

# Strategies to Prevent, Reduce and Mitigate Bus Collisions

Florida Transit Safety Network  
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## Approach

- **Task 1** – Initial telephone interviews with transit agencies to identify policies, procedures and any associated strengths and/or areas of need for the following:
  - Collision documentation and reporting
  - Post-collision investigation
  - Risk Management
  - Training (both pre- and post-collision)
  - Use of technologies for signaling, warning, avoidance, etc.
  - Exterior vehicle equipment configurations, paint schemes and graphics
- **Task 2** – Identify 15 transit agencies for case study with data collection for all agency collisions, interviews with key personnel and any follow-up needed.
- **Task 3** – Synthesize results, provide conclusions and recommendations with definitive best practices, policies and procedures to reduce, mitigate and prevent rear-ended and side impact collisions.



## Objectives

- **Strategies that effectively prevent and mitigate rear-ended and side-impact collisions including the following:**
  - Collision documentation and reporting
  - Practices in risk management to manage liability and recovery
  - Practices in training/policies/procedures
  - Uses and needs for technology and rear bus treatments
  - Paint schemes and graphics



- Group transit agencies by size
- Compile System Safety Program Plans
- Conduct telephone interviews

### Activities

- Large Transit Agencies >220 buses
- Medium Transit Agencies >100 and <199 buses
- Small Transit agencies <100 buses
- Review for collision procedures
- Ascertain areas in need of development
- Prepare and share questions in advance
- Identify agencies for further case study



• Site Visits

**Activities**

- Coordinate with other research efforts so as not to duplicate
- Make available all files relative to all collision types. Files may be housed in Operations, Risk Management, and/or Finance.
- 2-3 days in duration
- Review of records
- Expert Review
- Exit Interviews

• 19 Questions

**Questions**

How does the agency define and classify preventable vs. non-preventable collisions and how do those definitions impact rear-ended and side impact collision investigation, reporting, and future prevention?

Does the agency track causal or contributing factors to rear-ended and side impact collision events and are there strategies for future prevention based on those factors?

Does the agency provide training (individual or collective) in response to identified trends in causal or contributory factors and what results have been achieved by such training?

How are rear-ended and side impact collisions documented during and post event and how is documentation used for future prevention and/or mitigation?

Are there checklists that must be completed before a file can be considered closed and, if not, what does the agency need to ensure completion of all internal policies and procedures?

What elements of post collision investigation are utilized by the agency in alignment with a comprehensive collision investigation training curriculum and which yield the best results and insight into collision reconstruction and future prevention?

- Synthesis and Results

### Activities

Ensure that the *outcomes* of this study **produce results** that are **actionable and adoptable** by transit systems.

To ensure that results provide agencies with **specific strategies to reduce, prevent and mitigate rear-ended and side impact collisions**.

To provide **general strategies** and recommendations that provide criteria, guidelines, and programs for FDOT to manage statewide collision reduction goals.