NASHUA REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION

Nashua Regional Planning Commission
Public Transportation Agency Safety Performance Target

The Public Transportation Agency Safety Plan (PTASP) regulation (49 CFR § 673.11(a)(3)) requires covered public transportation providers and State Departments of Transportation (DOT) to establish safety performance targets (SPTs) to address the safety performance measures (SPMs) identified in the National Public Transportation Safety Plan.

A safety performance target (SPT) is a quantifiable level of performance or condition expressed as a value for the measure related to safety management activities to be achieved within a set time period (§ 673.5). A safety performance measure (SPM) is a quantifiable indicator of performance or condition that is used to establish targets related to safety management activities, and to assess progress toward meeting the established targets (§ 673.5). Transit providers may choose to establish additional targets for the purpose of safety performance monitoring and measurement.

In order to reflect the broad and varied nature of public transportation, FTA's National Public Transportation Safety Plan (NSP) relies on SPMs that: (1) can be applied to all modes of public transportation and (2) are based on data currently submitted to the National Transit Database (NTD). Transit providers and State DOTs report this data following the NTD Safety and Security Policy Manual (PM).

As described in the NSP, transit providers must establish by mode seven SPTs in four categories:

- Fatalities: Total number of fatalities reported to NTD and rate per total vehicle revenue miles (VRM) by mode.
- Injuries: Total number of injuries reported to NTD and rate per total VRM by mode.
- Safety Events: Total number of safety events reported to NTD and rate per total VRM by mode.
- System Reliability: Mean distance between major mechanical failures by mode.

Transit providers must make their SPTs available to their State and Metropolitan Planning Organizations (MPOs) (§ 673.15(a)). Transit providers also must coordinate with States and MPOs in the selection of State and MPO safety performance targets, to the maximum extent practicable (§ 673.15(b)). During this coordination process, to ensure consistency across the transportation modes represented in the state/regional planning process, States and MPOs may request that transit agencies use specific time periods for "total number" SPTs and specific VRM values for "rate" SPTs.

When establishing SPTs for total numbers, transit providers may consider the total number of fatalities, injuries and safety events they expect to experience per year (calendar, fiscal, or NTD reporting year). The annual timeframe may be established to ensure consistency with the state/regional planning process. Likewise, in

setting rates per VRM, transit providers may use total annual VRM, or another number (e.g. 100,000 VRM, 1,000,000 VRM, or 10,000,000 VRM) as needed for consistency with state/regional planning requirements.

FTA has not established, and does not impose, penalties for not meeting safety performance targets set by transit providers.

Nashua Transit System has included annual target totals for fatalities, injuries, safety events and system mechanical failures. NRPC was provided the most recent vehicle revenue mile (VRM) data for fixed-route and demand-reponsive service for 2019 to convert the target totals to rates per 100,000 VRM. The table below presents the safety performance targets recommended for adoption by the Nashua MPO.

Nashua Transit System Safety Performance Target Summary

	Safety Events		**Injuries**		**Fatalities**		**System Reliability**	
		per 100k		per 100k		per 100k		VRM/
Transit Mode	Total	VRM	Total	VRM	Total	VRM	Failures	Failures
Fixed-Route	12	2.55	3	0.64	0	0.0	12	39,186
Demand Response	5	3.53	2	0.43	0	0.0	12	11,817

Fixed-Route VRM	470,233	(2019)
Demand Response VRM	141,804	(2019)

The NRPC Transportation Technical Advisory Committee, at its meeting of November 18, 2020, voted to recommend MPO adoption of the public transportation agency safety performance targets.