



**U.S. Department of Transportation
Federal Transit Administration**

**Connecting Communities and Emergency
Reporting**

James Garland and Christopher White
FTA Region 4

Vickie Bourne, Kentucky Transportation Cabinet
State Programs Meeting- April 16, 2009





Overview

- Role and Contributions of Public Transit During Emergencies
- Reporting Requirements and Updating Contact Information
- Potential Vulnerabilities throughout Region 4
- Lessons Learned from recent events
- Questions and Answers





What is Connecting Communities?

- A Public Transportation Emergency Preparedness Workshop, developed in cooperation with the Federal Transit Administration
- Designed to coordinate the assets and specialized resources of transit and transportation systems with their local, county, and state response and emergency management agencies
- Interoperability and maximum resource utilization in the event of a natural disaster, terrorist incident, or other emergency is of the utmost importance for a community or region's effective response





Purpose and Goal

To prepare transit systems, emergency service agencies, and other emergency management partners to collaborate, share resources, and implement plans to best mitigate injury, loss of life, and damage to property and assets when incidents occur

(Source: NTI Course Handbook, CC, spring 2009)

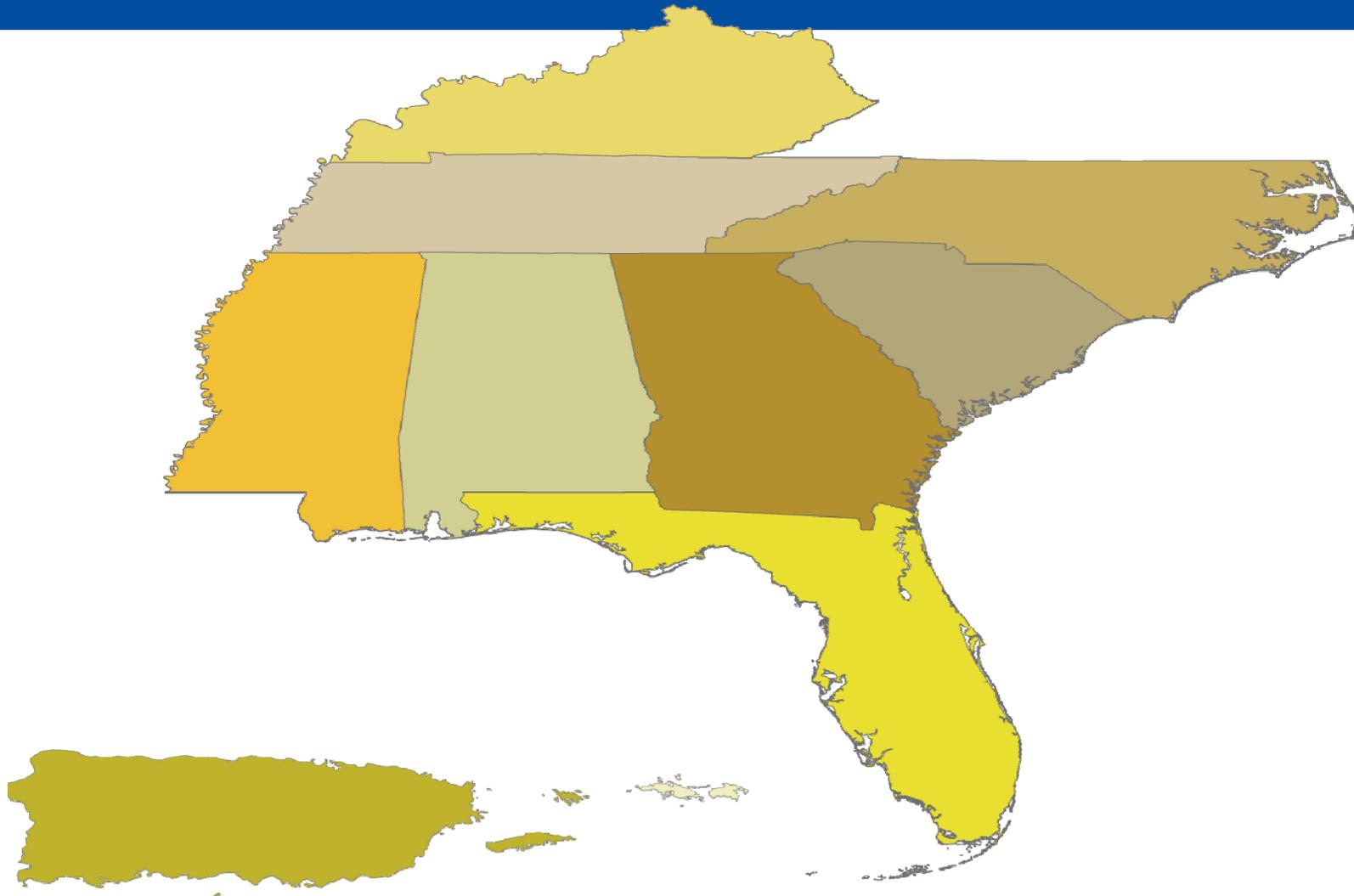




Future Connecting Communities Offerings

- Cleveland, OH (May 4-5)
