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A Note From Your NEPTA President



I am honored and humbled to have been elected as the President of the Northeast Public Transportation Association (NEPTA). I want to express my sincere gratitude to each and every one of you for the trust and confidence you have placed in me. It is a privilege to serve an organization that has been dedicated to advancing public transportation in the Northeast for over a century. I believe that NEPTA has the potential to be a powerful force for good in our region.

The NEPTA Board of Directors recognize that the traditional in-person model for member engagement is no longer sufficient to meet the diverse needs and preferences of our members. We are committed to exploring and implementing a variety of engagement methods, including virtual and hybrid events, online communities, and digital content. Our goal is to make sure that all members, from drivers to executives, have the opportunity to connect, learn, and participate in the association's activities.

This new monthly newsletter that you're reading represents one of the ways we are working to get information and insights out to you our members. Some other ways we're looking forward to meeting transit professionals where they are include:

Enhanced training opportunities with a Transit Training Summit. This summer's summit will offer diverse learning opportunities for professionals in Maintenance, Finance, Safety, and Operations. Be looking for member surveys to be sent out soon to ensure that the content aligns with your needs.

Developing an active social media presence so that we can share valuable content that helps you and your colleagues to address current challenges in your roles. This will include updates to the website and more regular participation on other platforms.

By facilitating online discussions and serving as a conduit. We hope to become a hub for the sharing of information and experience. Our membership includes over 1000 individual transit workers, and these professionals are a vast and deep resource of industry knowledge that when shared will do a lot of good.

Creating flexible opportunities for volunteer participation to foster continued growth and engagement. We acknowledge that traditional volunteering models, requiring extensive time commitments, may no longer be feasible. We welcome participation at all levels, from dropping into a meeting to sharing your experience or knowledge at one of our training sessions. We want you to participate in the ways that fit your busy schedule.

I am truly excited about what the next few years will mean for NEPTA and for passenger transit in the region. The NEPTA Board of Directors has taken steps to ensure that we have a great staff in place to support this growth, and we are working hard to bring about our vision for a more impactful regional association.

Truly Yours,
John Savage, President

Your Elected NEPTA Board

John Savage - President	Mary Ellen Defrias - Transit Provider
Lisa Hanson - Vice President	Sandra Sheehan - Transit Provider
Brian Mullarney - Treasurer	Matthew Pentz - Transit Provider
Martin Burke - Secretary	Ryan Neale - Support Organization
Vicki Shotland - Past President	Sandra Clarey - Business
Kevin Petit - MA- Rep	Jim Gallagher - Business
Doug Holcomb - CT- Rep	David Delforte - Business
Mike Whitten - NH- Rep	David Sturdy - Business
Terrence White - VT- Rep	Andrew Gardner - Business
Rod Carpenter - ME- Rep	Jason Guerrero - Business
Christopher Durand - RI- Rep	DJ Gonzalez - Retired



NEPTA Webinar: January is Human Trafficking Awareness Month



Human Trafficking is a crime against adults and children of any gender or gender identity, race, or nationality. It is a crime involving the exploitation of someone for the purposes of compelled labor or a commercial sex act through the use of force, fraud, or coercion. Where a person younger than 18 is induced to perform a commercial sex act, it is a crime regardless of whether there is any force, fraud, or coercion.

Human trafficking is a modern form of slavery, with nearly 25 million victims worldwide, including in the United States. Traffickers use all modes of transportation to conduct their activities and often use public transit because it is low cost, offers greater anonymity in buying fare cards, and provides less direct interaction with government officials.

Public transportation workers and riders are presented with the best opportunities to identify and report potential incidents of sex and labor trafficking. The challenge is letting them know what it is and how to report.

FREE Webinar for NEPTA Members: January is Human Trafficking Awareness Month. Join advocate Kristen Joyner as she discusses actionable steps for your agency to become more aware.

**Wednesday, January 24, 2025
11:00 am - 12:00 pm EST
Instructor: Kristen Joyner**

[Register for NEPTA's FREE Webinar](#)

[Additional Resources for Transit Agencies](#)

[Additional FTA Resources](#)

NEPTA is Dedicated to Training



Part of NEPTA's mission going forward is to provide you high quality, relevant, and affordable trainings. We need your feedback. Please complete [THIS SURVEY](#).

Are you a NEPTA member? Do you have news stories, job postings, or RFPs to share?

Send to membership@nepta.org. We will distribute them for you.

[NEPTA Training Survey](#)

CTAA Wants to Hear Your Voice as a Transit Provider



Please use [THIS LINK](#) to answer a short survey. It should take 10 minutes or less to complete.

[Complete the Survey](#)

CTAA Hill Day in Washington, DC



CTAA Legislative Fly-In
March 5 - 7, 2025
Washington, DC

Join fellow transit leaders, CTAA staff and Board of Directors on Capitol Hill speaking to policymakers about legislative priorities for community transportation and telling the unique story of your agency/system with representatives from your state and region.

Attendees will be provided with resources and coaching from CTAA but will be responsible for scheduling their own meetings with Congressional staff.

Events surrounding the Legislative Fly-in will all be held at the iconic National Press Club in downtown Washington DC.

[Agenda & Registration](#)

Upcoming National RTAP Webinar - Cost Allocation Tools You Can Use!



Register for a [webinar](#) on National RTAP's Cost Allocation Calculator. January 28, 2025, 2:00 - 3:00 PM ET.

Michael Walk from the Texas Transportation Institute will provide a brief training on the updated Cost Allocation Calculator. Jessie Schmitz from the Ohio DOT will discuss her experience encouraging and training sub-grantees to use the tool.

[Register Here](#)

NEPTA's Executive Director Team

Your NEPTA board hired a management team and we want to hear from you:

- Start by taking this [two-minute survey](#) on training needs.
- Send your agency's news stories, job postings, and RFPs to membership@nepta.org. We will include them in the NEPTA newsletter

Your Management Team:

- **Kristen Joyner** - NEPTA Board Development, Training and Programming, Board Communication, Event Support
- **Laura Calderon** - Financial Manager, Event Planner and Manager, Contracting, Communications Director
- **Elise Manion** - Membership Director, Webinar Master, Communications, Event Support



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