



Agency Safety Plan

Yuba-Sutter Transit Authority

2100 B Street

Marysville, CA 95901

Approved by Board of Directors

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Annual Review/Approval Completed for Implementation

May 19, 2022

Updated

December 15, 2022

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Keith Martin", is written over a horizontal line.

Signature of Accountable Executive

Keith Martin, Executive Director

A handwritten date "12-15-22" in blue ink is written over a horizontal line.

Date

Contents

Section 1: Transit Agency Information.....	5
Subsection 1.1: Accountable Executive	5
Subsection 1.2: Chief Safety Officer.....	5
Subsection 2.1: Drafting the Plan	6
Subsection 2.2: Signature by the Accountable Executive and Approval by the Board.....	6
Subsection 2.3: Certification of Compliance	6
Subsection 2.4: Plan Review and Updates.....	7
Section 3: Safety Performance Targets (SPTs)	7
Subsection 3.1: Target Development.....	7
Section 4: Overview of the Agency’s Safety Management Systems (SMS)	8
Section 5: Safety Management Policy	9
Subsection 5.1: Safety Management Policy Statement.....	9
Subsection 5.2: Safety Management Policy Communication	10
Subsection 5.3: Employee Safety Reporting Program	10
Subsection 5.4: SMS Authorities, Accountabilities, and Responsibilities	11
Subsection 5.4.1: Accountable Executive	12
Subsection 5.4.2: Chief Safety Officer.....	12
Subsection 5.4.3: Agency Leadership and Executive Management	13
Subsection 5.4.4: Key Staff.....	13
Section 6: Safety Risk Management (SRM).....	14
Subsection 6.1: Safety Hazard Identification	14
Subsection 6.2: Safety Risk Assessment	15
Subsection 6.3: Safety Risk Mitigation.....	18
Subsection 6.4 Physical Systems and Hazard Control Strategies.....	18
Section 7: Safety Assurance	19
Subsection 7.1: Safety Performance Monitoring and Measurement	19
Section 8: Safety Promotion	21
Subsection 8.1: Safety Communication	21
Subsection 8.2: Competencies and Training.....	22
Section 9: Documentation	23
Section 10: Attachments.....	23

Definitions

Accident means an Event that involves any of the following: a loss of life; a report of a serious injury to a person; a collision of public transportation vehicles; an evacuation for life safety reasons.

Accountable Executive means the single, identifiable person who has ultimate responsibility for carrying out the Public Transportation Agency Safety Plan of the Agency. The Account Executive also has responsibility for carrying out the Agency's Transit Asset Management Plan and control or direction over the human and capital resources needed to develop and maintain both the Agency's Public Transportation Agency Safety Plan (PTASP), in accordance with 49 U.S.C. § 5329(d), and the Agency's Transit Asset Management Plan (TAM) in accordance with 49 U.S.C. § 5326.

Agency or Transit Agency means the Yuba-Sutter Transit Authority or Yuba-Sutter Transit.

Board of Directors means governing body of the Yuba-Sutter Transit Authority.

Caltrans means the California Department of Transportation.

Chief Safety Officer means the adequately trained individual who has responsibility for safety and reports directly to the Transit Agency's chief executive officer.

CFR means Code of Federal Regulations.

Event means any Accident, Incident, or Occurrence.

FTA means the Federal Transit Administration, an operating administration within the United States Department of Transportation.

Hazard means any real or potential condition that can cause injury, illness, or death, damage to or loss of the facilities, equipment, rolling stock, or infrastructure of the system, or damage to the environment.

Incident means an Event that involves any of the following: a personal injury that is not a serious injury, one or more injuries requiring medical transport, or damage to facilities, equipment, rolling stock, or infrastructure that disrupts the operations of the Transit Agency.

Investigation means the process of determining the causal and contributing factors of an accident, incident, or hazard, for the purpose of preventing recurrence and mitigating risk.

National Public Transportation Safety Plan means the plan to improve the safety of all public transportation systems that receive federal financial assistance under 49 U.S.C. Chapter 53.

Occurrence means an Event without any personal injury in which any damage to facilities, equipment, rolling stock, or infrastructure does not disrupt the operations of the Transit Agency.

Part 673 means 49 CFR (Code of Federal Regulations) Part 673.

Performance Measure means an expression based on a quantifiable indicator of performance or condition used to establish targets and to assess progress toward meeting the established targets.

Performance target means a quantifiable level of performance or condition, expressed as a value for the measure, to be achieved within a period of time required by the Federal Transit Administration (FTA).

Risk means the composite of predicted severity and likelihood of the potential effect of a hazard.

Risk mitigation means a method or methods to eliminate or reduce the effects of hazards.

Safety Assurance means processes within the Transit Agency's Safety Management Systems that function to ensure the implementation and effectiveness of safety risk mitigation, and to ensure that the Transit Agency meets or exceeds its safety objectives through the collection, analysis, and assessment of information.

Safety Management Policy means the Transit Agency's documented commitment to safety, which defines the Transit Agency's safety objectives and the accountabilities and responsibilities of its employees in regard to safety.

Safety Management Systems (SMS) means the formal, top-down, organization-wide approach to managing safety risk and assuring the effectiveness of a Transit Agency's safety risk mitigation. SMS includes systematic procedures, practices, and policies for managing risks and hazards.

