

Metro Safety, Accountability and Investment Act of 2021

Renews Federal Commitment for WMATA Capital Investments

- Reauthorizes PRIIA funding for an additional 10 years, FY 2021 – FY 2030, at an annual level of \$150 million.
- Includes an additional \$50 million per year in federal funding that is not subject to a local match:
 - \$45 million for financing capital and preventative maintenance projects and \$5 million for the Inspector General’s office, contingent on a non-federal match of \$5 million, for total of \$10 million for the IG’s office.
 - Requires WMATA to enact a series of reforms, detailed below, in order to receive this extra \$50 million.
- Restriction on Use of Funds: Restricts WMATA from using any funds authorized in the bill on a contract for rolling stock from a country that meets certain criteria related to illegal subsidies for state-owned enterprises.

Requires WMATA to make improvements to safety, oversight, and governance in order to receive additional \$50 million per year in federal dollars.

- Increases Oversight by Empowering the WMATA Inspector General
 - Provides the WMATA Inspector General with increased flexibility in recruiting and employee management practices to allow for the IG to recruit top-tier talent.
 - Provides the WMATA Inspector General with additional flexibility in making necessary capital expenditures.
 - Includes strong oversight and reporting measures to ensure proper Congressional oversight.
- Establishes a track safety task force to develop best principles and practices through collaboration of WMATA Chief Safety Officer, WMATA Chief Operating Officer, and workforce representatives.
- Establishes a bus safety task force to ensure appropriate procedures and systems are in place to protect Transit Authority employees engaged in bus operations as well as riders.
- Implements policies and procedures to improve WMATA’s capital planning process and the transit asset management planning process. Requires the Government Accountability Office (GAO) to review WMATA implementation of reforms three years after enactment.
- Reinforces restrictions on the activities of alternate WMATA Board members to provide more effective Board management and oversight.
- Prioritizes the implementation of new cyber security protections and the integration of wireless services and emergency communications networks.