



U.S. Department of Transportation

Public Meeting on Air Travel by Persons Who Use Wheelchairs

Thursday, March 24, 2022

Morning Session

- 10:15 am – 10:20 am** **Welcome**
John E. Putnam, U.S. Department of Transportation
- 10:20 am – 10:30 am** **Comments from DOT’s Disability Advisor**
Kelly Buckland, U.S. Department of Transportation
- 10:30 am – 10:40 am** **Administration’s Efforts to Ensure Full Participation and Equality for People with Disabilities**
Emily Voorde, White House Associate Director of Disability Outreach
- 10:40 am – 10:45 am** **DOT’s Commitment to Accessible and Safe Air Travel**
U.S. Secretary of Transportation Pete Buttigieg

Relevant Regulations, Current State of Affairs, and Related Work

- 10:45 am – 11:20 am** **Challenges Encountered During Air Travel by Persons Who Use Wheelchairs**
Heather Ansley, Paralyzed Veterans of America (PVA)
- Questions and Comments**
- 11:20 am – 11:40 am** **DOT Rules Concerning Transport of Wheelchairs, Physical Assistance to Persons Who Use Wheelchairs, and Related Training**
Livaghna Chapman/Chris Miller, U.S. Department of Transportation
- Questions and Comments**
- 11:40 am – 11:50 am** **Short Break**

11:50 am – 12:25 pm **Current Efforts by Airlines to Improve Travel for Persons Who Use Wheelchairs**

Graham Keithley, Airlines for America (A4A)

Linda Ristagno, International Air Transport Association (IATA)

Questions and Comments

12:25 pm – 12:50 pm **The Rehabilitation Engineering and Assistive Technology Society of North America's (RESNA) Work Related to Wheelchairs and Design Standards**

Peter Axelson, RESNA

Questions and Comments

12:50 pm – 1:15 pm **Air Carrier Access Act (ACAA) Advisory Committee Recommendations Related to Travel by Persons Who Use Wheelchairs**

Jim Sinocchi, Chair of the ACAA Advisory Committee

Questions and Comments

1:15 pm – 2:15 pm **Lunch Break**

Afternoon Session

Questions For the Public and Attendees

2:15 pm – 2:55 pm **Topic 1: Challenges Encountered During Air Travel by Persons Who Use Wheelchairs and the Impacts of Unsafe or Inadequate Assistance**

2:55 pm – 3:35 pm **Topic 2: Actions to Prevent or Minimize Likelihood of Mishandled (Damaged, Delayed and Lost) Wheelchairs**

3:35 pm – 3:45 pm **Short Break**

3:45 pm – 4:25 pm **Topic 3: Actions to Ensure Safe Transfers To and From the Aircraft Seat**

4:25 pm – 5:05 pm **Topic 4: Best Practices for Assisting Passengers When a Wheelchair Has Been Mishandled**

5:05 pm – 5:15 pm **Other Public Comments if Requested (Tentative)**

5:15 pm **Closing Remarks**

Blane A. Workie, U.S. Department of Transportation