Safety Performance Target (SPT) means a Performance Target related to safety management activities.

Safety Promotion means a combination of training and communication of safety information to support SMS as applied to the Transit Agency's public transportation system.

Safety Risk Assessment (SRA) means the formal activity whereby the Transit Agency determines Safety Risk Management priorities by establishing the significance or value of its safety risks.

Safety Risk Management (SRM) means a process within the Transit Agency's Public Transportation Agency Safety Plan for identifying hazards and analyzing, assessing, and mitigating safety risk.

Serious injury means any injury which: (1) requires hospitalization for more than 48 hours, commencing within seven days from the date the injury was received, (2) results in a fracture of any bone (except simple fractures of fingers, toes, or noses), (3) causes severe hemorrhages, nerve, muscle, or tendon damage; (4) involves any internal organ, or (5) involves second or third-degree burns, or any burns affecting more than five percent of the body surface.

State of Good Repair (SGR) means the condition in which a capital asset is able to operate at a full level of performance.

Transit Asset Management Plan means the strategic and systematic practice of procuring, operating, inspecting, maintaining, rehabilitating, and replacing transit capital assets to manage their performance, risks, and costs over their life cycles, for the purpose of providing safe, cost-effective, and reliable public transportation, as required by 49 U.S.C. 5326 and 49 CFR part 625.

U.S.C. means United States Code.

Section 1: Transit Agency Information

Yuba-Sutter Transit is a joint powers agency for the provision of public transportation. The Agency formed in 1975 by an agreement between Yuba County, Sutter County, the City of Marysville, and the City of Yuba City under the authority of the Joint Exercise of Powers Act (Section 6500 et seq. of the California Government Code). The Agency operates fixed route and demand response services in designated areas of Yuba and Sutter Counties. The Agency also operates a commuter service between these counties and downtown Sacramento. Yuba-Sutter Transit purchases transportation services from a designated contractor (currently Storer Transit Systems of Modesto, CA). Yuba-Sutter Transit is a direct recipient of Section 5307, Section 5310, and Section 5311 funds. Yuba-Sutter Transit provides transportation services on behalf of the cities of Live Oak and Wheatland.

Subsection 1.1: Accountable Executive

Yuba-Sutter Transit's Accountable Executive is the Executive Director. The Executive Director is the single, identifiable person who has ultimate responsibility for carrying out this Agency Safety Plan, Yuba-Sutter Transit's Transit Asset Management (TAM) Plan. They provide control or direction over the human and capital resources needed to develop and maintain both this Plan and the TAM Plan.

The Executive Director is accountable for ensuring that the Agency's Safety Management Systems (SMS) are effectively implemented throughout the Agency's public transportation system. The Executive Director is accountable for ensuring action is taken, as necessary, to address substandard performance in the Agency's SMS. The Executive Director may delegate specific responsibilities, but the ultimate accountability for the Transit Agency's safety performance cannot be delegated and always rests with the Executive Director.

Subsection 1.2: Chief Safety Officer

The Executive Director designates the General Manager of its contracting agency for operations as Yuba-Sutter Transit's Chief Safety Officer who has the authority and responsibility for day-to-day implementation and operation of the Agency's SMS. The Chief Safety Officer holds a direct line of reporting to the Accountable Executive, as shown in the organization charts in Attachment 1.1 and 1.2 and has a strong working relationship with the operations and asset management functions at Yuba-Sutter Transit.

Section 2: Plan Development, Approval, and Updates

Caltrans developed the contents of Yuba-Sutter Transit's Agency Safety Plan (ASP) to meet requirements specified in 49 CFR Part 673 and comply with Part 673.11(d) regarding Caltrans' responsibility to develop an ASP for any small public transportation provider that is located in California. This Plan is based on the four (4) principles or pillars of the Safety Management Systems (SMS). SMS is defined as the formal, top-down, organization-wide, data-driven approach to managing safety risk and assuring the effectiveness of safety mitigations. It includes systematic policies, procedures, and practices for the management of safety risk. The four principles or pillars of SMS are: (1) Safety Management Policy; (2) Safety Risk Management; (3) Safety Assurance; and (4) Safety Promotion.

Subsection 2.1: Drafting the Plan

Caltrans drafted this Plan, thus meeting the requirements of 49 CFR Part 673.11(d). FTA will oversee compliance with the requirements of Part 673 through the existing Triennial Review processes.

Should Yuba-Sutter Transit no longer meet the definition of a small public transportation provider or choose to opt-out of the Caltrans Agency Safety Plan, and within one year from the date of notifying the State of either development, Yuba-Sutter Transit will draft and certify its own Agency Safety Plan. If Yuba-Sutter Transit operates more than 100 vehicles, Yuba-Sutter Transit must fulfil requirements of systems operating more than 100 vehicles.

Subsection 2.2: Signature by the Accountable Executive and Approval by the Board

Pursuant to 49 CFR Part 673.11 (a)(1), this Agency Safety Plan and subsequent updates must be signed by the Accountable Executive and approved by Yuba-Sutter Transit's Board. Documentation of Board approval is found in Attachment 2.

Subsection 2.3: Certification of Compliance

Pursuant to 49 CFR Parts 673.13(a) and 673.13(b), Caltrans certifies that it has established this Agency Safety Plan, meeting the requirements of 49 CFR Part 673 by July 20, 2020 and will certify its compliance with 49 CFR Part 673.

