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October 27, 2011. National RTAP is a program of the Federal Transit Administration dedicated to creating rural and Tribal transit solutions through technical assistance, partner collaboration and FREE training materials.

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### **New Deadline for National RTAP Review Board Nominations**

The extended deadline for National RTAP Review Board nominations is November 14. We have several upcoming vacancies on the Review Board. The term of office is for three years beginning in the spring of 2012. National RTAP is soliciting nominations for several state transit officials (5311 or RTAP managers are eligible to be nominated) and several rural or Tribal transit providers. Any group or individuals involved in rural transit are encouraged to nominate a representative to the board. An individual may nominate him/herself for consideration. To apply and for more information about the responsibilities of Review Board members and the selection process, [please click here](#).

### **ESPA is Accepting Applications for the 2012 Accessible Transportation Coalitions Initiative**

Easter Seals Project ACTION (ESPA) will select ten communities through a competitive application process to participate in the Accessible Transportation Coalitions Initiative (ATCI). ATCI is a systems change model designed to improve accessible transportation options for people with disabilities.

Selected communities will receive on-site facilitation and targeted technical assistance during a two-day event to learn the ATCI model and develop an accessible transportation plan. ESPA will continue to provide targeted technical assistance over the subsequent year while communities implement this plan. To determine if ATCI is right for your organization, [click here](#).

### **Register Now for Upcoming NTI Webinars**

The NTD Rural Reporting Webinar will be held on November 3 at 2:00 p.m. Eastern. The webinar will benefit State DOT personnel responsible for completing the Rural NTD report, Tribal Transit grant recipients responsible for reporting to the Rural NTD directly, and FTA Section 5311 subrecipients that need to provide information to their State DOTs for Rural NTD reporting. The webinars will cover the basics of who is required to report to the Rural NTD and when, followed by a detailed line-by-line explanation of the Rural NTD reporting forms. [Click here to register](#).

Register now for the National Transit Institute's (NTI) webinar, Strollers, Carts, and Other Large Items on Buses and Trains, on Thursday, November 17 at 2:00 p.m. Eastern. This webinar will highlight practices implemented by transit agencies to manage the capacity on vehicles carrying customers with large items, including wheelchairs, Segways, scooters and other mobility aids, strollers, bicycles--even skis and dog carriers. To register and learn more about this webinar, [click here](#).

### **FTA Information Sessions and US DOT Webinar Regarding Proposed Title VI and Environmental**

## Justice Circulars

FTA is sponsoring a series of Information Sessions regarding FTA's proposed revisions to the Title VI Circular and proposed Environmental Justice Circular. The meetings will provide a forum for FTA staff to make oral presentations about the two proposed circulars and allow attendees an opportunity to ask clarifying questions. To read the proposed circulars and Federal Register notices, make comments, and find out more about the information sessions and the cities FTA will be visiting, [please click here](#).

There will be a webinar held Friday, October 28 to discuss the topic of environmental justice. [Please click here](#) for the various times and to learn more. To review the US DOT's environmental justice strategies, and to share your insights and experiences, [click here](#).

### **Successful Collaboration Between Aging and Transit: The Experience of Kent County, MI**

This webinar, held Tuesday, November 15 at 2:00 p.m. Eastern is sponsored by the US Administration on Aging and the National Center on Senior Transportation, and will provide information on a successful collaboration between aging and transit that uses person-centered mobility management as a tool to assist older adults identify the right mobility option to meet their needs. Space is limited, so register early. [Click here for more information](#).

### **Save the Date for the National RTAP / FTA / NTTA Training and Technical Assistance Conference & Roadeo 2012!**

The conference and roadeo will take place March 18-21, 2012 at the Radisson Fort McDowell Resort in Scottsdale, Arizona. The conference agenda will be coming soon and will be posted on [www.nationalrtap.org](http://www.nationalrtap.org). Visit the website or call 888-589-6821 for updates.

### **Did you Know? National RTAP's GTFS Builder Can Create Maps and Organize Routes--Free**

GTFS Builder can be accessed through National RTAP in the Cloud, and it gives step-by-step instructions on how a transit system can put its bus route and schedule data into a format that is compliant with the General Transit Feed Specification (GTFS), the format required by Google Transit and other online trip planners. Google Transit provides benefits to both travelers and transit agencies. Travelers can find transit options for their trips and connections to adjacent areas, get step-by-step directions, and even see a comparison of driving and transit cost. To access the GTFS Builder app, please go to [www.nationalrtap.org](http://www.nationalrtap.org) and create a free Cloud account for your organization.

### **Order National RTAP's Customer Driven Service**

*Customer Driven Service* is a training module that focuses on teaching transit staff that interact with customers the importance of customer service, as well as providing them with the tools and training they need to provide excellent customer service regardless of the situation or who the customer may be.

The free, newly revised module contains a Learner's Guide, a Self-paced eLearning Course Disc, an Instructor's Guide, a disc with videos and a trainer's PowerPoint presentation.

Email [info@nationalrtap.org](mailto:info@nationalrtap.org) or call 888-589-6821 to order.

### **Product Spotlight: Boards that Perform**

The *Boards that Perform* module examines ten key roles and responsibilities for board members and how to carry these out in the context of public transit. Additionally, it offers tools for holding effective board meetings, developing committee and advisory group structures, and dividing responsibilities between board, management and staff. The module comes with a resource handbook and an interactive CD. Email [info@nationalrtap.org](mailto:info@nationalrtap.org) or call 888-589-6821 to order.

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