Thomas B. Chapman, JD  
Board Member, NTSB

Thomas B. Chapman took the oath of office as the 46th Member of the National Transportation Safety Board on January 6, 2020. Prior to joining the Board, Member Chapman served six years as minority counsel to the Senate Subcommittee on Aviation & Space. He has engaged extensively in a broad range of issues, including the recent bipartisan effort to pass comprehensive legislation reauthorizing the Federal Aviation Administration, the Transportation Security Administration, and the NTSB.

Member Chapman previously served as US Airways' vice president for government affairs, responsible for outreach on all federal policy initiatives. Prior to joining US Airways, he was legislative counsel for Southwest Airlines. His work in the airline industry spanned approximately 16 years. Because of Member Chapman's practical experience in the aviation industry, an awareness and sensitivity to a pervasive culture of safety is imbedded in his approach.

Member Chapman brings that perspective to key challenges facing the NTSB, including advances in automation and the development of autonomous vehicles, meeting the expectations stemming from NTSB's reputation as the world's premier transportation safety organization, and the importance of recruiting and retaining the skilled team members on which the work of the agency is highly dependent.

Polly Trottenberg  
Deputy Secretary,  
US Department of Transportation

As the number two official and Chief Operating Officer, Polly Trottenberg supports Secretary Buttigieg on providing leadership and strategic vision for US Department of Transportation (USDOT). She has an extensive 25+ year public sector career in all levels of government. Trottenberg served from 2014 to 2020 as New York City's Transportation Commissioner, where she ran a complex 5,800-person agency responsible for the safe, efficient, and equitable operations of New York City's transportation network, including 6,000 miles of roadways, 789 bridges, the nation's largest traffic operation and parking system, the Staten Island Ferry, and extensive bicycle, pedestrian and public plaza infrastructure, as well as key initiatives in urban mobility, smart transportation technologies, and safety.

In New York, Trottenberg helped implement the landmark Vision Zero program, the first in the U.S., taking a comprehensive, multi-disciplinary approach to significantly reduce traffic fatalities and injuries. She also led the New York City Department of Transportation through COVID-19 response and recovery, prioritizing transforming City streets to promote livability, sustainable transportation, and economic recovery.

Trottenberg served in the Obama Administration as the Assistant Secretary and Under Secretary for Policy at the USDOT. During her previous five years at the USDOT, she developed and implemented transportation policies to address the needs of state and local transportation agencies on every type of project from roads and bridges, to transit and rail, to airports, ports, and pipelines.

Trottenberg's additional policy and managerial experience includes her time in the U.S. Senate, where she served Senator Daniel Patrick Moynihan, Majority Leader Charles Schumer, and Senator Barbara Boxer.
A Safe System Approach to Traffic Safety

PANELISTS

Thom Barth, PhD  
Survival Factors Investigator, NTSB

Tom Barth is investigator and biomechanics engineer at the National Transportation Safety Board. Barth has a Bachelor of Science in Mechanical Engineering from Colorado State University and a Ph.D. in Applied Science from Cranfield University. Barth worked in private industry for 20 years on crash safety and regulatory compliance for a variety of vehicles, including military, highway, and aircraft. Barth’s 10 years at the NTSB has focused on crash survivability, emergency response, and emerging technology.

Matts-Ake Belin, PhD  
Director, Vision Zero Academy, Swedish Transport Administration

Matts-Åke Belin has more than 30 years of experience within the Swedish government primarily working on overall safety policies, strategies and collaboration with different stakeholders. Between 2007–2009, Belin worked for the World Health Organization in Geneva where Belin participated in the development of global road safety strategies and global partnerships. Belin has also chaired the technical committee 3.1 on National Road Safety Policies and Programme, World Road Association, and served as the International representative at the US Transportation Research Board (TRB) standing committee ANB 10 Transportation Safety Management. Belin is the Swedish delegate in the UN Road Safety Collaboration and has served as national and international senior policy adviser, supporting different Vision Zero initiatives around the world.

Rachel Carpenter  
Chief Safety Officer, CA Department of Transportation

Rachel Carpenter was appointed the California Department of Transportation’s (Caltrans) first-ever Chief Safety Officer, effective January 2020. Carpenter is Caltrans’ highest-level subject matter expert on safety practices and policies and manages the day-to-day operations of the newly established Division of Safety Programs. Carpenter is a member of the Transportation Research Board Committee on Bicycle Transportation.

