

UTAH TRANSIT AUTHORITY

Independent Accountant's Report
On Applying Agreed-Upon Procedures

Year Ended December 31, 2023

INDEPENDENT ACCOUNTANT'S REPORT
ON APPLYING AGREED-UPON PROCEDURES

Management
Utah Transit Authority
Salt Lake City, Utah

We have performed the attached procedures on the Federal Funding Allocation Statistics Form FFA-10 (FFA-10), related to the Utah Transit Authority's (the Authority) compliance with the Federal Transit Administration's (FTA) Declarations section of the *2023 Policy Manual* and the Uniform System of Accounts (USOA) and Records and Reporting System; Final Rule, as specified in 49 CFR Part 630, Federal Register, January 15, 1993, as of December 31, 2023. The Authority is responsible for its compliance with those requirements.

The Authority has agreed to and acknowledged that the procedures performed are appropriate to meet the intended purpose of evaluating compliance with the above specified requirements. Additionally, FTA has agreed to and acknowledged that the procedures are appropriate to meet their purposes. We make no representation regarding the appropriateness of the procedures either for the purpose for which this report has been requested or for any other purpose. This report may not be suitable for any other purpose. The procedures performed may not address all the items of interest to a user of this report and may not meet the needs of all users of this report and, as such, users are responsible for determining whether the procedures performed are appropriate for their purposes. An agreed-upon procedures engagement involves performing specific procedures and reporting on findings based on the procedures performed.

The procedures and the associated findings are in Attachment A.

We were engaged by the Authority to perform this agreed-upon procedures engagement and conducted our engagement in accordance with attestation standards established by the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants. We were not engaged to and did not conduct an examination or review engagement, the objective of which would be the expression of an opinion or conclusion, respectively, compliance with the specified requirements. Accordingly, we do not express such an opinion or conclusion. Had we performed additional procedures, other matters might have come to our attention that would have been reported to you.

We are required to be independent of the Authority and to meet our other ethical responsibilities, in accordance with the relevant ethical requirements related to our agreed-upon procedures engagement.

This report is intended solely for the information and use of the Authority and FTA and is not intended to be, and should not be, used by anyone other than these specified parties.


Crowe LLP

Indianapolis, Indiana
July 2, 2024

Attachment A

The procedures below were applied separately to each of the information systems used to develop the reported actual vehicle revenue miles (VRM), fixed guideway (FG), directional route miles (DRM), passenger miles traveled (PMT), and operating expenses (OE) of the Authority for the year ending December 31, 2023 for each of the following modes:

- Motor Bus – Directly Operated (MBDO)
- Commuter Bus – Directly Operated (CBDO)
- Commuter Rail – Directly Operated (CRDO)
- Light Rail – Directly Operated (LRDO)
- Demand Response – Directly Operated (DRDO)
- Demand Response – Purchased Transportation (DRPT)
- Motor Bus – Purchased Transportation (MBPT)
- Vanpool – Directly Operated (VPDO)

- a. Obtain and read a copy of written system procedures for reporting and maintaining data in accordance with NTD requirements and definitions set forth in 49 CFR Part 630 as presented in the *2023 Policy Manual*. If there are no procedures available, discuss the procedures with the personnel assigned responsibility for supervising the NTD data preparation and maintenance.

Procedure performed without exception.

- b. Discuss the procedures (written or informal) with the personnel assigned responsibility of supervising the preparation and maintenance of NTD data to determine:
- The extent to which the transit agency followed the procedures on a continuous basis, and
 - Whether these transit personnel believe such procedures result in accumulation and reporting of data consistent with NTD definitions and requirements set forth in 49 CFR Part 630 and as presented in the *2023 Policy Manual*.

Procedure performed without exception.

- c. Ask these same personnel about the retention policy that the transit agency follows as to source documents supporting NTD data reported on the Federal Funding Allocation Statistics form.

Per inquiry with the Authority NTD Staff (“Staff”), NTD source documentation is retained for a minimum of 3 years per the FTA requirements and is stored on local drives for longer. Procedure performed without exception.

