

Ma H Welbes



Annual Awards Ceremony



Federal Transit
Administration

2013

Awards Ceremony

Message

from the

Administrator



Peter Rogoff

Administrator

Federal Transit Administration

I am truly grateful for this opportunity to recognize my colleagues at the Federal Transit Administration that perform their duties each day in an extraordinary and unique way. It is apparent to me that you take our agency's mission and public service responsibilities very seriously. You have continuously embraced the additional workload of implementing the game-changing policies and programs of MAP-21, built a foundation of common-sense guidance to support our new safety authority, focused on what it really means to bring an aging transit infrastructure into a state of good repair and worked creatively to cut red tape and bureaucracy to put hard-earned taxpayer dollars in families' pockets. I'm also extremely proud of those who worked hard helping the northeast recover from Hurricane Sandy—the worst transit disaster in U.S. history. What you do every day is so important. Your work contributes to the creation of thousands of good-paying jobs, to transforming communities and to spurring economic growth from coast to coast.

I realize and appreciate the important role each of 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. FTA is an exemplary organization because it is comprised of individuals who regularly exceed expectations to deliver on the promise of investing in safe, reliable public transportation to relieve congestion, revitalize neighborhoods and help people enjoy the benefits and convenience of good transit.

Today, I take great pride and consider it a privilege to recognize the contributions of all FTA employees as well as the individuals who have gone above and beyond in truly remarkable and inspiring ways. Due to your efforts, we keep getting better as an organization and are able to provide top quality service to the American people in a time when they need it most. It is a great privilege for me to applaud your achievements.

I thank and congratulate you for a job well done!



Therese W. McMillan
Deputy Administrator
Federal Transit Administration

Message

from the

Deputy Administrator

It gives me a great deal of pleasure to join the Administrator in recognizing the individual accomplishments and the outstanding performance of duties of the 2013 Federal Transit Administration award winners. I truly appreciate the commitment, unlimited creativity, knowledge and expertise you bring to this agency and apply each day to your

individual responsibilities. Together we are moving ahead to meet the intricate transit needs of the various communities that make up our great nation, ensure bus and rail systems remain safe and that they are in a state of good repair.

I commend the award recipients' devotion to developing common-sense transit solutions that help strengthen the economy, increase mobility, and encourage development of livable communities across the country. I am proud of the opportunity to work beside you as we strive together to fund new and essential capital projects, provide targeted assistance to the transit industry where it's needed most, and ensure that we improve Americans' quality of life by providing better public transportation solutions.

Thank you and congratulations!

FTA 2013 Awards Ceremony

Order of Ceremony

Presentation of the Flags

Military District of Washington
Armed Forces Color Guard

The National Anthem

Eliot-Hine Middle School

Welcoming Remarks

Matthew J. Welbes
Executive Director

Introduction

Therese W. McMillan
Deputy Administrator

General Address

Peter M. Rogoff
Administrator

Master of Ceremony

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

FTA 2013 Awards Ceremony

Presentation of Awards

Administrator's Award for Superior Achievement

Administrator's Merit Award

Excellence in Mission Results

Ann Linnertz Award for Administrative Excellence

Excellence in Leadership

Excellence in Management

Business Process Improvement (Teams/Individual)

Team Awards

Associate Administrator/Regional Administrator Honor Awards

Career Service Awards

(A reception will be held immediately following the ceremony in the West Building Atrium)

Administrator's Award for Superior Achievement

James Ryan, Office of Planning and Environment

For leading the development of innovative technology to streamline the process for forecasting transit trips for Major Capital Investment projects.

Amy Bernstein, Office of Communication and Congressional Affairs

For providing extraordinary leadership in spearheading effective communications for FTA's stakeholder engagement and outreach on significant and highly visible transit issues.

Award of Merit

William Kalt, Kansas City Regional Office

For providing significant and innovative technical contributions to FTA's oversight programs and mission improvement, especially in the areas of State of Good Repair, Safety, economic competitiveness, and organizational excellence.

Excellence in Mission Results

Corey Walker, Office of Program Management

For outstanding support of FTA's mission in relationship to the project management oversight contracts and Buy America oversight.

Benjamin Owen, Office of Planning and Environment

For exemplary work, including work on the New and Small Starts final rule, final policy guidance, reporting instructions, templates, and standard cost category worksheets.

Ryan Hammon, Denver Regional Office

For outstanding communication, process development, program management, and customer focus skills.

Ann Linnertz Award for Mission Support

Walt Mokey, Office of Program Management

For outstanding support for FTA's grant systems and data analysis to staff across FTA.

Office of Budget and Policy Financial Management Team—Godwin Nwosu, Phyllis Metts, Sylvia Davis (retired), Michael Whitaker, Gerelene Womack, Carrie Smith, Joe Ella Day, Tracey Hopkins, Nicholas Jefferson, Katherine Lambert, Kofi Twumasi-Ankrah, and Iman Watson

For excellence in the management and administration of FTA's financial management activities.