After Caltrans initial certification, and on an annual basis, Yuba-Sutter Transit must update this Agency Safety Plan by July 20 in perpetuity. All Agency Safety Plan updates shall be signed by the Accountable Executive and approved by Yuba-Sutter Transit's Board.

The FTA does not require this plan to be submitted to the FTA. Instead, Caltrans will certify that it has established this Safety Plan, which fulfills the requirements under Part 673. FTA annually amends and issues the list of Certifications and Assurances.

Caltrans will review such guidance for incorporation into the safety program as necessary.

Subsection 2.4: Plan Review and Updates

Yuba-Sutter Transit updates this Safety Plan when information, processes or activities change within the Agency and/or when Part 673 undergoes significant changes, or annually, whichever comes sooner. As Yuba-Sutter Transit collects data through its Safety Risk Management and Safety Assurance processes and shares it with Caltrans and the local Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) as described in subsection 3.1 below, the MPO and Caltrans will evaluate Yuba-Sutter Transit's safety performance targets (SPTs) to determine whether they need to be changed, as well.

Each April, this Plan will be jointly reviewed and updated by the Chief Safety Officer, Executive Director, and applicable support staff including frontline employee representatives, with the assistance of subject matter experts. The Accountable Executive will approve any changes then forward the Plan to the Board of Directors at their May regular meeting for approval each year.

This Plan may need to be reviewed and updated more frequently based on the following:

- We determine our approach to mitigating safety deficiencies is ineffective.
- We make significant changes to service delivery.
- We introduce new processes or procedures that may impact safety.
- We change or re-prioritize resources available to support SMS.
- We significantly change our organizational structure.

Section 3: Safety Performance Targets (SPTs)

Subsection 3.1: Target Development

Yuba-Sutter Transit includes SPTs in this Safety Plan. These targets are specific numerical targets set by Yuba-Sutter Transit and based on the safety Performance Measures established by FTA in the National Public Transportation Safety Plan. In the most recent version, the 2017 NSP3, FTA adopted four initial safety Performance Measures: (1) Fatalities, (2) Injuries, (3) Safety Events, and (4) System Reliability.

Yuba-Sutter Transit developed safety performance targets that it will review and update annually. The specific safety performance targets are based on the safety performance measures established under the National Public Transportation Safety Plan and the safety performance goals set by Caltrans based on the past three (3) calendar years of data. The Safety Performance Targets for Yuba-Sutter Transit for the year 2022 are expected to stay within 1% +/- of the previous three years of data pertaining to fatalities, injuries, safety events, and system reliability.

Note: Baseline data for each target will need to be provided by each agency for Caltrans to develop goals.

FTA requires Caltrans to coordinate with Yuba-Sutter Transit and the Sacramento Area Council of Governments (SACOG) to the maximum extent practicable. Pursuant to 49 CFR Part 673.15(a), Yuba-Sutter Transit will make safety performance targets available to SACOG to aid in the planning process upon certification of this plan. Additionally, Yuba-Sutter Transit will transmit performance data against the safety performance targets to Caltrans and SACOG on an annual basis.

Caltrans will conduct coordination meetings with SACOG for the selection of State and MPO safety performance targets and goals.

Mode of Transit Service	Fatalities	Injuries	Safety Events	System Reliability
Fixed Route Integer Target	0	2	0	23,953 (VRMs between incidents)
Fixed Route Target per Vehicle Revenue Mile (VRM)	0	0.22	0	
Demand Response Integer Target	0	0	0	7,493 (VRMs between incidents)
Demand Response Target per Vehicle Revenue Mile	0	0	0	

Section 4: Overview of the Agency’s Safety Management Systems (SMS)

SMS is a comprehensive, collaborative approach that brings management and labor together to build on the transit industry’s existing safety foundation to control risk better, detect and correct safety problems earlier, share and analyze safety data more effectively, and measure safety performance more carefully. Yuba-Sutter Transit’s SMS focuses on applying resources to risk and is based on ensuring that Yuba-Sutter Transit has the organizational infrastructure to support decision-making at all levels regarding the assignment of resources.

Some key parts of Yuba-Sutter Transit’s SMS include:

- Defined roles and responsibilities,
- Strong executive safety leadership,
- Formal safety accountabilities and communication,
- Effective policies and procedures, and
- Active employee involvement.

Furthermore, Yuba-Sutter Transit's SMS has the following four distinct components, which it discusses in subsequent sections of this Safety Plan:

- Safety Policy
- Safety Risk Management
- Safety Assurance
- Safety Promotion

Section 5: Safety Management Policy

The first component of the Yuba-Sutter Transit's SMS is the Safety Management Policy, which is the foundation of the Yuba-Sutter Transit's safety management system. It clearly states the organization's safety objectives and sets forth the policies, procedures, and organizational structures necessary to accomplish the safety objectives. The Safety Management Policy clearly defines management and employee responsibilities for safety throughout the organization. It also ensures that management is actively engaged in the oversight of the system's safety performance by requiring regular review of the Safety Management Policy, budget, and program by the designated Accountable Executive.