- d. Based on a description of the transit agency’s procedures from items (A) and (B) above, identify all the source documents that the transit agency must retain for a minimum of three years. For each type of source document, haphazardly select three months out of the year and observe whether the document exists for each of these periods.

We selected a haphazard sample of 24 total source documents across all modes from March, June, and October 2021, 2022 and 2023. We observed that the source documents were maintained for each year as required. Procedure performed without exception.

- e. Discuss the system of internal controls by inquiring whether separate individuals (independent of the individuals preparing source documents and posting data summaries) review the source documents and data summaries for completeness, accuracy, and reasonableness and how often these individuals perform such reviews in order to perform procedure f.

Per inquiry with Staff, the Operations, Analysis & Solutions department has a system of controls which includes formal documented preparation, review, and approval of source documents on a monthly, quarterly, and annual depending on the type of data each form requires. Procedure performed without exception.

- f. Select a random sample of the source documents for each mode and determine whether supervisors' signatures are present as required by the system of internal controls. If supervisors' signatures are not required, inquire how personnel document supervisors' reviews.

We selected a haphazard sample of 24 total source documents across all modes. We observed supervisors' signatures on all modes and months without exception.

Per inquiry with Staff, annual data for all modes is approved on a monthly disaggregated level.

- g. Obtain the worksheets used to prepare the final data that the transit agency transcribes onto the Federal Funding Allocation Statistics form. Compare the periodic data included on the worksheets to the periodic summaries prepared by the transit agency. Recalculate the arithmetical accuracy of the summaries.

Procedure performed without exception.

- h. Discuss the procedure for accumulating and recording passenger miles traveled (PMT) data in accordance with NTD requirements with transit agency staff. Inquire whether the procedure is one of the methods specifically approved in the *2023 Policy Manual*.

Per inquiry with Staff, the sampling method is in accordance with NTD requirements.

- i. Inquire with transit agency staff the transit agency's eligibility to conduct statistical sampling for PMT data every third year. Determine whether the transit agency meets NTD criteria that allow transit agencies to conduct statistical samples for accumulating PMT data every third year rather than annually by specifically observing the following:
- The public transit agency serves an UZA with a population less than 500,000 according to the most recent census.
 - The public transit agency directly operates fewer than 100 revenue vehicles in all modes in annual maximum revenue service (VOMS) (in any size UZA).
 - Service purchased from a seller is included in the transit agency's NTD report.
 - For transit agencies that meet one of the above criteria, review the NTD documentation for the most recent mandatory sampling year (2023) and observe that statistical sampling was conducted and meets the 95 percent confidence and ± 10 percent precision requirements.
 - Determine how the transit agency estimated annual PMT for the current report year.

Per inquiry with Staff, the Authority is not eligible to conduct statistical sampling for PMT data every third year.

- j. Obtain a description of the sampling procedure for estimation of PMT data used by the transit agency. Obtain a copy of the transit agency's working papers or methodology used to select the actual sample of runs for recording PMT data. If the transit agency used average trip length, determine that the universe of runs was the sampling frame. Determine that the methodology used to select specific runs from the universe resulted in a random selection of runs. If the transit agency missed a selected sample run, determine that a replacement sample run was random. Determine that the transit agency followed the stated sampling procedure.

We obtained the sampling procedure and methodology for PMT data noting Automatic Passenger Counters (APC) are utilized for a 100% count of PMT for the Commuter Rail, Light Rail, Commuter Bus and MBPT modes. The MBDO mode uses a modified PMT measurement method that utilizes APC data to estimate PMT. 100% of PMT are counted for the Demand Response and Vanpool modes. Procedure performed without exception.

- k. Select a random sample of the source documents for each mode for accumulating PMT data and determine that the data are complete by comparing the data in the accumulation periods to the total (all required data are recorded) and that the computations are accurate by recalculating. Select a random sample of the accumulation periods for each mode and re-compute the accumulations for each of the selected periods. List the accumulation periods that were tested. Test the arithmetical accuracy of the summary.

We selected a haphazard sample of 24 total source documents from March 2023, June 2023, and October 2023 for each mode and recalculated PMT. Procedure performed without exception.

