

**Transportation/Aviation Update**

September 12, 2025

NEXT WEEK

As of today, there are no transportation events scheduled in either the House or Senate.

Department of Transportation

FTA: Rail Grade Crossing Safety Webinar. On September 17, FTA will hold a webinar on strategies to improve the safety of drivers and pedestrians near transit tracks and trains. The webinar will provide an overview of available rail grade crossing data and resources. This will be followed by presentations from:

- LA Metro on the use of photo enforcement technology at rail grade crossings;
- Rock Region Metro on the integration of Positive Train Control to reduce incidents at intersections and improve operational safety; and
- Operation Lifesaver, Inc. who will share resources for transit agencies and examples from transit agency grants on rail safety education and outreach strategies.
- Interested parties can [register](#) to attend.

THIS WEEK**House**

Floor Votes: Transportation/Aviation Legislation. On September 8, the full House approved three bills:

- *H.R. 2591, Mental Health in Aviation Act of 2025* - FAA would be required to update regulations to encourage airline pilots and air traffic controllers to disclose and seek treatment for mental health conditions. The bill would authorize \$13.7 million annually from FY 2026-28 to recruit and train aviation medical examiners to clear the Office of Aerospace Medicine's case backlog.
- *H.R. 3055, Transitioning Retiring and New Service Members to Port Ocean Rail and Truck (TRANSPORT) Jobs Act* – DOT would be required to develop a plan to connect veterans and exiting service members with supply chain industry job opportunities.
- *H.R. 3423, Facility for Runway Operations and Safe Transportation (FROST) Act* – FAA would be authorized to allow Airport Improvement Program and Airport Infrastructure Grants

program for the installation of aircraft deicing equipment storage facilities, which is not currently allowed.

Department of Transportation

DOT Intergovernmental Monthly Call. On September 19, DOT held its monthly call, organized by the Secretary's intergovernmental staff. Highlights of the call include:

- **Grant Reviews.** Of the 3200 grants awarded during the Biden Administration without grant agreements, the Trump Administration has completed its review of 2900 of those grants.
- **Status of NOFOs.**
 - A NOFO for the next round of BUILD grants should be released by end of November. They expect it to be for \$1 billion.
 - Safe Streets for All. DOT expects grant announcements by end of year.
 - The FAA NOFO or the Airport Terminal Program is under review and expected by end of the year.
 - FRA. Without elaborating, he said DOT expects to issue a large rail NOFO this fall, which will also include a schedule for future rail NOFOs.
 - FTA is currently reviewing Low-No and Bus and Bus Facility grant applications. Nothing else was mentioned.
 - Marad's PIDP NOFO just closed, and grant applications are under review. The FY 2026 NOFO is expected after the first of year.

FAA: Advanced Air Mobility Vehicles. On September 12, FAA announced a new pilot program to accelerate the deployment of advanced air mobility (AAM) vehicles. The pilot program, known as the Electric Vertical Takeoff and Landing Integration Pilot Program (eIPP), will form public-private partnerships with State and local government entities and private sector companies to develop new frameworks and regulations for enabling safe operations. Envisioned eIPP operations include piloted and unmanned approaches to:

- Short-range air taxis
- Longer-range, fixed wing flights
- Cargo
- Logistics/supply serving emergency management, medical transport or offshore energy facilities
- Increasing automation safety

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