

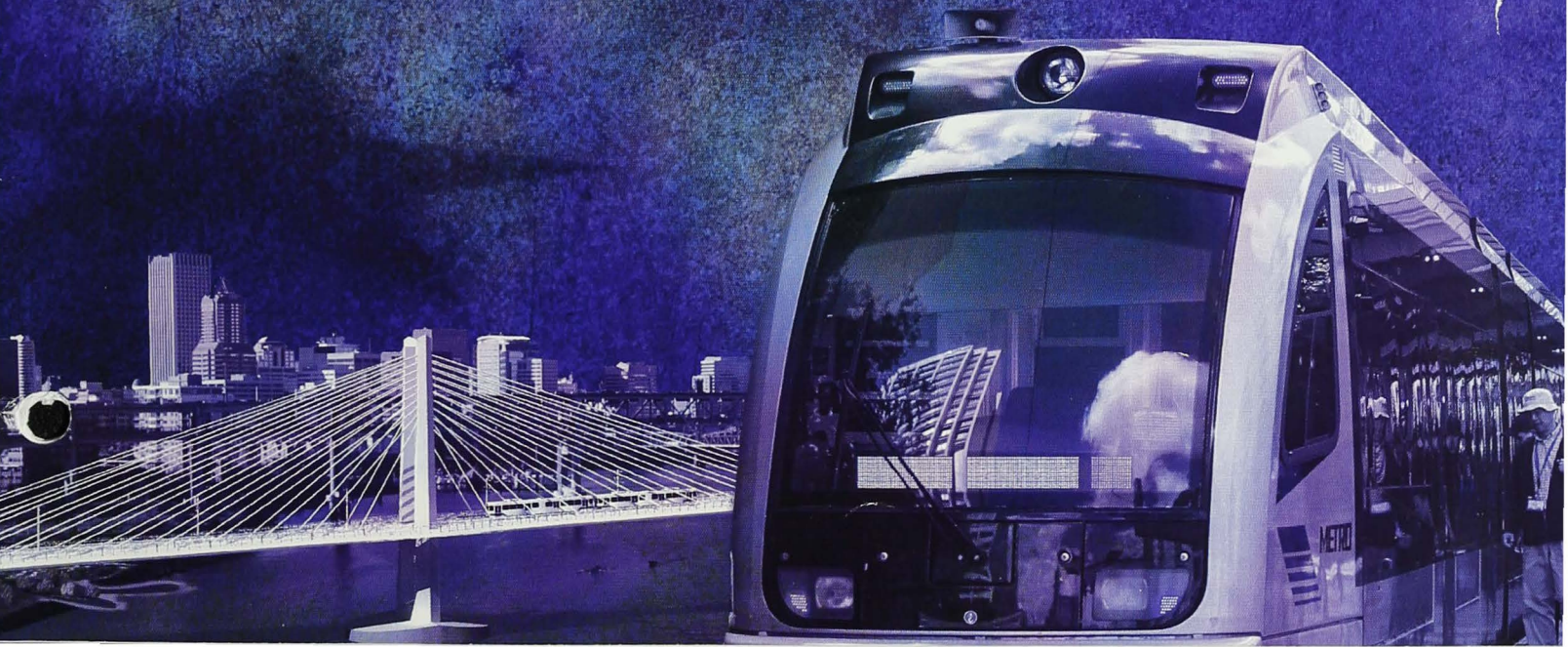
Matt Welbes



2015

*Federal Transit Administration
Awards Ceremony*

Wednesday, March 25th • 1:00 PM
DOT HQ • West Atrium





Good afternoon everyone. Thank you for attending today's awards ceremony. This is the day we celebrate the accomplishments of the over 500 people at the Federal Transit Administration. You help fulfill our mission to improve public transportation for America's communities.

