

DelliBovi pointed to the fact that since April, when Congress authorized \$5 million a year for five years to establish a Rural Transit Assistance Program, UMTA has:

- sent the 50 Governors a letter introducing the new program and describing how it will operate [in the first year of the program, of the \$5 million total, \$4.25 million is to be allocated to the states, with a minimum amount of \$50,000 per state; the remaining \$750,000 is to go to the establishment of a National Program to support the states' programs];
- drafted and made available to states a circular that provides guidance on how to apply for the state-administered portion of the program; and
- entered into a cooperative agreement with the American Public Works Association (APWA) to develop the National Program through a consortium of organizations headed by APWA and including Rural America, the National Association for Transportation Alternatives (NASTA) and International Support Services (ISS).

DelliBovi announced that he had already received grant applications from several states, "Montana was the first," and expects to fund these in the current grant cycle. By September, he said that "programs could be funded in as many as one-third of the states," with other states following quickly next year.

DelliBovi said that while "each state will decide how it wants to spend the funds," he envisions what will emerge are training courses; circuit riders for on-site training in safety, maintenance and management; peer-to-peer networks; computer bulletin boards; and newsletters. He expects states "to establish mechanisms for involving rural operators" in developing their RTAP statements of work.

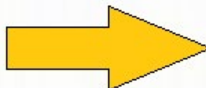
For more information on the RTAP State Program contact Lynn Sahaj, UMTA Program Manager at (202) 366-2053. For more information on the RTAP National Program contact Roger Tale, UMTA Program Manager, at (202) 366-0295.

National Program Officially Starts July 1


The National Program officially began operations July 1. UMTA has established the National Program to be a key mechanism to help the State Program meet the overall objectives of RTAP. The National Program goals are to provide the states a central repository of information, materials and programs relating to rural transportation issues and to assess the needs of states as they provide technical assistance to rural transportation systems. Other goals include developing training programs and peer-to-peer networks to address these needs, and facilitating communication among federal, state, and local officials.

Since it started operations July 1, the National Program's project team has been busy developing a first year work plan. The most important of its first year activities include:

- Developing four training modules in the areas of greatest need.
- Starting a National RTAP Resource Center. Users will be able to call a toll-free number to access the clearing-house beginning in October.
- Identifying model practices in rural public transportation and initiating a peer-to-peer technical assistance network.
- Establishing an advisory board of state officials and rural operators to make recommendations to the National Program.
- Gathering information on state program activities to ensure that the products developed and activities undertaken through the National Program are of use to and supportive of the state programs.




Our Website Through the Years



Federal Transit Administration (FTA)
National Rural Transit Assistance Program (RTAP)

What's New

- FTA is requesting states to identify host sites for drug and alcohol training workshops. FTA has announced that it is changing the way it conducts substance abuse training. During the 2001 State Programs Meeting, Mark Snider said that FTA will hold at least 12 sessions nationwide rather than only holding workshops in major cities. The workshops will cover the new Part 40, Part 655 (653 & 654), and other current issues pertaining to drug & alcohol testing and administration. These workshops will take the place of the traditional workshops held this year in Las Vegas, Orlando, St. Louis, and Pittsburgh. If your state or your state in conjunction with neighboring states would like to host a drug and alcohol training session, contact Mark Snider at FTA by the end of August and let him know that you are interested in hosting a session and identify a location for the meeting. States can decide where to hold the workshop (hotel, conference center, state DOT facility), but the meeting facility should have space for 100 people. The cost of the sessions will be covered by FTA and FTA.



2001



National RTAP

Federal Transit Administration (FTA)
National Rural Transit Assistance Program (RTAP)

What's New:

[National RTAP](#)
[State RTAP](#)
[Web Resources](#)
[New! National RTAP Training Resource Catalog](#) NEW!
[Calendar](#)




New TCRP Publications

The Transit Cooperative Research Program (TCRP) has published several new reports in the past few months. Below is a list of reports of interest to rural agencies and operators with links to the full articles.

[Electronic Business Strategies for Public Transportation: Strategies to Expand & Improve Deployment of ITS in Rural Transit Systems](#)
[Public Transportation Emergency Mobilization & emergency Operations Guide](#)

2005



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Find Information and Resources

The National RTAP Resource Library is a comprehensive collection of rural transit-related materials, including training modules, reports, technical briefs, and articles that you can view, order, or download.