Excellence in Leadership Award

Ann Souvandara, Office of Program Management

For sustained and exemplary dedication to managing FTA's formula apportionment calculations.

Valencia Williams, Atlanta Regional Office

For demonstrating leadership and versatility in resolving a variety of issues, motivating individuals within a team environment and suggesting process improvements to maximize efficiency. Excellence in Management Award

Office of Planning and Environment Associate Administrator, Deputy Associate Administrator and Directors—Lucy Garliauskas, Sherry Riklin, Elizabeth Day, Dwayne Weeks, and Chris VanWyk

For providing excellent leadership and guidance to maintain the organization's reputation for excellence in team work, expertise, and staff productivity.

Business Process Improvement Award

Philadelphia Regional Office Interoffice—Jay Fox, Tony Cho, Tim Lidiak, Dan Koenig

For implementing recommendations to improve the quality, timeliness, and consistency of environmental reviews and providing grantees with more timely and appropriate guidance.

Team Awards

Hurricane Sandy

Henrika Buchanan-Smith, Jamie Pfister, Adam Schildge, Andre Anderson, and Bruce Robinson (TPM), Robert Tuccillo, Katherine Lambert, Iman Watson, Julee Hamel, Peter Noyes, and Lewis Carroll (TBP), Bonnie Graves, Mike Culotta (TCC), Kay Nordstrom (TRI), Cedrece Bynum, Dorothy Easley (retired), Paula Booth, Alexander Miller, Tonya Better, and Sonja Rousey (TAD), Aaron Meyers (TCR), Marilyn Scheffler, James Hughes, and Joanne Weinstock (TRO-1), Donovan Vincent, Stephen Goodman, John Susino, Nancy Danzig, Nina Chung, Victor Waldron, Donald Burns, and Bella Buchwald (TRO-2), Janice Abaray (TRO-4), Kristin Kenyon (TRO-8), Tony Tarone and Tony Cho (TRO-3), Gail Lyssy (TRO-6), Dominique Paukowits (TRO-9), Carrie Deichl (TRO-10)

For outstanding teamwork in implementing the Disaster Relief Appropriations of Hurricane Sandy.

Cambridge Regional Office Green Team

James Hughes, Judi Molloy (retired), Sean Sullivan, Joanne Weinstock, Matthew Keamy, and Noah Berger

For the development and implementation of the FTA Region 1 Innovative Green Transit Initiative Awards program at the 2013 NEPTA Conference.

Title VI Compliance

Bonnie Graves and Evan Wisser (TCC), Carlos Gonzalez and Jonathan Ocana, (TCR) and Margarita Sandberg, (TRO-4)

For Distinguished Teamwork in enforcing Title VI to ensure nondiscrimination in the siting of facilities.

Triennial Review

Amy Jernigan (TPM), Matthew Butner and Selene Dalton-Kumins (TSO), Carlene Jackson (TAD), Dudley Whyte (TRO-4), Melody Hopson (TRO-5), Gail Lyssy (TRO-6), William Kalt (TRO-7), and Audrey Bredehoft (TRO-9)

For outstanding teamwork in the redesign and implementation for the Triennial Review.

Urbanized Area Circular

Adam Schildge, Vanessa Williams, Ann Souvandara, Gail Taylor, Doug Birnie (retired) (TPM), Victor Austin (TPE), Sandra Jackson McCrea (TSO), Candace Key and Rita Maristch (TCC), Bryce McNitt (TBP), Karen Roscher (TRO-3), Laura Wallace (TRO-6), Carrie Deichl (TRO-10)

For outstanding teamwork on updating the Urbanized Area Program Circular in response to MAP-21

Headquarters Associate Administrator's Honor Awards

Associate Administrator for Administration, Office of Human Resources – Retooled and on the Move

VirDella Denwiddie, Gwendolyn Jordan, Dorothy Easley (retired), Paula Booth, Kimberly Stamps, Phyllis Soldo, Yesica Bonilla, Dominique Joseph, Ebony White, Jacqueline Rodriguez, Jessica Greeley, David Lee, Vincent McKinney, Sera Hong, Bridget Thompson, Michelle Cole, and Abeba Yohannes

In recognition of the substantial accomplishments of the TAD-30 Workforce during a difficult year which included a number of barriers and significant new assignments and activities.

Office of Chief Counsel

Candace Key

For exceptional achievement in implementation of FTA's new safety authority, as well as significant changes to FTA's two largest formula programs resulting from MAP-21.

Associate Administrator for Communications and Congressional Affairs

Amy Bernstein, Tia Swain, Kate Webb, Thomas Wilson, Alisha Neal, Ketrina Nelson, Lakiah Williams, Vernett Dillard, Angela Gates, Jennifer Bryant, Angela Jones, and Tonya Holland (detail)

In recognition to a group of hard-charging, enthusiastic, reliable, and attention-to-detail oriented individuals. Your work in a highly visible, fast-paced, nerve-bending and tight deadline driven working environment is truly appreciated!