Subsection 5.1: Safety Management Policy Statement

Safety is a core value at Yuba-Sutter Transit, and managing safety is a core business function. Yuba-Sutter Transit will develop, implement, maintain, and continuously improve processes to ensure the safety of our customers, employees, and the public. Yuba-Sutter Transit's overall safety objective is proactive management of safety hazards and their associated safety risk, with the intent to eliminate unacceptable safety risk in our transit operations.

Yuba-Sutter Transit will:

- Clearly and continuously explain to all staff that everyone working within Yuba-Sutter Transit must take part and be responsible and accountable for the development and operation of the Safety Management System (SMS).
- Work continuously to minimize safety risks.
- Work to comply with and, wherever possible, exceed legislative and regulatory requirements and standards for passengers and employees.
- Work to ensure provision to all employees appropriate safety information and training, that all employees are competent in safety matters, and that all tasks assigned to employees are commensurate with duties and skills.
- Reaffirm that responsibility for making our operations safer for everyone lies with all employees – from executive management to frontline employees. Each manager is responsible for implementing the SMS in their area of responsibility and is accountable to ensure taking all reasonable steps to perform activities established through the SMS.

Yuba Sutter Transit establishes safety performance targets to help measure the overall effectiveness of our processes and ensure we meet our safety objectives. Yuba-Sutter Transit will keep employees informed about safety performance goals and objectives to ensure continuous safety improvement.

Subsection 5.2: Safety Management Policy Communication

The Agency communicates the Safety Management Policy throughout the organization, to all employees, managers, and executives, as well as contractors, and to the Board of Directors.

The Agency accomplishes this through various processes, such as:

- Workshops/training sessions - Conducted for Senior Management, Directors, Managers, and/or Supervisors. Once the Executive Director signs this Plan or any update to this Plan, the Board of Directors approves the Plan or updates and Caltrans certifies the Plan or updates, it will become standard practice in perpetuity so that SMS becomes standard business practice. The Agency and/or any operations management staff keep all Union representatives informed as these actions occur.
- New Hire Safety Orientation – All new employees, regardless of their classifications, receive training about their roles and responsibilities pertaining to PTASP and the principles of SMS.
- Safety bulletins, email safety newsletter blasts to staff, toolbox/tailgate safety meetings and/or safety committee meetings.

Subsection 5.3: Employee Safety Reporting Program

Yuba-Sutter Transit implemented a process that allows Agency employees and contracted employees to report safety conditions to senior management and allows protections for employees who report safety conditions to senior management. The Agency describes the purpose, description, and protections for employees to report unsafe conditions and hazards in the Employee Safety Reporting Program, as shown in the following sections.

Purpose:

a) To establish a system for Yuba-Sutter Transit employees to identify unsafe conditions or hazards at work and report them to their department management without fear of reprisal. However, disciplinary action could result if the condition reported reveals the employee willfully participated in or conducted an illegal act, gross negligence or deliberate or willful disregard of regulations or procedures, including reporting to work under the influence of controlled substances, physical assault of a coworker or passenger, theft of agency property, unreported safety events, unreported collisions, and unreported passenger injuries or fatalities.

b) To provide guidelines for facilitating the timely correction of unsafe conditions or hazards by Yuba-Sutter Transit management.

Description:

a) This program provides a method for Yuba-Sutter Transit management to identify, evaluate, and correct or avoid unsafe conditions or hazards, procedural deficiencies, design inadequacies, equipment failures, or near misses that adversely affect the safety of employees.

Examples of voluntary safety reports include:

- Safety hazards in the operating environment (for example, county or city road conditions);
- Policies and procedures that are not working as intended (for example, insufficient time to complete pre-trip inspection);
- Events that senior managers might not otherwise know about (for example, near misses); and
- Information about why a safety event occurred (for example, radio communication challenges).

b) The program also involves recommending corrective actions and resolutions of identified unsafe conditions or hazards and/or near misses.

c) All employees have the obligation to report immediately any unsafe conditions or hazards and near misses to their immediate supervisor/department manager and may do so without fear of reprisal.

d) Unsafe conditions or hazards may also be identified as a result of occupational injury or illness investigations and/or by accident investigation.

e) Other means by which hazards may be identified are inspections/audits or observations made by the supervisors/management staff as referenced in agency's Safety Inspection Program.

f) Findings will be published immediately following mitigation actions. If employee identification is available, direct feedback regarding mitigation will be provided.

Subsection 5.4: SMS Authorities, Accountabilities, and Responsibilities

This Plan has assigned specific SMS authorities, accountabilities, and responsibilities to the designated Accountable Executive, Chief Safety Officer, Agency's Leadership/Executive Management, and Key Staff/Employees, as described below. Attachment 7 includes a table indicating names of staff currently in each role. Staff updates the table each April during the annual review and board approval process in time for the annual certification deadline of July 20 or as changes to staff require it.

Subsection 5.4.1: Accountable Executive

Yuba-Sutter Transit's Accountable Executive is the Executive Director. The Executive Director is accountable for ensuring effective implementation of the Agency's SMS throughout the Agency's public transportation system. The Executive Director is accountable for ensuring staff takes action, as necessary, to address substandard performance in the Agency's SMS. The Executive Director may delegate specific responsibilities, but the person in that position is ultimately accountable for the Yuba-Sutter Transit's safety performance. They cannot delegate safety performance accountability as it always rests with the Executive Director. The Executive Director is accountable for ensuring that employees effectively implement the Agency's SMS, and takes action, as necessary, to address substandard performance in the Agency's SMS. The Accountable Executive may delegate specific responsibilities, but not accountability for Yuba-Sutter Transit's safety performance.