- l. Inquire with management regarding the procedures for systematic exclusion of charter, school bus, and other ineligible vehicle miles from the calculation of actual vehicle revenue miles (VRM) with transit agency staff and determine that they follow the stated procedures by selecting a random sample of the source documents for each mode used to record charter and school bus mileage and test the arithmetical accuracy of the computations.

Per inquiry with Staff, the Authority does not operate charter, school bus, or other ineligible vehicles. As such, the procedure was not performed.

- m. For actual vehicle revenue mile (VRM) data, document the collection and recording methodology and determine that deadhead miles are systematically excluded from the computation. This is accomplished as follows:
- If actual VRMs are calculated from schedules, document the procedures used to subtract missed trips. Select a random sample of the days that service is operated and re-compute the daily total of missed trips and missed VRMs. Test the arithmetical accuracy of the summary.
 - If actual VRMs are calculated from hubodometers, document the procedures used to calculate and subtract deadhead mileage. Select a random sample of three hubodometer readings and determine that the stated procedures for hubodometer deadhead mileage adjustments are applied as prescribed. Test the arithmetical accuracy of the summary of intermediate accumulations.
 - If actual VRMs are calculated from vehicle logs, select a random sample of the vehicle logs for each mode and determine that the deadhead mileage has been correctly computed in accordance with FTA definitions by recalculating deadhead mileage.

Per inquiry with Staff, with the exception of DRDO, DRPT, and VPDO, actual vehicle revenue miles are computed by subtracting deadhead mileage and missed trips from the scheduled trips. For DRDO and DRPT, actual vehicle revenue miles are calculated by subtracting the deadhead mileage from the miles on hubodometer readings. For VPDO, actual VRMs are calculated from vehicle logs and there are no deadhead miles since it is a non-dedicated service. Procedure performed without exception.

- n. For rail modes, review the recording and accumulation sheets for actual VRMs and determine that locomotive miles are not included in the computation.

Procedure performed without exception.

- o. If fixed guideway or High Intensity Bus directional route miles (FG or HIB DRM) are reported, inquire of the person responsible for maintaining and reporting the NTD data whether the operations meet FTA definition of fixed guideway (FG) or High Intensity Bus (HIB) in that the service is:
- Rail, trolleybus (TB), ferryboat (FB), or aerial tramway (TR) or
 - Bus (MB, CB, or RB) service operating over exclusive or controlled access rights-of-way (ROW), and
 - i. Access is restricted
 - ii. Legitimate need for restricted access is demonstrated by peak period level of service D or worse on a parallel adjacent highway, and
 - iii. Restricted access is enforced for freeways; priority lanes used by other high occupancy vehicles (HOV) (i.e., vanpools (VP), carpools) must demonstrate safe operation.

Per inquiry with Staff, the modes reporting FG and HIB DRM meet the FTA definitions as listed above. Procedure performed without exception.

- p. Discuss the measurement of FG and HIB DRM with the person reporting NTD data and determine that they computed mileage in accordance with FTA definitions of FG/HIB and DRM. Inquire of any service changes during the year that resulted in an increase or decrease in DRMs. If a service change resulted in a change in overall DRMs, re-compute the average monthly DRMs, and reconcile the total to the FG/HIB DRM reported on the Federal Funding Allocation Statistics form.

Per inquiry with Staff, the computation of FG and HIB DRM is in accordance with FTA definitions. There was one service change for the MBDO mode that resulted in an increase in DRMs. Crowe reconciled the total to the FG/HIB DRM reported on the Federal Funding Allocation Statistics form without exception. There were no service changes reported for any of the other modes with FG/HIB DRM.

- q. Inquire if any temporary interruptions in transit service occurred during the report year. If these interruptions were due to maintenance or rehabilitation improvements to a FG segment(s), the following apply to management:
- Report DRMs for the segment(s) for the entire report year if the interruption is less than 12 months in duration. Report the months of operation on the FG/HIB segments form as 12. The transit agency should document the interruption.
 - If the improvements cause a service interruption on the FG/HIB DRMs lasting more than 12 months, the transit agency should contact its NTD validation analyst to discuss. FTA will make a determination on how to report the DRMs.

Procedure performed without exception.

- r. Measure FG/HIB DRM from maps or by retracing route.

