As you know, on July 26, 2016, FTA published a Final Rule for Transit Asset Management (TAM) in Federal Register Volume 81, Number 143. The rule requires FTA grantees to develop asset management plans for their public transportation assets, including vehicles, facilities, equipment, and other infrastructure. Requirements under the Final Rule vary based on a number of factors.

It is our understanding that your agency is classified as a Tier II provider which is defined as a provider that is sub-recipient of Formula Grants for Other than Urbanized Areas (5311) Funds, an American Indian Tribe, a provider with 100 or less vehicles across all fixed route modes, or a provider with 100 or less vehicles in one non-fixed route mode. A Tier II provider may participate in a Group Plan or opt out and develop its own Transit Asset Management Plan.

At this time, DRPT understands that your agency is planning to remain part of the Commonwealth’s group plan. You can still decide to develop your own plan at any time, but DRPT has considered your asset data in developing the required annual aspirational targets for attaining a state of good repair. DRPT based these targets on the data currently available in our transit asset management system (TransAM) which was installed on December 9. I know that you are working on validating the data in TransAM, and DRPT has asked that that effort be completed by October 31.

The next milestone based on the final rule is the establishment of aspirational targets for fiscal year 2018 prior to October 1. The aspirational targets for fiscal year 2018 are:

- Articulated - 80% of vehicles within Useful Life Benchmark
- 40 foot – 80% of vehicles within Useful Life Benchmark
- 35 foot – 80% of vehicles within Useful Life Benchmark
- 30 foot – 70% of vehicles within Useful Life Benchmark
- Under 30 foot – 80% of vehicles within Useful Life Benchmark
- Vans – 50% of vehicles within Useful Life Benchmark

As you can see, the goals for the under 30, 35 and 40 foot buses remained the same as the aspirational goals set on January 1, 2017. However, there have been some significant changes in the targets for 30 foot vehicles and vans. The goal for the 30 foot vehicles reduced slightly (from 80% to 70%) and the goal for vans trended downward significantly, from 80% to 50% of vehicles within the ULB. Because DRPT is setting these preliminary goals based on current asset conditions in TransAM, these changes appear to be based on the extensive efforts to validate the data in TransAM.

The next step in compliance with the final rule will be to develop the group TAM Plan, which is required to be submitted to FTA by September 30, 2018. DRPT will be holding a webinar in February 2018 to review the draft TAM plan with all the members. You will receive the TAM plan in the spring in order to give you sufficient time to get the approval signature from your Accountable Executive. DRPT will upload the TAM plan to the FTA by August 30, 2018. The asset goals will continue to evolve based on funding availability and asset conditions, in collaboration with all TAM Plan group members. DRPT
anticipates that some of the group participants may decide to develop their own plans; however, these goals will apply as long as you elect to be covered by the group plan. This letter is available on the Online Grants Administration (OLGA) system, under the News tab.