The Accountable Executive roles include, but are not limited to, the following:

- Decision-making about resources (e.g. people and funds) to support asset management, SMS activities, and capital investments,
- Signing SMS implementation planning documents,
- Endorsing SMS implementation team membership,
- Ensuring consideration and addressing of safety concerns in the agency's ongoing budget planning process,
- Ensuring transparency in safety priorities for the Board of Directors and for the employees,
- Establishing guidance on the level of safety risk acceptable to the agency,
- Assuring appropriate communication of the safety policy throughout the agency, and
- Other duties as assigned/necessary.

Subsection 5.4.2: Chief Safety Officer

The Chief Safety Officer (CSO) is the General Manager for the contracting agency for operations. The CSO has the authority and responsibility for day-to-day implementation and operation of Yuba-Sutter Transit's SMS.

Chief Safety Officer's Roles include:

- Decision-making about resources (e.g., people and funds) to support asset management, SMS activities, and capital investments,
- Overseeing the safety risk management program by facilitating hazard identification, safety risk assessment, and the development and implementation of safety risk mitigations,
- Monitoring safety risk mitigation activities,
- Providing periodic reports on safety performance,

- Briefing the Accountable Executive and the Board of Directors on SMS implementation progress,
- Planning safety management training,
- Developing and organizing annual audits/reviews of SMS processes and the Agency Safety Plan to ensure compliance with 49 CFR Part 673 requirements,
- Maintaining safety documentation, and
- Other duties as assigned/necessary.

Subsection 5.4.3: Agency Leadership and Executive Management

The contracting agency's General Manager, Assistant Operations Manager, Safety & Training Manager and Human Resources Manager comprise Agency Leadership/Executive Management. Some of their responsibilities include:

- Day-to-day implementation of the Agency's SMS throughout their department and the organization;
- Communicating safety accountability and responsibility from the frontline employees to the top of the organization;
- Ensuring employees are following their working rules and procedures, safety rules and regulations in performing their jobs, and their specific roles and responsibilities in the implementation of this Agency Safety Plan and the Agency's SMS;
- Ensuring that employees comply with the safety reporting program and are reporting unsafe conditions and hazards to their department management;
- Ensuring reported unsafe conditions and hazards are addressed in a timely manner; and
- Ensuring that resources are sufficient to carry out employee training/certification and re-training as required by their job classifications.

Subsection 5.4.4: Key Staff

The agency Key Staff/Employees may include managers, supervisors, specialists, analysts, database administrators, and other key employees who are performing highly technical work and overseeing employees performing critical tasks and providing support in the implementation of this Agency Safety Plan and SMS principles in various departments throughout the agency.

Yuba-Sutter Transit's Key Staff/Employee responsibilities include:

- Ensuring that employees are complying with the safety reporting program;
- Ensuring supervisors are conducting their toolbox safety meetings;
- Promoting safety in employee's respective area of responsibilities, where safety means zero accidents, absence of any safety concerns, perfect employee performance and compliance with agency rules, procedures and regulatory requirements;

- Ensuring safety of passengers, employees, and the public;
- Responding to customer complaints and expectations for frequency, reliability, and convenience of service;
- Replacing and maintaining aging facilities, equipment, and infrastructure;
- Meeting increasing demands for fixed route, commuter service and paratransit service;
- Developing and maintaining programs to gather pertinent data elements to develop safety performance reports and conduct useful statistical analyses to identify trends and system performance targets;
- Establishing clear lines of safety communication and holding accountability for safety performance; and
- Assisting as subject matter experts in safety risk assessment and safety risk mitigation processes.

Section 6: Safety Risk Management (SRM)

The second component of the Yuba-Sutter Transit's SMS is Safety Risk Management, which includes processes and procedures to provide an understanding of the Agency's operations and vehicle maintenance to allow individuals to identify hazards associated with those activities.

Yuba-Sutter Transit has implemented a Safety Risk Management process for all elements of its transportation system. The Safety Risk Management process includes the following activities: safety hazard identification, safety risk assessment, and safety risk mitigation. Attachments 3, 4, 5, and 6 contain the plans, processes and documentation samples of the following programs that the agency and contractor utilize for successful implementation of Safety Risk Management: Employee Safety Reporting Program; Safety, Security-Awareness and First Observer Program; Accountability and Incentive Program; Injury and Illness Prevention Plan (IIPP).

Subsection 6.1: Safety Hazard Identification

Hazard identification is the first step in the Safety Risk Management process and a key component. It involves these fundamental safety-related activities: identifying safety hazards and their consequences; assessing the risks associated with the consequences of the hazards; and developing mitigations to reduce the potential consequences of the identified hazards.

The following is Yuba-Sutter Transit's methods and processes to identify hazards. The Agency considers, as a source for hazard identification, data and information provided by an oversight authority and the FTA. The Agency identifies hazards through a variety of sources, including:

- Employee safety reporting,
- Review of vehicle camera footage,
- Review of monthly performance data and safety performance targets,

- Observations from supervisors,
- Maintenance reports,
- Comments from customers, passengers, and third parties,
- Safety committee, driver and all-staff meetings,
- Results of audits and inspections of vehicles and facilities,
- Results of training assessments,
- Investigations into safety events, incidents and occurrences, and
- Information from FTA and oversight authorities.

