



American Public Transportation Association

Public Transit COVID-19 Emergency Funding Talking Points **#SavePublicTransit**

February 9, 2021

- The COVID-19 pandemic has driven home the vital role public transit plays in our communities, bringing healthcare professionals to the frontlines, delivering groceries and medicine to at-risk populations, and connecting essential workers to their places of work.
- **The House Transportation and Infrastructure Committee's Budget Reconciliation Title provides \$30 billion of public transit emergency funding.**
- According to the Federal Transit Administration (FTA), as of February 2, 2021, **public transit agencies have obligated 96 percent of CARES Act transit funds** through 783 grants totaling nearly \$23.9 billion of the \$25 billion appropriated; nearly two-thirds (64 percent) of these funds have been fully expended.
- Based on January 2021 APTA surveys of transit agencies and businesses, **without additional emergency funding, four in 10 transit agencies will have to consider additional service cuts to close their budget gaps.**
- In addition, **nearly four in 10 manufacturers, engineering firms, and other transit industry businesses will be forced to lay off employees** if Congress does not provide additional COVID-19 emergency funding for public transit.
- **APTA urges Members of the House Transportation and Infrastructure Committee to oppose all amendments to transfer, cut, or eliminate the \$30 billion of COVID-19 emergency transit funding or the \$1.5 billion of emergency Amtrak funding in the Budget Reconciliation Title.**
- **The public transportation industry's very survival is at stake.**