There are two transit images on the cover of your 2015 FTA awards booklet. There is a light rail vehicle and a transit bridge. The light rail vehicle is from one of the many systems FTA has supported. Today there are so many light rail systems in the U.S. it's increasingly difficult to remember all of them. The bridge is the Tilikum Crossing transit bridge in Portland, Oregon. According to Tri-Met "Tilikum bridge" means "bridge of the people" in Chinook.¹ The FTA-funded bridge will carry walkers, cyclists, buses, and light rail vehicles across the Willamette River. An hour ago RPS called it "coolest single thing we've built" It's a great transit-only bridge.

We are in the 51st year of the federal transit program. I don't know when the first federal transit program employee awards ceremony was held, but all of the new U.S. transit in 2015 might surprise our predecessors from a half century ago. U.S. transit was approaching its low point in 1965, on its way to an even lower point.

It was unclear and maybe unexpected then that the small federal funding experiment underway would lead to where we are today.

- We have 550 federal employees successfully administering an \$11 billion a year program.

• ¹ Tillicum Crossing Transit Bridge, Bridge of the People: honoring the indigenous Chinook people; "Tillicum" or "Tilikum" means people, tribe, and relatives in Chinook Jargon.
<http://trimet.org/namethebridge/>



- We support a transit industry employing about 400,000 workers.
- Those workers build and operate transit systems carrying over 30 million transit trips each day on the country's safest surface transportation mode, public transportation.

More to go work near home visit these

Based on your continued good stewardship of the federal transit program, there will be more transit vehicles and "bridges of the people" to celebrate another 50 years from today. We are half-way to a century of the federal role in public transportation. Some of you will be around to celebrate that milestone.

exclusive club

The phrases in the awards booklet tell a story specific to your success. Map-21. Investment models. Safety certification training. Environmental review. ...changes in California law...Customer-focussed Program oversight (consider that one). Excellence managing financial systems. Bus Ladders....the Atlanta streetcar... Training FTA's people. Bus Testing. The Super Circular. Supporting equal opportunity... Grant reservations. Creating the KEE Mentoring program.... Motivating and inspiring a high performing team.... Creating a welcoming environment for new co-workers.

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Thank you for being part of something larger than yourselves. Something that will endure. You all had a great year.

Please cheer for your friends and coworkers as they are recognized. Congratulations.

A message from the Acting Administrator Therese W. McMillan



Each day, I am thankful that I am able to interact with such a hardworking, enthusiastic, and productive group of employees as we collectively improve public transportation for the American people. I am truly grateful for the opportunity to recognize all of my colleagues at the Federal Transit Administration who undertake their duties in an exceptional and distinct way. You take our agency's mission and public service responsibilities very seriously, and others throughout the Department often comment to me on the outstanding work product that FTA employees consistently deliver.

You have embraced the challenge of implementing the forward-thinking policies and programs of MAP-21: standing up and supporting our agency's new safety authority and common-sense approach to improving transit safety; delivering on the Secretary's initiative to provide Ladders of Opportunity to all Americans by improving access to transit services and increasing capacity; and working daily to resolve tough individual project challenges from north to south and east to west.

What you do every day is so important. Your work contributes to the creation of thousands of good-paying jobs, to transforming communities, and spurring economic growth from coast to coast. At FTA, we 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.

I realize and appreciate the important role each of you play in planning, financing, designing, building, overseeing development 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 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 extraordinary and inspiring ways. Due to your efforts, we continually improve as an organization and are able to provide excellent service to transit riders across the nation in a time when they need it most.

Thank you and congratulations on a job well done!

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Therese W. McMillan". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal flourish at the end.

Therese W. McMillan



**Federal Transit
Administration**

The 2015 Awards Ceremony

Order of Ceremony

Presentation of the Flags

Military District of Washington
Armed Forces Color Guard

The National Anthem

Moten Elementary School

Welcome & Introduction

Therese W. McMillan
Acting Administrator

Remarks

Victor Mendez
Deputy Secretary of Transportation

General Address

Therese W. McMillan
Acting Administrator

Remarks

Matthew J. Welbes
Executive Director

Master of Ceremony

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

Presentation of Awards

Administrator's Award for Superior Achievement
Administrator's Merit Award
Excellence in Mission Results
Ann Linnertz Award for Mission Support
Excellence in Leadership
Business Process Improvement
Unsung Hero Award
Team Awards
Associate Administrator/Regional Administrator
Honor Awards
Career Service Awards

*(A reception will be held immediately following the ceremony
at the back end of the West Building Atrium.)*

Administrator's Award for Superior Achievement

Adam R. Schildge

Office of Program Management

Superior Achievements in implementing the
Emergency Relief and Hurricane Sandy
Discretionary Program.