When a hazard has been identified, whatever the source, it is reported to the Yuba-Sutter Transit Chief Safety Officer, who enters it into the Hazard Log. The Chief Safety Officer also may enter hazards into this log based on reviews of operations and maintenance activities and procedures.

The Chief Safety Officer will investigate hazards to collect information and determine any need to enter the hazard information into the safety/risk assessment process. In following up on identified hazards, the Chief Safety Officer may:

- Reach out to the reporting party, if available, to gather all known information about the reported hazard,
- Conduct a walkthrough of the affected area, assessing the possible hazardous condition, generating visual documentation (photographs and/or video), and taking any measurements deemed necessary,
- Conduct interviews with employees in the area to gather potentially relevant information on the reported hazard,
- Review any documentation associated with the hazard (records, reports, procedures, inspections, technical documents, etc.),
- Contact other departments that may have association with or technical knowledge relevant to the reported hazard,
- Review any past reported hazards of a similar nature, and
- Evaluate tasks and/or processes associated with the reported hazard.

Any staff that identify a hazard that poses an immediate risk to transit operations, the health and safety of employees or the public, or equipment must immediately bring it to the attention of the Accountable Executive. Responsible staff will place the hazard or hazards through the Safety Risk Management process for safety risk assessment and mitigation. Otherwise, responsible staff will prioritize any hazards for further Safety Risk Management activity.

Subsection 6.2: Safety Risk Assessment

Safety risk assessment defines the level or degree of the safety risk by assessing the likelihood and severity of the consequences of hazards and prioritizes hazards based on the safety risk. The Chief Safety Officer, with assistance from key staff subject matter experts, is responsible for assessing identified hazards and ratings using the Safety

Risk Assessment Matrix below. Prioritizing safety risk provides the Accountable Executive with the information needed to make decisions about resource application.

The following matrix, adopted from the TSI Participation Guide – SMS Principles for Transit, facilitates the ranking of hazards based on their probability of occurrence and severity of their outcome. The measuring goes from A to F with A being frequent or likely to occur frequently and E being improbable or expected that this event will most likely never occur. Agency staff use designation F when identifying and later eliminating potential hazards.

Probability Levels			
Description	Level	Specific Individual Item	Fleet Inventory
Frequent	A	Likely to occur often in the life of an item.	Continuously experienced.
Probable	B	Will occur several times in the life of an item.	Will occur frequently.
Occasional	C	Likely to occur sometime in the life of an item.	Will occur several times.
Remote	D	Unlikely, but possible to occur in the life of an item.	Unlikely, but can reasonably be expected to occur.
Improbable	E	So unlikely, it can be assumed occurrence may not be experienced in the life of an item.	Unlikely to occur, but possible.
Eliminated	F	Incapable of occurrence. The ranking uses this level when identifying and later eliminating potential hazards.	Incapable of occurrence. The ranking uses this level when identifying and later eliminating potential hazards.

The Safety Levels table below presents a typical safety risk. It includes four categories to denote the level of severity of the occurrence of a consequence, the meaning of each category, and the assignment of a value to each category using numbers. In this table, Level 1 is considered catastrophic meaning possible deaths and equipment destroyed and Level 4 is considered negligible or of little consequence with two levels in between.

Severity Levels		
Description	Level	Mishap Result Criteria
Catastrophic	1	Could Result in one or more of the following: death, permanent total disability, irreversible significant environmental impact, or monetary loss equal to or exceeding \$10M

Severity Levels

Critical	2	Could result in one or more of the following: permanent partial disability, injuries or occupational illness that may result in hospitalization of at least three personnel, reversible significant environmental impact, or monetary loss equal to or exceeding \$1M but less than \$10M
Marginal	3	Could result in one or more of the following: injuries or occupational illness resulting in one or more lost work day(s), reversible moderate environmental impact, or monetary loss equal to or exceeding \$100k but less than \$1M
Negligible	4	Could result in one or more of the following: injuries or occupational illness not resulting in lost workday, minimum environmental impact; or monetary loss less than \$100k.

The Safety Risk Assessment Matrix and Safety Risk Index Ranking each combine the Safety Risk Probability and the Safety Risk Severity to help prioritize safety risks according to the tables below.

Safety Risk Assessment Matrix				
Severity → Probability ↓	Catastrophic 1	Critical 2	Marginal 3	Negligible 4
A-Frequent	1A	2A	3A	4A
B- Probable	1B	2B	3B	4B
C-Occasional	1C	2C	3C	4C
D- Remote	1D	2D	3D	4D
E- Improbable	1E	2E	3E	4E
F- Eliminated				
Safety Risk Index Ranking				
1A, 1B, 1C, 2A, 2B	High	Unacceptable		
1D, 2C, 3A, 3B	Serious	Undesirable - With management decision required		
1E, 2D, 2E, 3C, 3D, 3E, 4A, 4B,	Medium	Acceptable - with review by management		
4C, 4D, 4E	Low	Acceptable - without review		

The Chief Safety Officer documents recommendations regarding hazard rating and mitigation options and reports this information to the Accountable Executive.