Associate Administrator for Budget and Policy

Lauren Tuzikow and Crystal Frederick

For excellent work and perseverance well beyond expectations in serving as FTA's audit liaisons to the Office of Inspector General and the Government Accountability Office.

Office of Program Management

David Schneider

For outstanding achievement in dramatically improving FTA's grant close-out process

Associate Administrator for Planning and Environment

Elizabeth Day, Joel Washington, Robyn Sinquefield, Brian Jackson, Benjamin Owen, Alex Eckmann, Anthony Loui, Michael Patella, and Maurice Foushee

For record-breaking achievements over the last year, including processing of multiple construction grant agreements and completion of the final rule and final policy guidance in the New and Small Starts arena.

Office of Research, Demonstration and Innovation

Marcel Belanger, Christina Gikakis, Matthew Lesh, Sean Ricketson, and Greg Rymarz

For exemplary efforts to improve the energy efficiency and operation performance of advanced technology transit buses.

Office of Civil Rights

Margaret "Peggy" Griffin, Christopher MacNeith, Rebecca Rand, and Rebecca Tanrath

In recognition of your dedication and hard work supporting the implementation of civil rights responsibilities across multiple regions. You have provided superior customer service and excellence in achieving FTA's mission.

Associate Administrator for Transit Safety and Oversight

Richard Gerhart

For outstanding leadership, willingness to shoulder additional responsibility and technical expertise, and contributing to the successful establishment of the Office of Transit Safety and Oversight

Regional Administrator's Honor Awards

Cambridge Regional Office

Laurie Fucini-Joy

For exemplary resourcefulness in performing critical oversight responsibilities.

New York Regional Office

Veronica Pelt-Hawkins

In honor of the exceptional collaboration and results for Rockland County's compliance with FTA Regulations.

Philadelphia Regional Office

Vida Morkunas

In recognition of your exemplary ability in managing, documenting and quantifying employee productivity and performance resulting in Region 3 reducing the average number of days to approve grants from 33 to 23.

Atlanta Regional Office

Jessica Granell

For outstanding leadership and dedication as the Puerto Rico Team Coordinator, and unmatched excellence in the development and delivery of the Puerto Rico Maritime Transportation Agency (ATM) preventive maintenance team.

Chicago Regional Office

Grantee Workshop Team

Vanessa Adams, Marisa Appleton, Kimberly Barnes, Christopher Bertch, Alexandria Burns, William (Bill) Wheeler, Sheila Clements and Cecelia Comito (TCC)

For developing and delivering technical assistance to 100 participants from 59 transit organizations in a two-day workshop. The participants rated the workshop as excellent due to your professional delivery and the information exchanged.

Fort Worth Regional Office

NORTA TIGER Team

Suleman Shoaib and Laura Wallace

In recognition of the outstanding accomplishments of the Region VI NORTA TIGER team.

Kansas City Regional Office

Mark Bechtel

In honor of your demonstrated dedication and significant contributions to FTA's Mission and Programs.

Denver Regional Office

Jennifer Stewart

For outstanding coordination with the FTA Region 8 tribes and state departments of transportation.

San Francisco Regional Office

Audrey Bredehoft

For the outstanding coordination of the FTA Region IX grants and financial management programs uniquely affected by the California Public Employee's Pension Reform Act (PEPRA) of 2013.

Seattle Regional Office

Grants Processing Streamlining Team

Amy Changchien, Ned Conroy, Carrie Deichl, Debbie Ensor, Susan Fletcher, Annette Lee, Chris MacNeith (TCR), Mitzi McMahan (IPA), Tom Radmilovich, Scot Rastelli (IPA), Steve Saxton, Ted Uyeno, John Witmer, and Elaine Wine

For process improvements to the internal procedures for processing grants and developing a new checklist and standardized language to decrease the average time to process a grant from 34 days to 27 days.

Career Service Awards

01/01/13 Through 12/31/13

Thirty Years

New York Regional Office

Penner, Larry

Office of Program Management

Reese, Gertrina W

Office of Budget & Policy

Smith, Carrie L

Fort Worth Regional Office

Scherer, Caron L

Denver Regional Office

Sullivan, Timothy P

Thirty Five Years

Office of Budget & Policy

Noyes, Peter A

Pugh, Sharon E

Tuccillo, Robert J

Fort Worth Regional Office

Kemp, Linda G

San Francisco Regional Office

Rogers, Leslie T

Forty Years

Office of Administration

Clarke, Donald L Jr

Office of Research, Demonstration & Innovation

Goodine, Aletha D

Office of Civil Rights

Virts, David M

Atlanta Regional Office

Immings, Myra R

Thomson, George T

Kansas City Regional Office

Lewis, Alfreda

Forty Five Years

Office of Program Management

Asatoorian, (Steve) Sepooch Der

Office of Chief Counsel

Sorkin, Linda Watkins

Thirty Five Years

Office of Budget & Policy

State of New York

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Office of Budget & Policy

State of New York

Office of Budget & Policy

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Forty Years

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