[Visit our Resource Library](#)
[Download our Resource Catalog](#)




2016



eLearning Login Cloud Login

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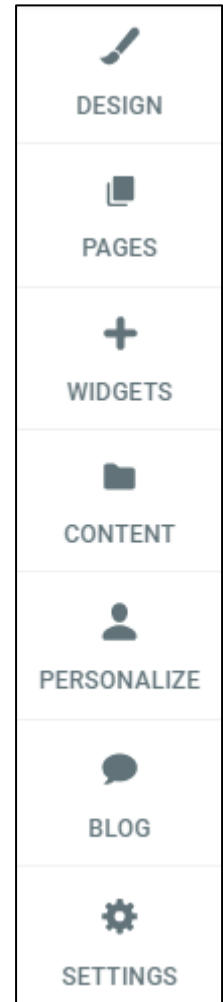
Welcome to
National RTAP

Creating rural and tribal transit solutions through technical assistance, collaboration, and free training

2020

Developing our New Website

- Over 200 Pages
- Migration to new platform
- Streamlining navigation
- Greater interactivity and modernized look-and-feel
- Committee included resource center manager, assistant director, analyst, two graphic designers, and two information systems professionals
- The resource center manager was involved in every step of the process, selecting images, editing content, determining page structure, etc.
- Met online most weeks for 1 ½ years . . . *and it was fun!*



Meet the New Online Library Mega Menu

[HOME](#)

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INFORMATION

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TOOLKITS

[ADA Toolkit](#)

[Bus Roadeo Toolkit](#)

[How to Find Anything Toolkit](#)

[Marketing Toolkit](#)

[State RTAP Manager's Toolkit](#)

[Transit Manager's Toolkit](#)

TECHNOLOGY TOOLS

[Overview](#)

[Cost Allocation Calculator](#)

[GTFS Builder](#)

[ProcurementPRO](#)

[Website Builder](#)

Resource Share

<https://www.nationalrtap.org/Resource-Center/Resource-Library>

Subject

- ▶ Capital Assets
- ▶ Management and Administration
 - Mobility Management
- ▶ National RTAP
- ▶ Planning and Design
- ▶ Programs and Regulations
- ▶ Rider Groups
- ▶ Safety and Security
 - Statistics and Data
- ▶ Transit Operations
- ▶ Transit Personnel

Go

Cancel

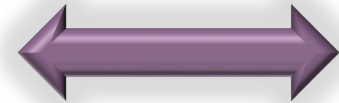
Format

- Data and Survey Results
- Forms
- National RTAP Product Guides
- Pamphlets and Brochures
- Presentations
- Research and Reports
- Technical Briefs
- Toolkits
- Training Modules
- Videos

Go

Cancel

Resource Share is truly meant to share!



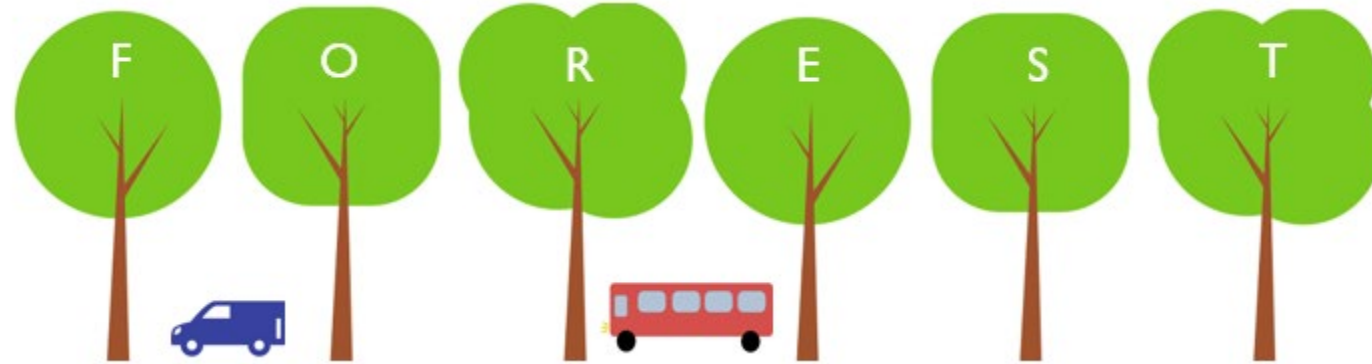
Use the citations and permanent URLs to resources developed by National RTAP in your newsletters, documents, website and social media.

Resource Library Widget

Add the National RTAP Resource Library Widget to your website.