Subsection 6.3: Safety Risk Mitigation

The Chief Safety Officer, assisted by Key Staff subject matter experts, reviews current safety risk mitigations and establish procedures to 1) eliminate; 2) mitigate; 3) accept specific risks. Involved staff base prioritization of safety remediation measures on risk analysis and a course of action acceptable to Yuba-Sutter Transit management. Agency staff must mitigate the safety risk if ranked as Unacceptable (High-Red). Those safety risks that have been mitigated, even mitigated risks shown as Acceptable status (Low-Green), undergo regular and consistent monitoring to ensure the mitigation strategy is effective.

Key strategies to minimize the types of risks that potentially exist include:

- Development and deployment of policies and procedures that address known hazards and risks,
- Development and deploy measures to minimize exposure of all workers to infectious disease;
- Discussion of other actions, strategies and procedures that might help safeguard against unknown/unforeseen risks,
- Training of drivers and other agency staff on all safety policies and procedures,
- Training of drivers and other agency staff on methodologies for handling emergencies, and
- Training of drivers and staff on proper and effective use of emergency equipment and communication technologies and protocol.

The Chief Safety Officer tracks and updates safety risk mitigations in the Hazard Log, accessed through documentation associated with the contractor's Injury & Illness Prevention Program (IIPP). Attachment 6 contains a copy of this plan.

Subsection 6.4 Physical Systems and Hazard Control Strategies

The following methodologies are used to ensure system safety and security objectives to eliminate or control hazards. The specific actions in each methodology incorporate physical, administrative, and behavioral defenses, including strategies to minimize exposure to infectious diseases. These following controls are implemented throughout design, construction, procurement, and operations:

1. Design out hazards or design to minimize hazard severity to the extent permitted by cost and practicality. Identified hazards are eliminated or controlled by the design of equipment, systems, and facilities.
2. Develop mitigating provisions for hazards that cannot reasonably be eliminated or controlled through design which are controlled to an acceptable

level using fixed, automatic, or other protective safety design features or devices. Provisions are made for periodic performance of functional checks of safety devices and employee training to meet system safety objectives.

3. When design, training, and safety devices cannot reasonably nor effectively eliminate or control an identified hazard, safety warning devices are used (to the extent practicable) to alert persons of the hazard.
4. Where it is impossible to reasonably eliminate or adequately control a hazard through design or the use of safety and warning devices, procedures and training are used to control the hazard. Cautionary notations are standardized for use by all persons involved and safety-critical issues will require certification of authorized personnel.

The Safety Risk Index defines the magnitude of any specific hazard item without implementation of design, construction, procurement, or operational measures to control or mitigate the risk. The Safety & Training Manager will identify sets of proposed mitigation actions to eliminate or control each identified risk and evaluate the Residual Risk Index, based on those mitigating actions, to assess the potential effectiveness, and inform the Chief Safety Officer of the determination of whether the hazard is adequately controlled or mitigated.

Section 7: Safety Assurance

The third component of the Agency's SMS is Safety Assurance, which ensures the performance and effectiveness of safety risk controls established under safety risk management. Safety assurance also helps ensure that the organization meets or exceeds its safety objectives through the collection, analysis, and assessment of data regarding the organization's performance. Safety assurance includes inspection activities to support oversight and performance monitoring.

Yuba-Sutter Transit monitors its operations and maintenance protocols and procedures, and any safety risk mitigations to ensure that it is implementing them as planned. Furthermore, the Agency investigates safety events (as defined in the contractor's Safety, Security-Awareness and First Observer Program - Attachment 5) and any reports of non-compliance with applicable regulations, standards, and legal authority. Finally, the Agency continually monitors information reported to it through any internal safety reporting programs, including the employee safety-reporting program. The following sub-section shows some of the key elements of Yuba-Sutter Transit's Safety Performance Monitoring and Measurement.

Subsection 7.1: Safety Performance Monitoring and Measurement

As part of the Safety Assurance Process, Yuba-Sutter Transit:

- Monitors the system for compliance with, and sufficiency of, the Agency's procedures for operations and maintenance through:
 - Safety audits,
 - Informal inspections,
 - Regular review of on-board camera footage to assess drivers and specific incidents,
 - Safety surveys,
 - Employee safety reporting program,
 - Investigation of safety occurrences,
 - Safety review prior to the launch or modification of any facet of service,
 - Daily data gathering and monitoring of data relating to the delivery of service,
 - Regular vehicle inspections and preventative maintenance, and
 - Continuous feedback loop between leadership and all levels of the agency;
- Monitors its operations to identify any safety risk mitigations that may be ineffective, inappropriate, or were not implemented as intended through:
 - Reviewing results from accident, incident, and occurrence investigations,
 - Monitoring employee safety reporting,
 - Reviewing results of internal safety audits and inspections, and
 - Analyzing operational and safety data to identify emerging safety concerns;
- Conducts investigations of safety events to identify causal factors; and
- Monitors information reported through any internal safety reporting programs via the following:
 - The Chief Safety Officer routinely reviews safety data captured in employee safety reports, safety meeting minutes, customer complaints, and other safety communication channels. When necessary, the Chief Safety Officer ensures that the issues and concerns are investigated or analyzed through the safety risk assessment process.
 - The Chief Safety Officer also reviews the results of internal and external reviews, including audits and assessments, with findings affecting safety performance, compliance with operations and maintenance procedures, or the effectiveness of safety risk mitigations. The Chief Safety Officer discusses relevant safety issues and concerns with the Accountable Executive and executive management and documents the results of these reviews in the Hazard Log.

