



In this issue:

- [U.S. House of Representatives Passes Bill To Boost Amtrak Funding](#)
- [Inaugural Western Regional Audit Forum](#)
- [APTA Internal Audit Committee Meeting](#)

U.S. House of Representatives Passes Bill to Boost Amtrak Funding

Today, the U.S. House of Representatives adopted legislation to reauthorize Amtrak. If the Passenger Rail Investment and Improvement Act of 2008 (H.R. 6003) is adopted by the Senate and signed into law by the President, it would dramatically increase federal funding for Amtrak. The bill authorizes, over a five year period, \$4.2 billion to Amtrak for capital grants and \$3 billion for operating grants. The measure also authorizes \$2.5 billion for states to finance new or improved intercity passenger service and \$1.7 billion for grants to states for high-speed rail corridors. In a departure from past practice, the bill includes language permitting the privatization of a high-speed rail line in the Northeast Corridor (between New York City and Washington, D.C.). The inclusion of this privatization language prompted many Republicans to support the bill's \$14.4 billion price tag. The bill was adopted by a veto-proof margin (311-104).

Inaugural Western Regional Audit Forum

On Monday, June 9th and Tuesday, June 10th, we hosted the first ever Western Regional Audit Forum. The event was coordinated by Management Audit Services, and was co-sponsored by the Institute of Internal Auditors San Gabriel Valley Chapter and the American Public Transportation Association.

The two-day event, which featured 32 speakers leading courses on a variety of relevant issues including Developing Internal Controls, Quality Audit Documentation, Finding Fraud and Audit Areas that Can Save Money, was attended by 126 people.

The purpose of the forum was to provide quality professional education for auditors on emerging audit issues at a reasonable price. The forum provided up to 16 continuing professional education (CPE) credits. Auditing standards require that 40

hours of CPE be obtained annually.

APTA Internal Audit Committee Meeting

The Internal Audit Committee of the American Public Transportation Association meeting was hosted today here at our headquarters. New York Metropolitan Transportation Authority's (MTA's) Auditor General, Michael Fucilli is the Chairman of the Committee, and our Chief Auditor, Ruthe Holden, is the Vice Chairman.

The committee meets in person at least twice a year to discuss transit related audit issues. Twenty-five individuals participated in the meeting from transit properties across the country, including New York MTA, Washington Metropolitan Transportation Authority, Chicago Transit Authority, PACE Suburban Bus, King County Metro, San Francisco Bay Area Rapid Transit, Sacramento Regional Transit, Metropolitan Atlanta Rapid Transit Authority, San Diego Metropolitan Transit System and City of Phoenix Public Transit Department.

Today's meeting included a discussion regarding Quality Assurance Reviews and what protocols should be followed for conducting them. Quality Assurance Reviews are required by the Institute of Internal Auditors International Standards for the Professional Practice of Internal Auditing and Government Accountability Office's Government Auditing Standards.

In addition, emerging issues such as sustainability, privacy of data and information technology were discussed. Also discussed was the impact the proposed revisions to the Federal Transit Administration (FTA) Circular 4220 (Third Party Contracting Guidance) which outlines the procurement requirements we must follow as recipients of FTA funding.

[Metro.net Home](#) | [Press Room](#) | [Projects & Programs](#) | [Meeting Agendas](#) | [Riding Metro](#) | [Metro Library](#)

Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority
1 Gateway Plaza
Los Angeles, California 90012-2952
Phone: 213-922-6888
Fax: 213-922-7447