Learn More

Our Collection Development Model



Format (e.g., technical briefs, webinars)

Oldest

Rapidly changing topics (legislation, technology)

Ease to update

Substantial utilization

Training about a National RTAP product that was updated

Resource Catalog

- Clickable resources link to downloadable and orderable resources in the library
- Resources by Roles provides lists of suggested resources for new hires
- Catalog is shipped to all new RTAP Managers

Roles Used in Transit Manager's Survey	Suggestions for Additional Roles
Bus Driver	Heads of Transit Agencies
Bus Operations Manager	Office Staff
Bus Washer/Hostler	Board Members
Customer Service Representative	Drivers/Operators
Dispatcher/Dispatcher Manager	Dispatch Staff
Head of Agency	Maintenance Staff
Maintenance Supervisor	Transit Management
Mechanic	Mobility Managers
Office Manager	State Program/RTAP Managers
Transportation Manager	Board Members
	Volunteers

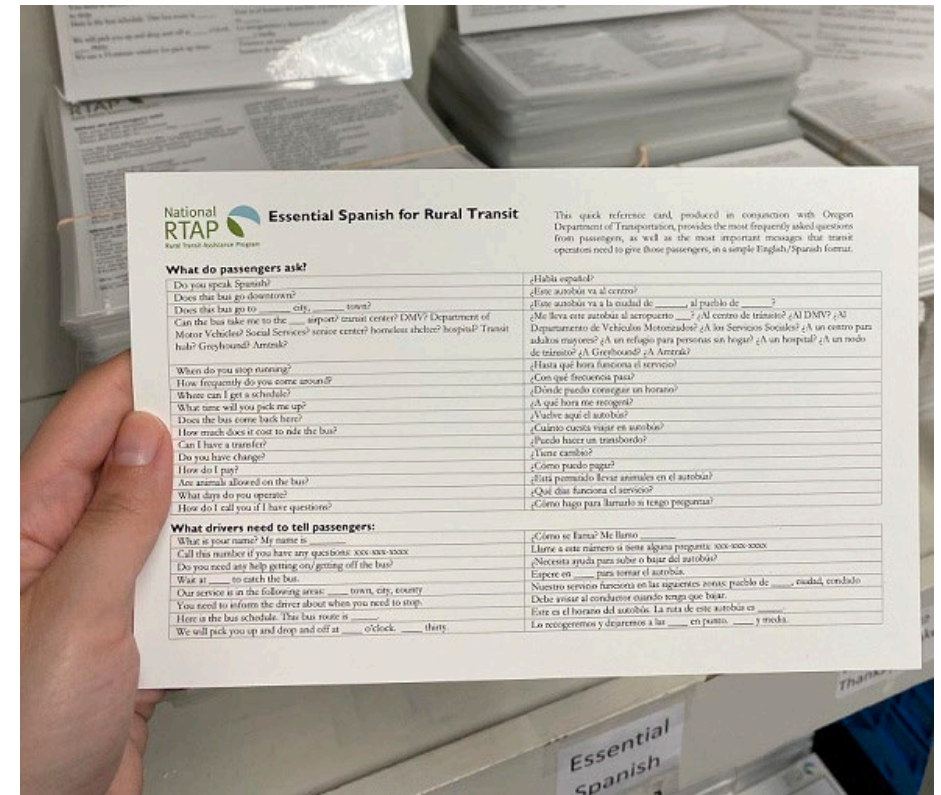
Most National RTAP training modules and all technical briefs are available in PDF format. Many resources are also available in multiple formats – **P: Print D: Disc/Drive E: eLearning**. If viewing this catalog as a PDF, use the mouse to hover over any **bold** resource titles (or the words Instructor, Facilitator, Learner, Resource Guide, or Spanish) and use Ctrl + Click to access the link to that resource. Training modules in print, disc, and thumb drive formats are available for shipment, free of charge, from our online Resource Library or by phone, email or chat.

Content Creation

The National RTAP resource center manager is responsible for research, project management, and production for resources including, but not limited to:

- Training modules (books and discs)
- Online toolkits
- Technical Briefs
- Best Practices Spotlight Articles
- Social Media content

The process often includes developing an RFP for subject matter experts, conducting first person interviews, overseeing multiple reviews, and design.



