

Matt Welbes



# *Federal Transit Administration*

*2011  
Awards  
Ceremony*







# *Message*

*from the*

## *Administrator*

I am pleased and privileged to work side by side with such a dedicated and talented group of individuals here at the Federal Transit Administration -- people who have chosen to use their talents to serve the public and to make difference in the world we live in. What you do every day matters greatly. It

matters to those who can now get better jobs and spend less at the gas pump because transit gives them access to their workplace. It matters to parents who want to get home in time to help their kids with homework. It matters to working students who can go to night classes even though they may not own a car. And it matters a great deal to the communities across this country that want to invest in safe, reliable public transportation to relieve congestion, revitalize neighborhoods, breathe new life into old downtowns, and create good local jobs at a time when they are needed most.

I am also impressed by efforts I see many of you make to improve how we manage our programs and serve the riding public. Each one of you should recognize the important role you play in financing, designing, building and maintaining our Nation's transit systems, encouraging the principles of sustainability, and helping people enjoy the benefits and convenience of public transportation.

Today, I take great pride in this opportunity to recognize the contributions of all FTA employees as well as the individuals who have performed in truly extraordinary and inspiring ways. Because of your efforts, we continue to improve as an organization and are able to provide the quality of service the American people want and deserve. I thank and congratulate you for a job well done!



*Peter Rogoff*

**Administrator**

**Federal Transit Administration**







# *Message*

*from the*

## *Deputy Administrator*

*Therese W. McMillan*  
**Deputy Administrator**  
**Federal Transit Administration**

As we look forward to addressing the challenges that lay ahead for the transit industry, I am confident that we do so with the commitment, unlimited creativity, knowledge and expertise that you bring to your work every day. That is why I take great pleasure in joining the Administrator

today in recognizing your individual accomplishments along with the great achievements resulting from great teamwork.

Together we are moving ahead to ensure that our Nation's bus and rail transit systems remain safe and are in a state of good repair. Also, there is much work to be done in streamlining the process for funding new capital projects, providing targeted assistance to the transit industry where and when it's needed most, and ensuring that there's a level playing field for everyone seeking to compete for transportation dollars. We also will strive to provide the American public with a better quality of life by funding public transportation projects that encourage development of livable, sustainable communities across the country.

To today's award recipients, I say thank you and congratulations. Your valuable contributions to FTA's success are appreciated.



# FTA 2011 Awards Ceremony

## *Order of Ceremony*

### ***Presentation of the Flags***

Military District of Washington  
Armed Forces Color Guard

### ***The National Anthem***

**James Newton, OST**  
Vocalist,

### ***Introduction***

**Mathew J. Welbes,**  
Executive Director

### ***Welcoming Remarks***

**Therese W. McMillan,**  
Deputy Administrator

### ***General Address***

**Peter Rogoff,**  
Administrator

### ***Master of Ceremony***

**David N. Longo,**  
Deputy Associate Administrator  
for Communications  
& Congressional Affairs

# FTA 2011 Awards Ceremony

## *Presentation of Awards*

### ***Honorary Awards***

Award for Superior Achievement . . . . .2

Award of Merit . . . . .3

### ***Monetary Awards***

Outstanding Achievement . . . . .4

Award for Excellence in Administrative Support . . . .6

Award for Supervisory Excellence . . . . .7

Award for Equal Employment  
Opportunity and Workforce Diversity . . . . .7

Team Awards . . . . .8

Excellence in Customer Service

Teams . . . . .10

Individual . . . . .11

***Career Service Awards*** . . . . .12

(A reception will be held immediately following the ceremony in the  
West Building Oklahoma City Conference Room)



# *Honorary Awards*

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## *Award for Superior Achievement*

M. DOUGLAS BIRNIE, OFFICE OF PROGRAM MANAGEMENT

*For vision and leadership in the creation of the Veterans Transportation and Community Living Initiative.*

VICTOR M. AUSTIN, OFFICE OF PLANNING & ENVIRONMENT

*For exceptional leadership and tireless efforts to prepare and award TIGER II Planning Grants to 13 separate State, local and transit agencies.*

