

Nonpublic Collaborative Discussion: *Most Wanted List, March 2, 2021*

The following is a summary of the nonpublic collaborative discussion held virtually¹ on Tuesday, March 2, 2021, pursuant to 49 U.S.C § 1111(k)(2).

Present: Chairman Sumwalt
Vice Chairman Landsberg
Member Homendy
Member Graham
Member Chapman
Sharon Bryson, Managing Director
Paul Sledzik, Principal Deputy Managing Director for Management and Operations
Brian Curtis, Deputy Managing Director for Investigations
Kathleen Silbaugh, General Counsel
Dolline Hatchett, Director for Safety Recommendations & Communications (SRC)
Casey Blaine, Deputy General Counsel
Catherine Janis, SRC Program Analyst

Topic: 2021-2022 Most Wanted List

Session Summary:

At this session, the five Board Members discussed the NTSB's 2021-2022 Most Wanted List (MWL), which identifies the top safety improvements that can be made across all modes to prevent accidents, minimize injuries, and save lives in the future.

The General Counsel initiated the session with an overview of the new statutory provision (codified at 49 U.S.C. § 1111(k)(2)) authorizing the Board to hold nonpublic collaborative discussions. The General Counsel explained the mandatory attendance criteria for and limitations on such sessions, as well as how they differ from meetings convened under the Government in the Sunshine Act.

Following the General Counsel's briefing, the Managing Director invited the Board Members to share their individual thoughts on the draft MWL and facilitated a group dialogue regarding the issue areas currently proposed for inclusion. The discussion included comments on the scope of the issue areas and the safety recommendations that may support MWL areas. The session concluded with a discussion of the next steps in the approval process, as well as the most effective mechanisms for communicating the MWL to the public and key stakeholders.

¹ On March 17, 2020, in response to the World Health Organization's designation of COVID-19 as a pandemic and the Federal Government's subsequent guidance for maintaining a safe working environment, the NTSB implemented a maximum telework program. This program permits employees to practice physical distancing while completing the agency's mission-critical work. Therefore, this nonpublic collaborative discussion among the Board was convened using Microsoft Teams.