Elizabeth S. Riklin

Office of Planning and Environment

For successful implementation of MAP-21
requirements.

Administrator's Award of Merit

Keith R. Gates

Office of Budget and Policy

For leadership in advancing FTA's programs,
particularly the development of the TERM-Lite
Investment analysis tool.

Timothy P. Steinitz

Chicago Regional Office

For leadership in workload rebalancing and
helping Region 5 successfully achieve its
performance goals.

Excellence in Mission Results

Duana A. Love

Chicago Regional Office

For the exemplary manner in which she works to support many of the projects and certification processes in the Chicago Region.

Michael A. Patella

Office of Planning and Environment

For developing efficiencies and improvements to FTA's Capital Investment Grant project financial review process.

Dee H. Phan

Kansas City Regional Office

For managing and streamlining the Environmental Review Process.

Ruth O. Lyons

Office of Transit Safety and Oversight

For exemplary work to improve safety through the development of a transit safety certification training program.

Daniel G. Drais

Seattle Regional Office

For superior technical assistance and professionalism in support of FTA environmental review and government to government consultations with nine Native American Tribes for the Washington State Ferry's Mukilteo Multimodal Ferry.

Ann Linnertz Award for Mission Support

Alexandria M. Burns

Chicago Regional Office

For exemplary administrative support and developing an innovative grant funds reservation process which ensures accuracy in this vital FTA function.

Paula I. Booth & Yesica J. Bonilla

Office of Administration

For exceptional efforts and contributions in serving the needs of internal FTA customers and maintaining a positive work environment that supports the organization's overall success.

Peter A. Noyes

Office of Budget and Policy

In recognition of extraordinary efforts and contribution, providing crucial support and outstanding attention to detail and commitment to excellence in the area of financial systems.

Sharon M. Buckner

Office of Planning and Environment

For going above and beyond the staff's expectations in supporting TPE and FTA's mission.

Christopher Hall

Office of Chief Counsel

For exceptional efforts and contributions in support of FTA's employees, customers and programs, with a commitment to excellence and initiative in taking on new assignments and developing new areas of expertise.

Excellence in Leadership Award

Supervisory

Susan Camarena

Office of Administration

For exemplary leadership in motivating and inspiring her employees to become a high performing team.

Non Supervisory

Pamela A. Brown

Office of Program Management

For superior leadership in creating the FTA Super Circular Information Exchange.

Business Process Improvement Award

John A. Bodnar

Office of Transit Safety
and Oversight

For exceptional leadership and outstanding performance in developing and implementing the customer-focused Annual Program Oversight Lifecycle.

Christopher C. MacNeith

Office of Civil Rights,
Seattle Regional Office

For outstanding efforts to improve the quality of training offered by TCR's Regional Operations Division.

Unsung Hero Honor Award

Mackenzie P. Thiessen

Office of Research, Demonstration and Innovation

For helping to save the life of a fellow colleague through the use of the Heimlich Maneuver.

Amy M. Changchien

Seattle Regional Office

For providing support, guidance and a welcoming environment to co-workers both in the office and when needed in personal crisis.

Cynthia A. Cox-Grollman

Office of Budget and Policy

For her apparent concern for FTA employees demonstrated by her counseling and mentoring, as well as her external voluntary work at animal shelters and adoption events.

Matthew P. Keamy

Cambridge Regional Office

For your dedication to children with disabilities.

Team Awards - Distinguished

Bus Ladders

For exemplary teamwork and dedication in successfully implementing the Bus Ladders of Opportunity discretionary grant program.