STEVE MORTENSEN, OFFICE OF RESEARCH, DEMONSTRATION AND INNOVATION

*For exceptional leadership and demonstrated excellence as a technical expert and project manager for transit research that improves transit operations and management throughout the U.S.*



*Award of Merit*

MATTHEW C. LESH, OFFICE OF RESEARCH, DEMONSTRATION AND INNOVATION

*For exceptional leadership and initiative in the development of the Discretionary Grants System (DGS).*

KIMBERLY M. SLEDGE, OFFICE OF PROGRAM MANAGEMENT

*For exceptional leadership and initiative in the development of the Discretionary Grants System (DGS).*

LAURIE M. FUCINI-JOY, CAMBRIDGE REGIONAL OFFICE

*For significant safety contributions associated with the Massachusetts Bay Transportation Authority's Green Line Extension Project.*

JEFFREY G. JAMIESON, OFFICE OF ADMINISTRATION

*For exemplary service to the Agency in supporting Agency supervisors and employees and improving the effectiveness of both.*

# *Monetary Awards*

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## *Outstanding Achievement*

CASSANDRA D. SMITH, OFFICE OF BUDGET & POLICY

*In recognition of your outstanding support to the effective management, analysis and oversight of grant payments.*

RYAN J. FRIGO, OFFICE OF PROGRAM MANAGEMENT

*In recognition of extraordinary contributions to improving the planning and coordinating of State Safety Oversight (SSO) Program activities.*

TRICIA M. HARR, OFFICE OF PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT

*In recognition of your superior achievement in managing the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) process and production of an environmental impact statement.*

TIMOTHY A. LIDIAK, PHILADELPHIA REGIONAL OFFICE

*In recognition of your outstanding performance and dedication in contributing to the successful operation of the Philadelphia Regional Office and in furthering FTA's mission.*

ROBERT F. BUCKLEY, ATLANTA REGIONAL OFFICE

*In recognition of your outstanding achievements, technical assistance, customer service, and resources for the transit industry, FTA, and its customers.*

CYNTHIA J. MOSES, KANSAS CITY REGIONAL OFFICE

*In recognition of your outstanding achievement and service to the Kansas City Regional Office, FTA, and its customers.*

ERIC B. EIDLIN, SAN FRANCISCO REGIONAL OFFICE

*In recognition of your outstanding commitment and dedication to promote the Department's goal in the area of environmental sustainability and livable communities programs as expressed in FTA's Strategic and Annual Performance Plan.*



## *Equal Employment Opportunity/Workforce Diversity*

WILLIAM A. WHEELER, CHICAGO REGIONAL OFFICE

*In recognition of your strong advocacy for EEO and Diversity in the workplace.*

## *Excellence in Administrative Support*

MICHELE C. TORNELLO, PHILADELPHIA REGIONAL OFFICE

*In recognition of your Outstanding Performance and dedication in contributing to the successful operation of the Philadelphia Regional Office and in furthering FTA's mission.*

HEIDY ORTEGA, CAMBRIDGE REGIONAL OFFICE

*In recognition of your exemplary administrative support to the Cambridge Regional Office.*

KIMBERLY A. BARNES, CHICAGO REGIONAL OFFICE

*In recognition of your exemplary administrative support to the Chicago Regional Office.*

## *Supervisory Excellence*

JAMIE D. PFISTER

*In recognition of your outstanding supervisory skills in effectively managing a diverse and multi-generational staff in the Atlanta Regional Office.*

# *Monetary Awards*

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## *Team Awards*

### DISCRETIONARY GRANTS SYSTEM TEAM

*In recognition of the dedication and teamwork in the creation of the Discretionary Grants System.*

*Matthew C. Lesh , Henry A. Nejako, Jarrett W. Stoltzfus (TRI), Nazrul Islam, Benjamin E. Owen (TPE), Blenda D. Younger, Kimberly M. Sledge, Lorna R. Wilson, Vanessa L. Williams (TPM), Robin D. Morrison, David L. Hostetter, Shawn T. Sewell (TAD), Bryce D. McNitt (TBP)*

