



**ODP Information Bulletin**  
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TO: Mass Transit Agency Directors

FROM: C. Suzanne Mencer  
Director

SUBJECT: Urban Areas Security Initiative Mass Transit Technical Assistance Program

As part of the Urban Areas Security Initiative (UASI), eligible mass transit agencies were required to comply with guidance contained in the FY 2003 UASI Mass Transit Grant Program Application Kit and the FY 2004 UASI Grant Program Application Kit. One of the requirements of that guidance involved the completion of a threat and vulnerability assessment. For purposes of UASI, mass transit agencies were allowed to use their recently completed Security Readiness Assessment conducted by the Federal Transit Administration (FTA) in order to meet the threat and vulnerability assessment requirement.

In addition, as part of the UASI program, ODP is also making available optional technical assistance to help mass transit agencies enhance their capacity and preparedness to respond to weapons of mass destruction (WMD) terrorist incidents. This technical assistance includes provision of a project team that can support the agency on-site in the implementation of a threat-based risk assessment process that ODP developed, applied, and validated in a pilot project at the Port Authority of New York & New Jersey. This threat-based risk assessment process is used to identify and prioritize mass transit agency needs according to risk, security, and response capabilities. The process involves three primary components:

- Risk Assessment
- Response Capability Assessment
- Needs Assessment

Application of the process results in the prioritization of security countermeasures and emergency response capability needs based on terrorist threats and risk, and the development of a roadmap for future funding allocations to help mass transit agencies reduce the risks of acts of terrorism.

Please review the attached UASI Mass Transit Technical Assistance Program Fact Sheet, as well as letters submitted to ODP from mass transit agencies that have already participated in this program. This technical assistance is provided by ODP at no charge to requesting mass transit agencies. All requests for technical assistance should be submitted to the ODP Centralized Scheduling and Information Desk (CSID) at (800) 368-6498.

Attachments