- Chicago, IL (May 27-28)
- Dallas/Fort Worth, TX (June 16-17)
- Mobile, AL (Date TBD)
- San Diego, CA (Date TBD)
- www.connectingcommunities.net







Potential Vulnerabilities

- New Madrid Seismic Zone
- Gulf Coast/Atlantic Coast Hurricanes
- Floods
- Tornadoes
- Temporary Housing for Evacuees
- Bio-Terrorism
- Ice/Snow Storms





Discussion Areas/Feedback

- What Roles Can/Could the state DOT's play in preparing for a natural or man-made disaster?
- Is there an updated list of specific contact person(s) in the event of an emergency?
- Who'se in charge?
- Funding?





EMERGENCY REPORTING AND EXPECTATIONS OF STATE DOT'S



FTA Emergency Response Programs

- FTA's Safety and Security programs, projects, and activities have the common purpose of protecting transit passengers, employees, and property as well as the general public
- Implement an "All Hazards" integrated management approach in all aspects of crisis management, including prevention, protection, response, and recovery
- Whenever there is a disaster or other emergency, FTA has the responsibility to work with DHS, FEMA, and with the Office of the Secretary of Transportation to coordinate the Federal response.
- When ESF-1 (Transportation) is activated, FTA is responsible for providing timely information about transit service impacts, needs, and availability





Best Practices in Reporting

- North Carolina DOT Template
- Others?





Lessons Learned from Recent Emergencies

“The Good, The Bad, The Ugly”

