# Research and national practice in fare enforcement and public safety

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## National Academy of Sciences/

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- "Use a customer-oriented enforcement to fare payment rather than a traditional policing approach,
- "Implement an agencyadministered adjudication process,

[i.e., not courts]

 "Create a focused fare inspection team with non-sworn officers"

NAS/TRB: *Off-Board Fare Payment Using Proof-of-Payment Verification*, 2012.

Learning From Rider Security and Service Programs in U.S. Transit Systems

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## It is common to use non-sworn, unarmed, officers and/or other staff

Boston	MBTA
Buffalo, NY	NFTA
Dallas	DART
Denver	RTD
Los Angeles	LA MTA
Philadelphia	SEPTA
Portland	Tri-Met
San Diego	MTS
San Francisco	BART
San Francisco	MUNI
Seattle	Sound Transit
Seattle	King County Metro
Snohomish County, WA	Community Transit

#### Most of these places

- treat fare nonpayment as a petty misdemeanor or equivalent
- issue civil/administrative citations.
- Units work closely *with* police.
- Units increase public safety, whether or not that is part of the formal job description.

#### Example agencies deploying staff other than police

## Interviews

#### National interviews

- Steve Tucker, Deputy Director, Public Safety Sound Transit (Seattle)
- Ed Alvarez, Chief of Police Bay Area Rapid Transit (San Francisco)
- Kimberly Burrus, Chief Security Officer
  San Francisco Municipal Transit Authority ("MUNI")
- Dallas Area Rapid Transit
- Jeff Heinrich, Block by Block Contractor to Massachusetts Bay Transportation Authority (Boston)

#### Local interviews

- Joe Spencer, President, St. Paul Downtown Alliance
- Steve Cramer, President & CEO Minneapolis Downtown Improvement District
- Shane Zahn, Director of Safety Initiatives
  Minneapolis DID

## Lessons practitioners shared

• Adding non-police staff lets police focus on policing

#### • Non-sworn staff

- Act as presence and force multipliers
- Deter and reduce crime
  - through presence
  - through actively creating a positive culture
- *Reduce* calls to police for many purposes, and *increase* calls to police for actual police needs

## Lessons from Minneapolis + Saint Paul

• Echo lessons from other regions

#### • Put people in uniform

- Makes them visible, provides a sense of security for customers.
- Presence is a strong crime deterrent.

## Thank you

East Metro Strong is carrying out this research and sharing results as part of our commitment to informing discussions about how to create and maintain a safe, comfortable, welcoming experience for all Minnesotans and visitors using transit.