

a new automated vehicle (AV) framework as part of the Department's broader transportation innovation agenda. This framework solidified that advanced vehicle technologies, such as automated driving systems (ADS), are a key priority of the agency. The framework is rooted in three principles: (1) prioritize the safety of ongoing AV operations on public roads; (2) unleash innovation by removing unnecessary regulatory barriers; and (3) enable the commercial deployment of AVs to enhance safety and mobility for the American public.¹ On July 31, 2026, NHTSA published a notice summarizing NHTSA's recent activity relating to the AV Framework and requesting comment on interim guidance for commercial deployment exemptions for automated vehicles.²

General Exemptions issued under 49 U.S.C. 30113, which are implemented in NHTSA's regulations in 49 CFR part 555, allow manufacturers to produce and sell vehicles to consumers or otherwise commercially deploy vehicles that do not comply with all applicable FMVSS. The interim guidance in the notice provides more detail about what types of information would be most helpful to the agency, how NHTSA reviews each of the possible grounds for a General Exemption, and whether the exemption furthers the public interest. Although the interim guidance is intended to help all part 555 applicants, it is expected to be especially helpful to manufacturers seeking exemptions for ADS-equipped vehicles because it contains a section dedicated to the information likely to be useful in NHTSA's review of applications for ADS-equipped vehicles. In addition, the notice described in more detail the more dynamic and flexible approach to evaluating and overseeing General Exemptions involving ADS that NHTSA announced on June 13, 2025. The notice provided a 30-day comment period which closes on August 31, 2026.

On August 10, 2026, NHTSA received a request from Auto Innovators for a 30-day extension of the comment period.³ Auto Innovators stated that the notice "presents numerous interconnected questions with potentially significant implications for future rulemaking and guidance." Auto Innovators said a 30-

day extension of the comment period would facilitate thoughtful stakeholder engagement and allow more technically robust comments.

NHTSA is granting the request to extend the comment period by 30 days. NHTSA has determined that the requestors have shown good cause for an extension and that the extension is consistent with public interest. A 30-day extension appropriately balances NHTSA's interest in providing the public with sufficient time to comment on the notice with its interest in obtaining specific feedback from stakeholders in a timely manner. Accordingly, NHTSA is extending the comment period until September 30, 2026.⁴

Issued under authority delegated in 49 CFR 1.95.

Jonathan Morrison,

Administrator.

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DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Office of the Secretary

[Docket No. DOT-OST-2026-3268]

Senior Executive Service Performance Review Board Membership

AGENCY: Office of the Secretary, Department of Transportation (DOT).

ACTION: Notice of Performance Review Board (PRB) appointments.

SUMMARY: DOT published the names of the persons selected to serve on Departmental PRBs.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Nicole Wright, Director, Departmental Office of Human Resource Management (202) 399-3100.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The persons named below may be selected to serve on one or more Departmental PRBs.

(Authority: 5 U.S.C. 4314(c)(4).)

Issued in Washington, DC, on August 27, 2026.

Nicole S. Wright,

Director, Departmental Office of Human Resource Management.

Department of Transportation

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ANDREWS, MALCOLM
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BECK, ROBERT W
BECKLES, MICHAEL R
BEST, ALETA
BISSET, MARY A
BLUM, DANIEL L
BORNHORST, DONALD T
BOSETTI, CRIS K
BRADFORD, STEVEN W
BURKHOLDER, DAVID S
CAPPABIANCA, BO R
CINTRON, MELVIN O
COBB, TREMAYNE O
COINTIN, REBECCA S
CRANOR, KATIE L.
CROUTHAMEL, RUSSELL N
CUNNINGHAM, BISA
DAEE, BRETT T
DAVIS, CHRISTOPHER J
DECLEENE, BRUCE E
DEGUZMAN, HARDIE H
ELGAS, DANIEL J.
FERNUIK, HEATHER
FIEBELKORN, TRAVIS J
FISH, DAVID A
FITCHITT, DAVID P
FLORES, IGNACIO
FONTAINE, PAUL
FOTACHE, CATALIN G
FULLER, NICHOLAS S
GANT, LANCE T
GARRISON, WILLIAM C
GIOVANETTI, PENNY M
GIRVIN, RAQUEL
GORELIK, MICHAEL
GREEN, RAMNIK K
GROCE, JERI V
GUY, REBECCA E
HALL, TIMOTHY L
HANSON, KEVIN J
HAWRYSKO, COLEEN K
HAYES, RANDA A
HEARDING, PETER W
HELVEY, MICHAEL W
HIATT, PATRICIA C
HILL, DENNIS J
HOLT, DOUGLAS P
HOOK, SEAN E
HUGUNIN, CHRISTOPHER M
ILCEWICZ, LARRY B

¹ See U.S. Dept. of Transp., *Trump's Transportation Secretary Sean P. Duffy Unveils New Automated Vehicle Framework as Part of Innovation Agenda* (Apr. 24, 2025), available at <https://www.transportation.gov/briefing-room/trumps-transportation-secretary-sean-p-duffy-unveils-new-automated-vehicle-framework>.