- Bruce Robinson (TPM)
- Jamie Pfister (TPM)
- Kimberly Sledge (TPM)
- Samuel Snead (TPM)
- Hendrik Opstelten (TPM)
- Shapell Randolph (TPM)
- Adam Schildge (TPM)
- Eric Hu (TPM)
- Vanessa Williams (TPM)
- Jennifer Bryant (TCA)
- Charles Goodman (TPE)
- Kristin Kenyon (TRO-8)
- Cathy Monroe (TRO-7)
- Cyrell McLemore (TRO-5)
- Christopher LaMacchia (TRO-1)
- Elizabeth Orr (TRO-4)
- Robert Buckley (TRO-4)
- Kristine McGuill (TRO-10)
- Katherine Berrillo (TRO-3)

Hurricane Sandy

For exemplary teamwork, dedication and innovative thinking in successfully implementing the Hurricane Sandy Competitive Resilience Program.

- Jamie Pfister (TPM)
- Kimberly Sledge (TPM)
- Adam Schildge (TPM)
- Dale Wegner (TPM)
- Eric Hu (TPM)
- Samuel Snead (TPM)
- Peter Mazurek (TPE)
- Terence Plaskon (TPE)
- Bonnie Graves (TCC)
- Joanne Weinstock (TRO-1)
- Donovan Vincent (TRO-2/HSRO)
- John Susino (TRO-2/HSRO)
- Stephen Goodman (TRO-2/HSRO)
- Melody Hopson (TRO-5)

Team Awards - Distinguished

Project Management Oversight Contract (PMOC)

For superior service in the planning, preparation and execution of the 2014 re-procurement of the Project Management Oversight Contractor Program.

- Sepooh (Steve) Asatoorian (TPM)
- Deirdre Baker (TPM)
- Carlos Garay (TPM)
- Dave Moroney (TPM)
- Kim Nguyen (TPM)
- Christopher (Chris) Nutakor (TPM)
- Rotimi Ogunsuyi (TPM)
- Gertrina Reese (TPM)
- Tonya Better (TAD)
- Clifton Gardner (TAD)
- James Harper (TAD)
- Dorian Ridley-Curtis (TAD)
- Sonja Rousey (TAD)
- Patrick Centolanzi (TRI)
- Jim Muir (TSO)
- Stephen Pereira (TCC)
- Marilyn Scheffler (TRO-1)
- Corey Walker (TRO-3)
- Cheryle Tyson (TRO-6)
- Tiffany Gallegos (TRO-8)
- Jeffrey Davis (TRO-9)
- Raymond (Ray) Tellis (TRO-9)
- Susan Fletcher (TRO-10)

National Transit Database (NTD)

For outstanding teamwork in development of the next-generation National Transit Database online reporting system.

- David Hostetter (TAD)
- Brian Downey (TAD)
- Aarum Lindo (TAD)
- John Giorgis (TBP)
- Keith Gates (TBP)

State Safety Oversight Grant

For providing critical safety guidance to rail transit agencies through the development of the State Safety Oversight Grant program.

- Angela Dluger (TSO)
- Maria Wright (TSO)
- Joseph Powell (TSO)
- Richard Wong (TCC)
- Scott Biehl (TCC)
- Duana Love (TRO-5)
- Tiffany Gallegos (TRO-8)

Team Awards - Distinguished

MASS DOT

For distinguished teamwork to advance in the development and compliance with EEO Requirements.

- Linda Ford (TCR)
- Anita Heard (TCR)
- Margaret (Peggy) Griffin (TCR/TRO-1)
- MaryBeth Mello (TRO-1)

WMATA Financial Management

Outstanding efforts in providing oversight as it relates to WMATA's Financial Management Oversight review findings.

- JoeElla Day (TBP)
- Michael Whitaker (TBP)
- Alison Pegram (TSO)
- Selene F. Dalton-Kumins (TSO)
- Melissa Barlow (TRO-3)
- Jay Fox (TRO-3)
- Reginald (Reggie) Lovelace (TRO-3)
- Vida Morkunas (TRO-3)
- Anthony (Tony) Tarone (TRO-3)
- Corey Walker (TRO-3)

Atlanta Streetcar

For overcoming a hurdle of challenges and forging strong partnerships to deliver a safe system.