Procedure performed without exception for rail modes and MBDO. There are no FG/HIB DRM for all other modes, therefore the procedure was not performed.

- s. Discuss whether other public transit agencies operate service over the same FG/HIB as the transit agency. If yes, determine that the transit agency coordinated with the other transit agency (or agencies) such that the DRMs for the segment of FG/HIB are reported only once to the NTD on the Federal Funding Allocation form. (Note: Each transit agency should report the actual VRM, PMT, and OE for the service operated over the same FG/HIB.)

Per inquiry with Staff, the Authority operates modes of service over the same FG/HIB as other transit agencies. UTA is the approved operator for all their FG and UTA is reporting their actual VRM, PMT, and OE for their services. Procedure performed without exception.

- t. Review the FG/HIB segments form. Discuss the Agency Revenue Service Start Date for any segments added in the 2023 report year with the persons reporting NTD data. This is the commencement date of revenue service for each FG/HIB segment. Determine that the date reported is the date that the agency began revenue service. This may be later than the Original Date of Revenue Service if the transit agency is not the original operator. (Note: If a segment was added for the 2023 report year, the Agency Revenue Service Date must occur within the transit agency's 2023 fiscal year. Segments are grouped by like characteristics. Note that for apportionment purposes, under the State of Good Repair (§5337) and Bus and Bus Facilities (§5339) programs, the 7-year age requirement for fixed guideway/High Intensity Busway segments is based on the report year when the segment is first reported by any NTD transit agency. This pertains to segments reported for the first time in the current report year. (Even if a transit agency can document an Agency Revenue Service Start Date prior to the current NTD report year, FTA will only consider segments continuously reported to the NTD.)

We obtained the FG/HIB segments form. There was one new segment reported for the MBDO mode. Crowe verified the revenue service date was in the 2023 reporting year. There were no new segments added for any other modes. Procedure performed without exception.

- u. Compare operating expenses in the FFA-10 with audited financial data after reconciling items are removed.

Expenses per the audited financial data reconciled to within 0.002% compared to the expenses reported on the NTD, a variance of \$10,059. Procedure performed without exception.

- v. If the transit agency purchases transportation services, interview the personnel reporting the NTD data on the amount of PT generated fare revenues. Observe the PT fare revenues equal the amount reported on the Contractual Relationship form.

Procedure performed without exception.

- w. If the transit agency's report contains data for purchased transportation services and the procedures in this report were not applied to the purchased transportation services, obtain a copy of the IAS-FFA regarding data for the purchased transportation service. Note as a negative finding if the purchased transportation services were not included in this report, and the transit agency also does not have a separate Independent Accountant's Statement for the purchased transportation data.

Procedures in this report were applied to the Authority's PT modes, therefore this procedure is not applicable.

- x. If the transit agency purchases transportation services, obtain a copy of the PT contract and observe that the contract specifies the public transportation services to be provided; the monetary consideration obligated by the transit agency or governmental unit contracting for the service; the period covered by the contract (and that this period overlaps the entire, or a portion of, the period covered by the transit agency's NTD report); and is signed by representatives of both parties to the contract. Inquire of the person responsible for retention of the executed contract whether copies of the contracts are retained for three years.

The Authority utilizes four contractors across the various purchased transportation modes. Procedure performed without exception for all four contractors.

- x. If the transit agency provides service in more than one UZA, or between an UZA and a non-UZA, inquire of the procedures for allocation of statistics between UZAs and non-UZAs. Obtain and review the FG segment worksheets, route maps, and urbanized area boundaries used for allocating the statistics, and determine that the stated procedure is followed and that the computations are correct through recalculation.

The Authority provides services in three UZAs and one non-UZA. Per inquiry with Staff, the Authority uses ArcGIS mapping to allocate statistics based on route mileage. Procedure performed with exception.

- z. Compare the data reported on the Federal Funding Allocation Statistics Form to data from the prior report year and calculate the percentage change from the prior year to the current year. For actual VRM, PMT or OE data that have increased or decreased by more than 10 percent, or FG DRM data that have increased or decreased, inquire of transit agency management regarding the specifics of operations that led to the increases or decreases in the data relative to the prior reporting period.

Procedure performed without exception.