In the event of a fatality, Yuba-Sutter Transit complies with all FTA drug and alcohol requirements.

In California, every driver involved in an accident that results in death, injury, or property damage over \$1000, effective January 1, 2017, must report the accident on a Report of Traffic Accident Occurring in California (SR 1) form to DMV. The report forms are available at www.dmv.ca.gov, by calling 1-800-777-0133, and at CHP and DMV offices. Also, under California Vehicle Code §16002(b), the driver of a vehicle that is owned or

operated by a publicly owned or operated transit system, or that is operated under contract with a publicly owned or operated transit system, and that is used to provide regularly scheduled transportation to the general public or for other official business of the system, shall, within 10 days of the occurrence of the accident, report to the transit system any accident of a type otherwise required to be reported pursuant to subdivision (a) of Section 16000 . Yuba-Sutter Transit requires driver notification to Yuba-Sutter Transit immediately and maintains records of any report filed pursuant to this paragraph.

Section 8: Safety Promotion

The fourth component of the Agency's SMS is Safety Promotion, which includes a combination of training and communication of safety information to employees to enhance the Agency's safety performance. Safety Promotion sets the tone for the SMS and helps Yuba-Sutter Transit to establish and maintain a robust safety culture. Safety Promotion has two-components: (1) Safety Communication; and (2) Competencies and Training.

Subsection 8.1: Safety Communication

Yuba-Sutter Transit communicates safety and safety performance information throughout the organization that, at a minimum, conveys information on hazards and safety risks relevant to employees' roles and responsibilities and informs employees of safety actions taken in response to reports submitted through an employee safety-reporting program.

Ongoing safety communication is critical and Yuba-Sutter Transit ensures communication occurs up, down, and across all levels of the organization. Key staff and management communicate any lessons learned to all concerned. Management also communicates its commitment to address safety concerns and hazards on a regular basis. Management encourages and motivates employees to communicate openly, authentically, and without concern for reprisal; ensures employees are aware of SMS principles and understand their safety-related roles and responsibilities; conveys safety critical information such as accident data, injuries, and reported safety concerns and hazards and their resolutions to employees.

Yuba-Sutter Transit's tools to support safety communication include:

- Safety bulletins
- Safety notices
- Posters
- CDs or Thumb drives or online safety video access
- Newsletters
- Briefings or Toolbox talks
- Seminars and workshops
- New employee training and refresher training

- Intranet or social media
- Safety Committee Meetings

Subsection 8.2: Competencies and Training

Executive Management ensures that all employees attend the training provided to understand their specific roles and responsibilities for the implementation of SMS.

Yuba-Sutter Transit provides SMS training in the following areas:

- All Employees
 - Understanding of Safety Performance Targets
 - Understanding of fundamental principles of SMS
 - Understanding of Safety Reporting Program – Reporting unsafe conditions and hazards/near misses
 - Understanding of their individual roles and responsibilities under SMS
- Managers and Supervisors
 - Understanding of Safety Risk Management
 - Understanding of Safety Assurance
 - Understanding of Safety Promotion
 - Understanding of their individual roles and responsibilities for SMS
- Executive Management
 - Understanding of management commitment to and support of all SMS activities

All employees are required to acquire the competencies and knowledge for the consistent application of their skills as they relate to safety performance objectives. Yuba-Sutter Transit dedicates resources to conduct effective safety-related skill training. The scope of the safety training is appropriate to each employee's individual safety-related job responsibilities and their role in SMS.

Components of Yuba-Sutter Transit's skill-related training include:

- Conducting training needs analyses to ensure that the right information is taught to the right employees using the most efficient training methods;
- Passenger Management training which includes de-escalation and conflict resolution tools;
- Assault Awareness and Prevention for Transit Operators training;
- Communicating purpose, objectives, and outcome;
- Defensive driving training for accident avoidance;
- Ensuring relevant content by directly linking training to the trainee's job experiences so trainees are more motivated to learn;
- Using active hands-on demonstrations and practice to demonstrate skills that are taught and provide opportunities for trainees to practice skills;
- Providing regular feedback during hands-on practice and exercises; and

- Reinforcing training concepts in the post-training work environment by giving employees opportunities to perform what they have learned.

Specific safety-related skill training programs include:

- Storer Transit Systems: Safety, Security-Awareness and First Observer Program
- Assault Awareness and Prevention for Transit Operators by Rutgers
- TSA First Observer Plus

Yuba-Sutter Transit conducts refresher training annually during employee safety meetings.

Section 9: Documentation

Pursuant to 49 CFR Part 673.31, Yuba-Sutter Transit maintains records related to this Safety Plan and SMS implementation for a minimum of three years. These documents include but are not limited to the results from SMS processes and activities. Yuba-Sutter Transit will make these documents available to FTA Region 9, Caltrans, and other Federal and state agencies upon request.

Section 10: Attachments

The following pages include all attachments referred within and related to this Agency Safety Plan.