- Angela Dluger (TSO)
- Sean Thompson (TSO)
- Maria Wright (TSO)
- Thomas Littleton (TSO)
- Margarita Maggie Sandberg (TRO-4)
- Micah Miller (TRO-4)
- Yvette Taylor (TRO-4)
- Dudley Whyte (TRO-4)

Team Awards - Meritorious

Knowledge and Experience Exchange Team (KEE)

For developing a program that provides activities to encourage connecting with others and establishing professional relationships.

- Ranmali Fonseka (TAD)
- Velvet Snow (TAD)
- Arthur (Turo) Dexter (TAD)
- Ricky Elum (TAD)
- Randelle Ripton (TAD)
- Shenaye' Holmes (TAD)

New Bus

For meritorious teamwork in providing technical assistance in support of the creation of a new transit bus testing rule.

- Marcel Belanger (TRI)
- Gregory Rymarz (TRI)
- Richard Wong (TCC)
- Awan Mazhar (TBP)

TPE Office of Planning

For improving how FTA administers the Metropolitan Planning program.

- Dwayne Weeks
- Victor Austin
- Faith Hall
- Candace Noonan
- Jeffrey (Jeff) Price
- Tonya Holland
- Allen (Anthony) Burton
- James Ryan
- Charles Goodman
- Kenneth Cervenka
- Nazrul Islam

Team Awards • Meritorious

TRO-1

For partnering to break down barriers to facilitate local interstate transit service.

- Noah Berger (TRO-1)
- Marilyn Scheffler (TRO-1)
- Nicholas Garcia (TRO-1)
- Joanne Weinstock (TRO-1)
- Wendy Lee (TCC/TRO-1)

TIFIA

For participating in a structured review and approval process to support the design and construction of the light rail extension project.

- Susan Fletcher (TRO-10)
- Kenneth Feldman (TRO-10)
- Paula Schwach (TCC/TRO-7)
- Bruce Robinson (TPM)
- Carlos Garay (TPM)

TRO-9

For meritorious achievement towards the Processing a record number of grant actions and funding amounts in the history of Region IX and for dealing with changes in California Law.

- Raymond Sukys
- Ted Matley
- Alexander Smith
- Lucinda Eagle
- Hymie Luden
- Jerome Wiggins,
- Eric Eidlin
- Dominique Paukowits
- Brenda Perez
- Delilah Harrington
- Raymond (Ray) Tellis
- Charlene Lee-Lorenzo
- Jonathan Klein
- Audrey Bredehoft
- Derrin Jourdan
- Renee Marler (TCC/TRO-9)
- Joonsik Maing (TCC/TRO-9)
- Mary Nguyen

Associate Administrator's/Regional Administrator's Honor Award

Matthew T. Heckler

Office of Administration

For outstanding service to FTA employees and managers ensuring the effective use of funds appropriated by Congress to support FTA employees in the accomplishment of their mission.

Eldridge Onco

Office of Chief Counsel

For skillful and successful mediation of an apportionment dispute between the Cherokee Nation and the United Keetowah Band of Cherokee Indians.

Katherine (Kate) D. Webb and Jennifer A. Bryant

Office of Communications and Congressional Affairs

For outstanding achievement in providing FTA with Congressional Affairs coordination at the highest levels of competency and professionalism.

Tawana Marie Glover

Office of Program Management

For excellence in support of TPM's mission and CFC Campaign.

Angela M. Dluger

Office of Transit Safety and Oversight

For strong leadership, fantastic attention to detail, and a willingness to shoulder any burden required to bring about success.