Natalie Draisin  
Director, North American Office and United Nations Representative, FIA Foundation

Natalie Draisin leads the FIA Foundation’s activities across the Americas and advances evidence-based solutions around the world with a focus on ensuring safe and sustainable mobility. Leading road safety efforts at the United Nations, Draisin advocated for the inclusion of road safety in the Sustainable Development Goals. With the US Congress, Draisin helped the World Bank improve the safety of their roads. Draisin founded Vision Zero for Youth with the National Center for Safe Routes to School, authored UNICEF guidance about preventing COVID-19 and road traffic injuries on the journey to school and enabled the creation of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention’s Traffic Conflict Technique Toolkit.
Jennifer Homendy
Board Member, NTSB

Jennifer Homendy took the oath of office as the 44th Member of the NTSB on August 20, 2018. Member Homendy is a tireless advocate for safety and brings to the Board expertise in the safety of railroads, pipelines, and hazardous materials (on all modes of transportation).

From 2004 to 2018, Homendy served as the Democratic Staff Director of the Subcommittee on Railroads, Pipelines, and Hazardous Materials, which is under the jurisdiction of the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure (T&I Committee) of the U.S. House of Representatives. Homendy previously held positions with the International Brotherhood of Teamsters, the Transportation Trades Department of the AFL-CIO, and the American Iron and Steel Institute.

During her tenure as Subcommittee Staff Director, Member Homendy guided major pieces of rail, pipeline, and hazardous materials safety legislation through the legislative process, including: the Safe, Accountable, Flexible, Efficient, Transportation Equity Act: A Legacy for Users (SAFETEA-LU); the Rail Safety Improvement Act of 2008 (P.L. 110-432, Division A); the Passenger Rail Investment and Improvement Act of 2008 (P.L. 110-432, Division B); the Pipeline, Inspection, Protection, Enforcement, and Safety Act of 2006; the Pipeline Safety, Regulatory Certainty, and Job Creation Act of 2011; the Fixing America’s Surface Transportation (FAST) Act of 2015; the Protecting Our Infrastructure of Pipelines Enhancing Safety (PIPES) Act of 2016; and the Norman Y. Mineta Research and Special Programs Improvement Act of 2004, which created the Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration, an agency charged with overseeing the safety of our nation’s pipelines and hazardous materials transportation within the U.S. Department of Transportation. Throughout her tenure on the T&I Committee, Homendy was an unwavering defender of transportation safety and worked to implement numerous safety recommendations proposed by the NTSB, including the installation of excess flow valves in distribution pipelines and implementation of positive train control.

Robin Hutcheson
Deputy Assistant Secretary for Safety Policy, US Department of Transportation

Robin Hutcheson is the Deputy Assistant Secretary of Safety Policy for the USDOT. Prior to being appointed to the Biden-Harris Administration, she was the Director of Public Works for the City of Minneapolis, where she focused on leveraging public right of way investments for broader safety, equity, environmental, and economic outcomes. She served as the Transportation Director for Salt Lake City, UT, working to improve all modes of transportation. Robin was also a consultant specializing in transportation and transit and has worked in cities throughout the western United States, in London and France, and for the European Union Commission on Sustainability. She believes deeply in collaboration, partnership, and communication, and brings these values in to her daily work. Robin served for seven years on the Board of Directors for the National Association of Transportation Officials (NACTO), most recently serving as its President. She is a member of the American Institute of Certified Planners. While originally from the Nutmeg State, she and her husband Dave enjoyed decades in Salt Lake City and have called Minneapolis home for the last five years.

Adrian Lund, PhD
Trustee, Towards Zero Foundation

Dr. Lund retired in 2018 from the Insurance Institute for Highway Safety (IIHS) and its affiliate, the Highway Loss Data Institute (HLDI), where Lund had served for 36 years, most recently as President from 2006 through 2017. Lund’s activities there spanned the range of driver, vehicle and roadway factors involved in motor vehicle safety. As senior vice president for research at IIHS from 1993–2001, Lund directed the development of the Institute’s vehicle crashworthiness testing program at its (then) state of the art Vehicle Research Center. As president, Lund oversaw the expansion of the Institute’s Vehicle Research Center to include new facilities, and the world’s first fully covered outdoor vehicle test track, for evaluating and promoting new technology that promises to help drivers avoid crashes and, eventually, to operate vehicles safely without drivers. