



CCD Transportation Task Force 2024 Annual Report

1. Task Force 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 have the opportunity to travel independently and with needed accommodations. They should also be able to choose where and 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](https://www.c-c-d.org/fichiers/CCD-Transpo-TF-Racial-Equity-One-Pager.pdf))

2. Three things we worked on in 2024

- Rail – The Task Force continued to meet with Amtrak staff and leadership on a regular basis and continued to push for increased station accessibility. We are continuing talks with Amtrak staff on its long-distance fleet. Additionally, the cochairs filed comments on a Request for Information from the Federal Transit Administration on accessibility of public transportation stops and stations for individuals with disabilities.
- Access to on-demand travel – The Task Force continued to push for accessible on-demand transportation, including autonomous vehicles and traditional rideshare. We also pushed for these companies to provide wheelchair accessible vehicles and for the mitigation of the issue of ride denials to individuals who travel with service animals.
- Air travel – the Federal Aviation Administration reauthorization passed in May of 2024. The Task Force both advocated for the accessibility provisions included in the legislation, and for the implementation of the items included. Items of interest for cochairs include the service dog attestation pilot program, the proposed accessibility improvements to airline websites and mobile applications, and increased access for wheelchair users and mobility device users.

3. Three issues the Task Force anticipates working on in 2025

- Reauthorization of the Surface Transportation Act- The most recent round of surface transportation funding was folded into the larger Bipartisan Infrastructure Law that passed in 2021. That funding lasts until the end of the 2026 Fiscal Year, so the task force will be working to ensure that funding, especially programs for public transportation and accessible infrastructure, gets reauthorized at the highest possible funding level. There may be separate attempts to reauthorize other portions of the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law that we would likely engage on as well.
- Access to on-demand travel- The Task Force will continue to push for accessible on-demand transportation, including autonomous vehicles and traditional rideshare. We will continue to work with companies to ensure they provide wheelchair accessible vehicles without any undue time or cost burden to the rider, as well as ensuring that riders are protected in case of accessibility issues that stem from interaction with the driver as well.
- Air Travel- The task force will continue to follow the implementation of the accessibility provisions included in the Federal Aviation Administration Reauthorization. We will also be following the implementation of several final rules on air travel accessibility around topics like accessible restrooms and wheelchair protections, and respond to any proposed changes to the Department of Transportation or related agencies

4. Task Force Meeting Date/Time

First Wednesday of Every Month, 12:30pm-2pm (ET)

5. 2024 Task Force Co-Chairs

Claire Stanley, American Council of the Blind

Danica Gonzalves, Paralyzed Veterans of America

Sarah Malaier, American Foundation for the Blind

Swatha Nandhakumar, American Council of the Blind

Tyler Beck, Epilepsy Foundation