



## 2023 TPTA Conference & Expo Agenda

### Tuesday, September 19<sup>th</sup>

**12:00 p.m. – 6:00 p.m.**

**Registration & Information**

Sheraton Memphis Downtown – St. Louis Room

**1:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.**

**Bus and Van Mechanic Training Session and Maintenance Rodeo Orientation**

Sheraton Memphis Downtown – Heritage III

This combined training session for bus and van mechanics will include Gillig multiplex, Thermo-King and Ford. NOTE: The Maintenance Rodeo Competitors' Orientation Briefing will occur during this training event.

**3:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.**

**TDOT News & Updates**

Sheraton Memphis Downtown – Heritage I

Speakers

Dan Pallme, Interim Director

TDOT Multimodal Transportation Division

Kaitlyn McClanahan, Transit Manager

TDOT Office of Public Transportation

Brian Higdon, Transit Oversight Manager

TDOT Office of Public Transportation

**3:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.**

**Operations Session: Opioid Overdose Reversal Training**

Sheraton Memphis Downtown – Heritage II

This session will provide education and training on the opioid overdose epidemic and how to respond to overdoses including the use of Naloxone. All participants will receive a certificate of completion as well as the opportunity to learn how to access the life-saving medication Naloxone.

Speaker

David Fuller, Regional Overdose Prevention Specialist

Memphis Area Prevention Coalition

**4:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.**

**TPTA Board of Directors Meeting**

Sheraton Memphis Downtown – Memphis Room

**6:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.**

**Opening Reception**

The Arcade Restaurant

**8:00 p.m. – 10:00 p.m.**                      **Maintenance Alliance “Road Call”**  
Alfred’s on Beale

Come join the Maintenance Alliance and our vendor friends for a social networking event in an informal, relaxed setting that includes food and drinks. All TPTA Conference attendees are welcome. Shuttles will depart from the Sheraton beginning at 7:30pm.

**Wednesday, September 20<sup>th</sup>**

**7:30 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.**                      **Registration & Information**  
Sheraton Memphis Downtown – St. Louis Room

**8:00 a.m. – 9:30 a.m.**                      **Breakfast & Opening General Session** (Program begins at 8:30 a.m.)  
Renasant Convention Center – Lower Level 1/2/9/10

Sponsored by: ETA Transit Systems

|                    |  |
|--------------------|--|
| Welcome            | Chris Campbell, TPTA President   |
| Introduction       | Gary Rosenfeld, CEO, Memphis Area Transit Authority                              |
| Welcome to Memphis | The Honorable Jim Strickland, Mayor of Memphis                                   |
| Keynote Speaker    | Dr. Keith Norman, Chief Community Relations Officer, Baptist Memorial Healthcare |

**930 a.m. – 10:30 a.m.**                      **General Session: Updates from TDOT and FTA Region IV**  
Renasant Convention Center – Lower Level 1/2/9/10

|          |  |
|----------|--|
| Speakers | Butch Eley, Deputy Governor and Commissioner, TN Dept. of Transportation |
|          | Dr. Yvette Taylor, Regional Administrator, FTA Region IV                 |

**10:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.**                      **Vendor Expo Opens**  
Southwest Hall

**10:30 a.m. – 10:45 a.m.**                      **Break**  
Sponsored by BraunAbility

**10:45 a.m. – 11:45 a.m.**                      **Workshop Sessions**

**A. General Managers’ Roundtable**  
Renasant Convention Center – Lower Level 5

This session is an opportunity for CEOs, Executive Directors, Transportation Directors and other senior members of your teams to hear from the leadership of FTA Region IV and TDOT and engage with them on issues of importance to you in an informal format.

|          |  |
|----------|--|
| Speakers | Dr. Yvette Taylor, Regional Administrator<br>Federal Transit Administration, Region IV |
|----------|--|

Dan Pallme, Interim Director  
TDOT Multimodal Transportation Division

**B. What’s on the Agenda for FTA’s Safety and Oversight Office – Updates, News and More**  
Renasant Convention Center – Lower Level 4

The Federal Transit Administration (FTA) will provide an overview of the current transit safety landscape, including an update on current safety rulemaking activities, ways to engage with FTA, and more. Learn more

about national safety trends, where FTA is seeing emerging safety risks, and recent actions taken by FTA. You will also hear about available FTA resources to assess cybersecurity risk and more.

Speaker                      Jeremy Furrer, Division Chief, Office of Safety Policy and Promotion  
Federal Transit Administration

**C. Transportation Security Administration: Surface Operations Security Outreach Programs**  
Renasant Convention Center – Lower Level 3

Transportation Security Inspectors will provide an overview of the free and voluntary Surface Operations Security Outreach Programs that TSA offers. These programs include Base Assessment for Security Enhancement (BASE), Exercise Information System (EXIS), Risk Mitigation Activities for Surface Transportation (RMAST), Security Enhancement Through Assessment (SETA), and First Observer Plus (FOP).

Speakers                      Transportation Security Inspector Thomas Theil  
Transportation Security Administration  
  
Transportation Security Inspector Carla Green  
Transportation Security Administration

**D. Operations Session: De-escalation and Emotional State Management for Operators**  
Sheraton Memphis Downtown – Heritage I

This one-hour course will cover techniques for teaching operators how to de-escalate anyone regardless of their mental, emotional, or chemical state; these are street tested tools for building rapport and creating trust quickly, while utilizing tactical communication tools to bring people down and buy critical time for better decision-making. In addition, we will discuss three methods for the operator to maintain their emotional equilibrium and stay calm under any circumstance, allowing them to make better decisions and communicate more professionally and tactically. In today's world these skills are imperative for anyone who is on the frontline of customer service.