² 91 FR 48485.

³ Alliance for Automotive Innovation, Docket No. NHTSA-2026-1552-0001.

⁴ Readers should note that, even after the comment closing date has passed, interested persons are able to file comments in the docket, which NHTSA will consider to the extent practicable. NHTSA may also continue to file relevant information in the docket as it becomes available. Accordingly, the Agency recommends that readers periodically check the docket for new material.

INGRAM, DAVID A
 JOHNSON, EDWARD J JR
 JONES, JESSICA C
 KENEMUTH, BRAD
 KENNINGTON-GARDINER, MARI
 KOZICA, SHAWN M
 KUBALA, HOPE A
 KUGEL, GINA M
 LAKE, SUSAN B
 LANDON, JAMES J
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 LESLIE, DAVID D
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 MAC PHERSON, REBECCA B
 MANSFIELD, LISA-ANN L
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 MARSHALL, TANEESHA D
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DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Office of the Secretary

[Docket No. DOT–OST–2018–0190]

Aviation Consumer Protection Advisory Committee; Notice of Public Meeting

AGENCY: Office of the Secretary (OST),
U.S. Department of Transportation (DOT
or Department).

ACTION: Notice of public meeting.

SUMMARY: This Notice announces a two-
day public meeting of the Aviation
Consumer Protection Advisory
Committee (ACPAC) to be held
virtually.

DATES: The virtual meeting will be held
on Tuesday, September 22, 2026 from
10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., and on
Wednesday, September 23, 2026 from
10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Eastern Daylight
Time.

ADDRESSES: The virtual meeting will be
open to the public and held via the
Zoom Webinar Platform. You may
register to attend this virtual meeting at
this website: [https://
usdot.zoomgov.com/webinar/register/
WN_Gli1-epTTNmC0XkzHooVMw](https://usdot.zoomgov.com/webinar/register/WN_Gli1-epTTNmC0XkzHooVMw).
Virtual attendance information will be
provided upon registration. An agenda
will be available on the DOT Office of
Aviation Consumer Protection website
at [https://www.transportation.gov/
airconsumer/ACPAC](https://www.transportation.gov/airconsumer/ACPAC) in advance of the
meeting.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: For
further information, please contact
ACPAC@dot.gov. Communication
Access Real-time Translation (CART) is
available within the Zoom platform.
Requests for additional accommodations
because of a disability must be received
at ACPAC@dot.gov by September 18,
2026.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

I. Background

ACPAC was initially established by
the Department as a Federal advisory
committee as mandated by the FAA
Modernization and Reform Act of 2012.
The statutory termination date for the
Committee has been extended several
times, most recently by the FAA

Reauthorization Act of 2024 (2024 Act)
to the current termination date of
September 30, 2028. ACPAC's mandate
is to evaluate current DOT aviation
consumer protection programs and
provide recommendations to the
Secretary for improving them, as well as
recommending any additional consumer
protection that may be needed.

II. Agenda

Three topics will be discussed during
the meeting to be held on September 22,
2026 and September 23, 2026: (1)
airlines' one-page summary of consumer
rights; (2) airline customer service
dashboards (Delay and Cancellation
Dashboard, Family Seating Dashboard,
and Seat Size Dashboard); and (3) know-
your-rights posters.

Regarding the first topic, section 429
of the FAA Reauthorization Act of 2018
directs the Department to require U.S.
and foreign air carriers to submit to the
Department a one-page document that
describes the rights of passengers in air
transportation regarding compensation
for flight delays, diversions,
cancellations, mishandled baggage,
overbooking, and boarding denials, and
further directs covered carriers to post
the document prominently on their
websites. The Department published its
Final Rule implementing Section 429 of
the 2018 Act on April 24, 2026. During
this upcoming meeting of the ACPAC,
the Department will provide an
overview of this statutory requirement
and the corresponding Final Rule.¹
Following an overview by the
Department of the applicable statute and
rule, ACPAC will gather information
from interested stakeholders, including
consumer advocates and industry, to
assess whether to make
recommendations on best practices
regarding the manner of complying with
these requirements.

Regarding the second topic, section
506 of the FAA Reauthorization Act of
2024 requires the Department to
establish, maintain, and make publicly
available three dashboards for purposes
of keeping aviation consumers informed
of policies and services provided by
large U.S. air carriers: (1) a delay and
cancellation dashboard that displays
information regarding the services and
compensation provided to mitigate
passenger inconvenience caused by a
delay or cancellation within the control
of the carrier; (2) a family seating
dashboard that displays information
regarding which carriers guarantee fee-
free adjacent seating to an adult

¹ [https://www.federalregister.gov/documents/
2026/04/24/2026-08103/one-page-document-on-
passenger-rights](https://www.federalregister.gov/documents/2026/04/24/2026-08103/one-page-document-on-passenger-rights).