TACL: The Transportation Technical Assistance Coordination Library



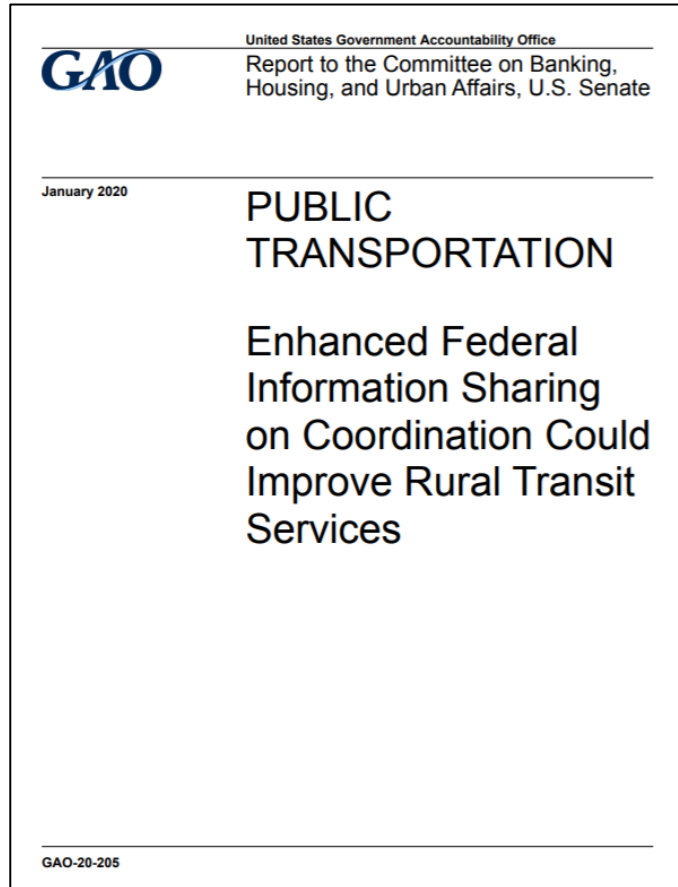
<http://transportation-tacl.org>

The Transportation Technical Assistance Coordination Library (TACL) provides a sustainable methodology and platform to access resources across a diverse range of transportation technical assistance centers and the [Federal Transit Administration \(FTA\)](#).

The FTA-funded technical assistance centers participating in this ongoing work with links to their coordination resources are:

- [National Aging and Disability Transportation Center \(NADTC\)](#)
- [National Center for Applied Transit Technology \(N-CATT\)](#)
- [National Center for Mobility Management \(NCMM\)](#)
- [National Rural Transit Assistance Program \(National RTAP\)](#)
- [Shared-Use Mobility Center \(SUMC\)](#)


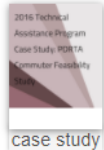
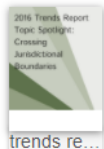



Why was TACL Created?



The Transportation Technical Assistance Coordination Library (TACL) provides a sustainable methodology and platform for access and findability of coordination resources across a diverse range of transportation technical assistance centers and the Federal Transit Administration (FTA).

A task force was convened, led by the National RTAP resource center manager, to meet and develop a technical solution to coordinate resources. We launched TACL in one year.

Browsing TACL


<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▼ Format Case Study (15) Webinar (11) Learning Module (7) Technical Brief (7) Trends Report (6) Toolkit (5) Topic Guide (4) more... ▼ Subject(s) Planning (33) Partnerships (24) Promising Approaches (23) Populations (17) Technologies (16) Funding (11) Geographies (11) more... ▼ Date Since 2020 (21) Since 2019 (39) Since 2015 (61) Since 2010 (63) Before 2010 (2) Custom range... ▼ TA Center SUMC (15) FTA (13) National RTAP (13) 	 <p><input type="checkbox"/> 101 Webinar Series: Connecting Users and Rides for Specialized Transportation.</p> <p>2016 During this webinar from the National RTAP 101 Webinar Series on Connecting Users and Rides for Specialized Transportation, Judy Shanley of the National</p> <p>View item</p>
	 <p><input type="checkbox"/> 2016 Technical Assistance Program Case Study: PDRTA Commuter Feasibility Study</p> <p>2016 The Pee Dee Regional Transportation Authority (PDRTA), in association with National RTAP (NRTAP), set out to identify service plan alternatives that will</p> <p>View item</p>
	 <p><input type="checkbox"/> 2016 Trends Report Topic Spotlight: Crossing Jurisdictional Boundaries</p> <p>2016 The ability to cross jurisdictional boundaries and coordinate transportation services greatly affects mobility for older adults and people with disabilities</p> <p>View item</p>
	 <p><input type="checkbox"/> 2017 Trends Report Topic Spotlight: Seamless Mobility</p> <p>2017 Seamless mobility is made possible by infrastructure that connects without interruption, technology that helps people plan and take trips, and regional</p> <p>View item</p>
	 <p><input type="checkbox"/> 2018 Trends Report Topic Spotlight: Innovative Approaches to Section 5310 Funding M...</p> <p>2018 In this Innovative Section 5310 Funding Match Topic Spotlight, NADTC explores how local funding match is integral to implementing federally funded transit</p> <p>View item</p>
	 <p><input type="checkbox"/> American Indian Transportation: Issues and Successful Models</p>

Searching TACL

GTFS Advanced Search

|

1 results

 **Webinar: GTFS Flex**
2020
This webinar explain what **GTFS** Flex is, and describes its advantages and the
[View item](#)

Advanced Search

Find Resources With:

	Title	Equals	CCAM	x
AND	Date		2020 present	x
AND	Keyword(s)	Like		+

Limit By:

TA Center

Format

Preview Search:
title=CCAM AND date:[2020 TO *]

Questions?



Thank You!

National Rural Transit Assistance Program

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