### RISK ASSESSMENT STREAMLINING WORK GROUP

*In recognition of outstanding contributions in identifying options for streamlining FTA's risk assessment process for New Starts projects.*

*Cory Walker, John G. Bell, Jr., Aaron C. James, Carlos M. Garay, Christopher K. Nutakor (TPM), Robyn A. Sinquefield (TPE), Laurie M. Fucini-Joy (TRO-1), Daniel E. Creighton (LMRO), Melody L. Hopson, Cyrell R. McLemore (TRO-5), Timothy P. Sullivan (TRO-8), Raymond S. Tellis, Nadeem S. Tahir (TRO-9), Susan K. Fletcher, Amy M. Changchien (TRO-10)*

### FTA TEAM FOR POLICY RECOMMENDATIONS FOR FUTURE PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION PROGRAMS REAUTHORIZATION

*For significant contributions in the development of policy recommendations to support the future of Federal public transportation programs.*

*Katherine A. Mattice, Timothy P. Steinitz (TBP), Richard P. Steinmann (TOA), Mary Martha Churchman (TPM), Bruce A. Robinson (TRI), Charles Goodman, Victor M. Austin (TPE)*

### BUY AMERICA TEAM

*In recognition of exceptional performance in working together to demonstrate to the transportation industry that FTA is going to enforce Buy America with vigor and put Americans to work.*

*Aaron C. James, John G. Bell, Jr., Anthony J. Zakel (TPM), Jayme L. Blakesley, Richard L. Wong (TCC)*



## SPACE ACQUISITION AND REFURBISHMENT TEAM

*In recognition of exemplary dedication and teamwork in acquiring office space and furnishings in eight of ten FTA Regional offices simultaneously, in support of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA).*

*Henry T. (Tommy) Carter, Donald L. Clarke, Tito X. Wills, Reginald S. Whitlock (TAD)*

## NEW STARTS TEAM FOR DENVER EAGLE PROJECT

*In recognition of the dedication and hard work of the New Starts team in developing processes and procedures that expedited project development and led to a successful and innovative public private arrangement.*

*David L. Beckhouse, Timothy P. Sullivan (TRO-9), Carlos M. Garay (TPM), Anthony H. C. Loui (TPE), Thomas A. Yedinak (TBP), Jayme L. Blakesley (TCC)*

## TRO-6 TIGER TEAM

*In recognition of the outstanding contributions and dedication in meeting the TIGER program requirements for highly visible projects in the Fort Worth Regional office.*

*Julieann Dwyer (TPE), Laura C. Wallace, Lynn Hayes, Cheryle N. Tyson, Suleman Shoaib (TRO-6)*

## TRO-4 PUERTO RICO TEAM

*In recognition of Outstanding Teamwork in developing innovative techniques to provide training and technical assistance to the Puerto Rico Highway and Transportation Authority.*

*Jessica Granell, Abigail Rivera, Robert F. Buckley, Janice Abaray (TRO-4)*

# *Monetary Awards*

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## CUSTOMER SERVICE TEAM AWARD

### ELECTRONIC REPORTING FOR THE DISADVANTAGED BUSINESS ENTERPRISE PROGRAM

*In recognition of excellent customer service on a team developing Electronic Reporting for the Disadvantaged Business Enterprise Program.*

*Randelle Ripton, Monica J. McCallum, Amber R. Ontiveros, Antoinette Davis (TCR), Wanda T. Diggs, David L. Hostetter, Mackarthur James (TAD), Walt J. Mokey, David S. Schneider (TPM)*

### ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE GUIDANCE AND TITLE VI CIRCULAR TEAM

*In recognition of excellent customer service on a team developing the Environmental Justice Guidance and Title VI Circular.*

*Joanne P. Waszczak, Charles Goodman, Victor M. Austin, Benjamin E. Owen, Katie A. Gratsy (TPE), Amber R. Ontiveros, Margaret A. (Peggy) Griffin (TCR), Bonnie L. Graves, Cecelia M. Comito (TCC), Maryanne F. Polkiewicz (TPM), Kristen D. Kenyon (TRO-8)*