Elizabeth (Beth) A. Day, Alexander J. Ackmann, Maurice K. Foushee, Brian E. Jackson, Anthony H. C. Loui, Peter K. Mazurek - Gail McFadden-Roberts, Benjamin E. Owen, Michael A. Patella, Robyn A. Sinquefield and Joel R. Washington

Office of Capital Project Development

For your efforts in efficiently and effectively managing an increasing Capital Investment Grant project caseload and developing a solid policy foundation for implementation of MAP-21 that will serve FTA well into the future.

Britney D. Berry, Anita Heard, Susan A. Clark, Bryan Lee, Jonathan S. Ocana, John R Day, Dawn M. Sweet, and Monica J. McCallum

Office of Civil Rights - Civil Rights Oversight Assessment Team

For outstanding service in the completion of grantee risk assessment for civil rights.

Associate Administrator's/Regional Administrator's Honor Award

Jeffrey L. Spencer

Office of Research, Demonstration and Innovation

For exemplary contributions in helping to build morale and improve team spirit in TRI.

Godwin N. Nwosu, Joe Ella Day, Phyllis W. Metts, Michael D. Whitaker, Gerelene Womack, Carrie L. Smith, Kevin R. Williams, Katherine Lambert, Tracey D. Hopkins, Nicholas A. Jefferson, Kofi Twumasi-Ankrah, Iman J. Watson, and Nair G. Williams

Office of Budget and Policy - Office of Financial Management (OFM) Team

For dedication and excellence displayed by the OFM team to ensure the continuing successful operation of the FTA.

Joanne Weinstock

Cambridge Regional Office

For supporting FTA leadership as well as state and local champions on the advancement of the Fairmont Line Corridor Ladders of Opportunity Initiative.

Darreyl D. Davis

New York Regional Office

For demonstrating consistent professional excellence in delivering FTA oversight program objectives and significantly improving product processing and delivery and helping the New York Regional office meet their performance requirements.

Reginald (Reggie) B. Lovelace

Philadelphia Regional Office

For leading the Philadelphia Regional office during a transition and maintaining high standards for fiduciary stewardship through program management and oversight.

Associate Administrator's/Regional Administrator's Honor Award

Marie A. Lopez

Atlanta Regional Office

For excellent customer service in year-end closeouts.

Tarressa Carrell

Chicago Regional Office

For exemplary work ethic and commitment to Region 5's mission in achieving all Core Function Goals.

Phyllis K. DeGarmo

Fort Worth Regional Office

In recognition of your excellence customer service to ensure that FTA recipients achieve success and your outstanding efforts to improve the Region 6 business processes.

Cindy E. Terwilliger

Kansas City Regional Office

For continued dedication to represent and portray a positive image of the Kansas City Regional Office.

Timothy P. Sullivan

Denver Regional Office

In recognition of your efforts in coordinating the start-up and testing of the EAGLE Commuter Rail project to comply with the requirement of both FTA and FRA.

Bernardo O. Bustamante

San Francisco Regional Office

For unwavering commitment and exemplary contributions in the management and oversight of Region IX's Capital Investment Grant portfolio.

Carrie J. Deichl, Susan K. Fletcher, and James S. Saxton

Seattle Regional Office - Operations & Program Management Team

For achieving outstanding results on FTA's core Team performance measures and providing superior customer service despite severe staffing shortfalls during the spring and summer of 2014.

Service Year Recognition

30 Years

Denver Regional Office

Linda M. Gehrke

Office of Chief Counsel

Renee M. Marler

35 Years

Office of Budget and Policy

Gerelene Womack

Office of Research, Demonstration and Innovation

William E. Wiggins

Philadelphia Regional Office

Deborah A. Brown

40 Years

Office of Transit Safety and Oversight

Esther White

International Administrator's Honor Award 30 Years

Presented to

Mr. [Name]

Director, Regional Office
[Address]
[City, State, Zip]
[Country]

For his outstanding
contributions to the
[Organization]

Presented by
[Name]
[Title]

35 Years

Office of Budget and Policy
[Address]
[City, State, Zip]

Chief, [Department]
[Address]
[City, State, Zip]

Presented to
Mr. [Name]

40 Years

Office of Travel, Safety and Oversight
[Address]
[City, State, Zip]





