



CCD 2022 Transportation Task Force Annual Report

1. Brief Task Force Description or Mission Statement

The Transportation Task Force advocates for fully accessible transportation across all modes. Transportation should be affordable, equitable, sustainable, and reliable. People with disabilities should be able to travel on their own or with support. They should also be able to choose how they live in the community. The Task Force follows our Anti-Racism Principles agreed to in July 2021. (URL: <https://www.c-c-d.org/fichiers/CCD-Transpo-TF-Racial-Equity-One-Pager.pdf>)

2. Three Issues the Task Force Worked on in 2022

- **Autonomous and Electric Vehicles** – The Task Force advocated for safe and equitable access to AVs and EVs, including by updating the Task Force AV Principles, weighing in on the need for accessible electric vehicle charging stations, and providing comments to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) that AVs and AV regulations must be designed to be safe and usable for all people with disabilities at the outset.
- **Air Travel** - The Task Force worked with the Emergency Management Task Force to submit comments on the negative impact of smaller seats on persons with physical disabilities and service dog handlers during an evacuation. The Task Force also supported the Air Carrier Access Amendment Act, weighed in on the need for accessible lavatories and reported back on regular meetings with USDOT on accessible and equitable air travel and ongoing issues.
- **Rail** – The Task Force advocated for the All Stations Accessibility Program (ASAP), a USDOT grant program to modernize and make accessible legacy (pre-ADA) rail transit stations. Members of the Task Force met with Amtrak representatives throughout the year and advocated on a range of issues, including accessible train designs and a clear path of travel throughout the train for all people with disabilities.

3. Three Issues the Task Force Anticipates Working on in 2023

- Rail – The Task Force anticipates advocating for full implementation of disability and equity-related sections of the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act, including the ASAP. The Task Force members will continue to meet with Amtrak and its leadership regarding a range of issues, including Amtrak’s plan to provide wider seats that will lead to 24 inch-wide aisles that will create a barrier for many wheelchair users, instead of the accessible 32 inch wide aisles that already exist on its trains.
- Air Travel - The Transportation Task Force will continue to support and advocate for provisions in the Air Carrier Access Amendments Act, and accessibility provisions in the upcoming FAA Reauthorization. The Task Force will continue to report back on regular meetings with USDOT on air travel and submit comments as necessary.
- Accessible, Equitable On Demand Travel – The Task Force plans to address ongoing access and equity issues in on demand travel, eg taxis and transportation network companies. Issues include but are not limited to discrimination against service dog users and failure to accommodate wheelchair users. The Task Force will raise the issue with federal agencies and brainstorm further steps to take to shine light on ongoing access and equity issues.

4. Task Force Meeting Day of the Month and Meeting Time (eastern)

First Wednesday, 12:30 PM

5. Task Force Co-Chairs

Sarah Malaier, American Foundation for the Blind
Claire Stanley, National Disability Rights Network
Swatha Nandhakumar, American Council of the Blind
Danica Gonzalves, Paralyzed Veterans of America