### COMMUNICATIONS AND CONGRESSIONAL AFFAIRS CUSTOMER SERVICE WORK GROUP

*In recognition of providing excellent customer service in communications with external and internal FTA stakeholders.*

*Jacqueline B. Bennett, Lakiah N. Williams, Ketrina M. Nelson, Paul M. Griffo, Katherine D. Webb, Amy L. Bernstein, Tia N. Swain*

### UNITED WE RIDE TEAM FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE VETERANS TRANSPORTATION & COMMUNITY LIVING INITIATIVE

*In recognition of providing excellent customer service in developing the Interagency Veterans Transportation and Community Living Initiative*

*Amy L. Bernstein (TCA), Mary Martha Churchman, M. Douglas Birnie, Erik S. Weber, Catherine Caldwell, Pamela A. Brown (TPM)*



EXCELLENCE IN CUSTOMER SERVICE  
(INDIVIDUAL)

DAWN M. SWEET, OFFICE OF CIVIL RIGHTS

*In recognition of excellent customer service, teamwork, and problem-solving within the Office of Civil Rights and throughout FTA.*

REBECCA U. TANRATH, OFFICE OF CIVIL RIGHTS

*In recognition of excellent customer service, teamwork, and problem-solving within the Office of Civil Rights and throughout FTA.*

MARGARET A. (PEGGY) GRIFFIN, OFFICE OF CIVIL RIGHTS

*In recognition of excellent customer service, teamwork, and problem-solving within the Office of Civil Rights and throughout FTA.*

JOHN D. GIORGIS, OFFICE OF BUDGET AND POLICY

*In recognition of outstanding customer service to the individuals and transit agencies who report to FTA's National Transit Database.*

LARRY PENNER, NEW YORK REGIONAL OFFICE

*In recognition of exceptional customer service in the delivery of the Oversight Program to the New York Regional Office grantees.*

GUANYING LEI, ATLANTA REGIONAL OFFICE

*In recognition of outstanding achievement in customer service to the Atlanta Regional Office, their stakeholders, and FTA.*

JENNIFER L. STEWART, DENVER REGIONAL OFFICE

*In recognition of outstanding customer service to the Denver Regional Office Tribal grantees.*

# *Career Service Awards*

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## *Thirty Years*

### Office of Administration

Pamela Bell-Payton

Ann M. Linnertz

Darrel C. Stewart

Paul J. Veltri

### Office of Program Management

Anita S. Boston

Dale A. Wegner

### Office of Planning & Environment

Sharon M. Buckner



*Thirty Years* (Continued)

Office of Civil Rights

Eugene Jenkins

Region 3, Philadelphia, PA

Karen Roscher

Region 9, San Francisco, CA

Ingrid Libao

Hymie Luden

*Thirty Five Years*

Office of the Administrator

Richard P. Steinmann

# *Career Service Awards*

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## *Thirty Five Years* (Continued)

### Office of Administration

Dorothy E. Easley

### Office of Chief Counsel

Patricia A. Cohen

### Office of Program Management

Mary Martha Churchman

### Office of Research, Demonstration & Innovation

Helen M. Tann

Charlene M. Wilder

### Office of Civil Rights

Linda C. Craig



*Thirty Five Years* (Continued)

Office of Planning & Environment

Anthony J. Ossi, Jr.

Susan E. Rollman

Region 2, New York, NY

Yvonne E. Spraggins

Region 3, Philadelphia, PA

Catharine C. Githens

Region 6, Fort Worth, TX

Ruth M. Johnston

# *Career Service Awards*

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## *Forty Years*

### Office of Budget and Policy

Sylvia L. Davis

Brenda S. Munday

### Office of Civil Rights

Gloria J. Comedy

### Region 3, Philadelphia, PA

Michele A. Destra

## *Forty Five Years*

### Office of Administration

Arlene F. DiRienzo



*Fifty Years*

Office of Research, Demonstration & Innovation

Henry A. Nejako