Speaker                      Bill Parsons, Founder  
Road Worthy Communications

**12:00 p.m. – 2:00 p.m.**                      **Vendor Luncheon & Expo**  
Southwest Hall

**2:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.**                      **Maintenance Alliance Session**  
Sheraton Memphis Downtown – Heritage III

Maintenance Alliance presentations provided by Preteckt AI Innovation, Cummins, Thermo-King and Wabco.

**2:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.**                      **Workshop Sessions**

**A. Federal Update**  
Renasant Convention Center – Lower Level 5

Come learn about what is going on in Washington, DC and how the decisions made by Congress will affect the public transportation industry in the months ahead.

Speakers                      Robert Jones, Co-Chair, Federal Law & Policy Practice  
Greenberg Traurig  
  
Taylor Klocke, Director of Communications  
Community Transportation Association of America

## **B. Panel Discussion: Memphis Innovation Corridor**

Renasant Convention Center – Lower Level 4

Come learn more about the Memphis Innovation Corridor, the City's first Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) system – with service between the William Hudson Transit Center downtown and the University of Memphis. The system will include special features that distinguish it from traditional bus routes, with increased service frequency, decreased time spent at stops, and improved comfort and convenience for riders.

Speakers                      John Lancaster, AICP, Chief Development Officer  
   Memphis Area Transit Authority

   Kenneth Monroe, PE, PTOE, Project Manager  
   Kimley-Horn

## **C. FTA 101**

Renasant Convention Center – Lower Level 3

For those that may be new to the transit industry or may be interested in a refresher, this session will discuss an overview of FTA and FTA Region 4, how everything works, pre-award activities, post-award activities, and FTA resources.

Speaker                      Michael Sherman, Senior Transportation Program Specialist  
   Federal Transit Administration, Region IV

## **D. Operations Session: Operator Safety and Self-Defense from the Seated Position**

Sheraton Memphis Downtown – Heritage I

This course is designed as an overview on how and why you should teach your operators how to defend themselves against physical attack in the seat or on the coach. The course will cover everything you need to know to get started on developing or implementing a safety and self-defense course for your operators.

If operators are not trained to understand what their legal limitations are in a self-defense situation there is a greater likelihood they will misread intentions and overreact. When dealing with the overwhelming physical and psychological stress of a physical assault, people tend to go into fight or flight mode. This is a primal response and can result in very bad decision making; when facing a belligerent, potentially assaultive individual your personnel will do something; is that something going to be the right thing? The court defensible thing?

By training operators, you can create a standardized organizationally-approved response and teach them to make better decisions under stress and increase their likelihood of handling the encounter more effectively, professionally, and defensibly.

Speaker                      Bill Parsons, Founder  
   Road Worthy Communications

**3:00 p.m. – 3:15 p.m.**

### **Break**

Sponsored by Verida, Inc.

**3:15 p.m. – 4:15 p.m.**

### **Workshop Sessions**

## **A. Transit Vehicle Supply Shortage**

Renasant Convention Center – Lower Level 5

With our rural and smaller transit operators facing a current body-on-chassis backorder of approximately 25,000, and our more urban agencies facing supply chain shortages and dramatic cost increases when procuring big buses, this session will update participants on a variety of efforts underway to ease the bus replacement crisis.

Speakers                      Taylor Klocke, Director of Communications  
Community Transportation Association of America

Loreal Lance, Director of Member Services  
Community Transportation Association of America

**B. TDOT'S Mobility Management Toolkit**

Renasant Convention Center – Lower Level 3

This presentation will introduce the Mobility Management Toolkit that was released by TDOT in the Spring of 2023. The presentation will be useful to urban and rural transit agencies who are interested in starting, expanding, or improving a Mobility Management program, as well as applicants for mobility management funds in the 5310 program.

Speakers                      TDOT Office of Mobility & Accessible Transportation

**C. Bus/Van Roadeo Judges Orientation**

Sheraton Memphis Downtown – Heritage I

**D. Bus/Van Roadeo Operator Orientation**

Sheraton Memphis Downtown – Heritage II

**Thursday, September 21<sup>st</sup>**

|                               |   |
|-------------------------------|---|
| <b>6:30 a.m.</b>              | <b>Roadeo Shuttles to Liberty Park Begin</b><br>Shuttles will depart from the conference center entrance and run continuously throughout the event. |
| <b>7:30 a.m. – 8:00 a.m.</b>  | <b>Roadeo Drivers Obstacle Course Walk Through</b><br><b>Maintenance Roadeo Walk Through</b><br><br>Breakfast Sponsored by American Seating Group   |
| <b>8:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.</b>  | <b>State Maintenance, Bus &amp; Van Roadeo Competition</b><br>NOTE: Pre-trip inspections will be completed during this time                         |
| <b>12:00 p.m. – 1:30 p.m.</b> | <b>Roadeo Luncheon</b><br>Sponsored by Thermo King  |
| <b>5:00 p.m. – 6:00 p.m.</b>  | <b>Pre-Banquet Happy Hour</b><br>Sponsored by nMomentum   |
| <b>6:00 p.m. – 11:00 p.m.</b> | <b>TPTA Awards Banquet</b><br>Renasant Convention Center – Lower Level 1/2/9/10   |

**Friday, September 22<sup>nd</sup>**

**9:00 a.m. – 10:30 a.m.**                      **Farewell Networking Session**  
Breakfast on your own