Vickie Bourne
Executive Director
Kentucky Transportation Cabinet





The Good





Maysville, KY

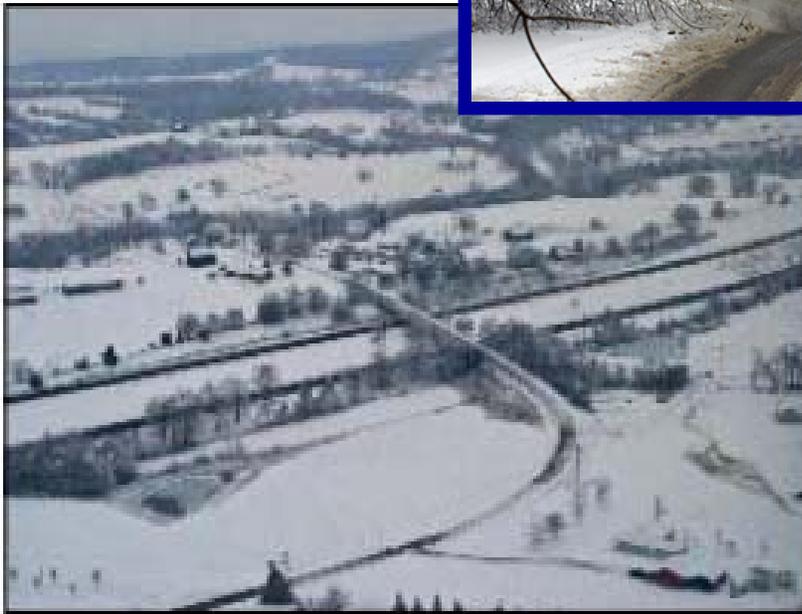


Lexington, KY





The Bad





New Baby, No Power

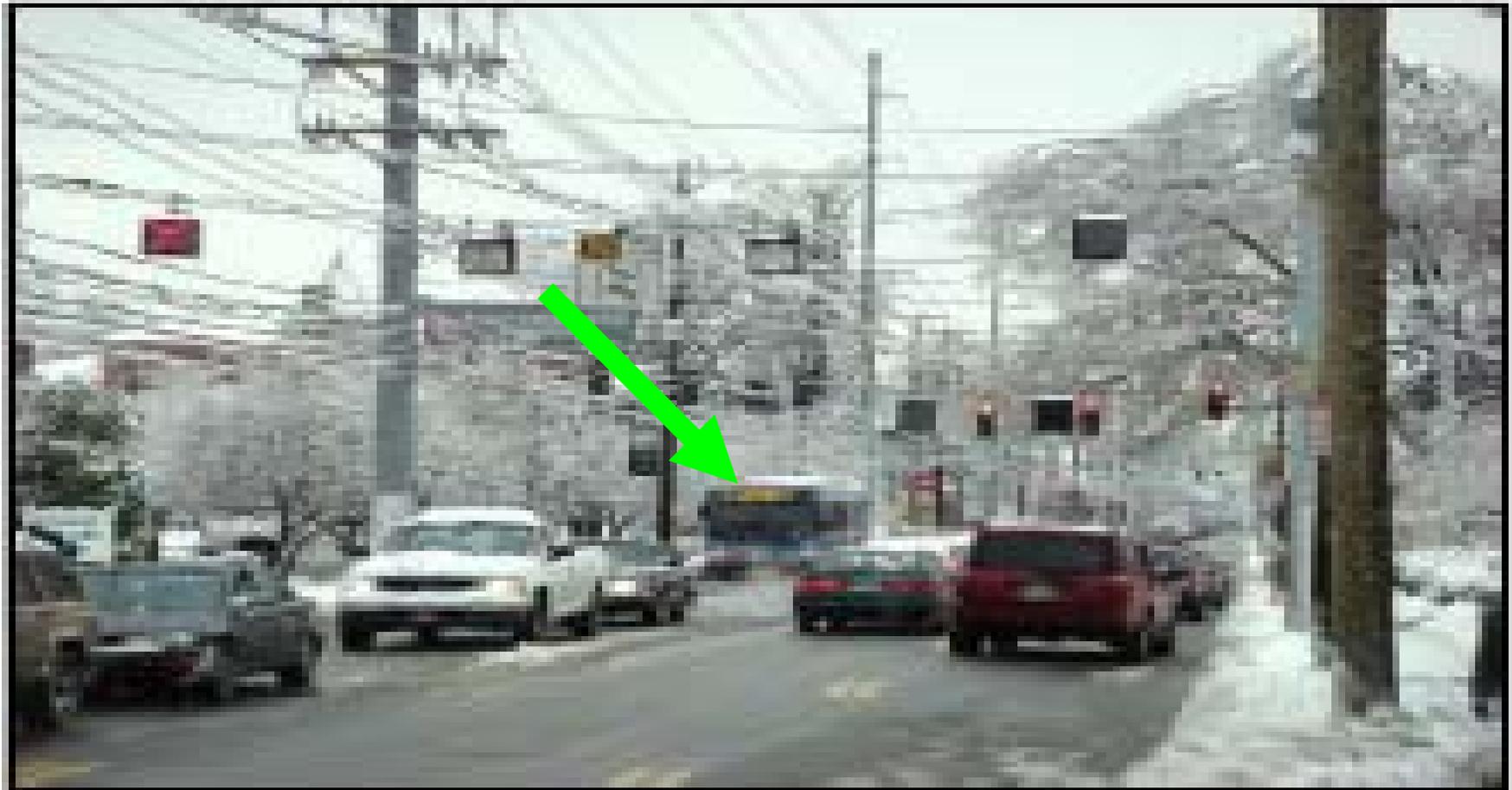








Transit Authority of River City









Boyle Co. High School

Murray, KY





Paducah Transit Authority





Pennyrile Allied Community Services





Green River Intra-County Transit System





Central KY Community Action Council





Sandy Valley Transportation Services





The Ugly!

**A
by-the-
numbers
look at the
disaster**

- > 100 Counties
- > \$230 Million Dollars
- > 769,000 People w/o Power
- > 250,000 People w/o Water
- 987,810 Meals
- 1.9 Million Liters Water
- 4,911 Miles of road
- 200 Shelters
- 7,000 People
- 36 Fatalities





The Ice Finally Melted!



Spring is Finally Here!

FEDERAL TRANSIT
ADMINISTRATION



REGION IV



THANK YOU!

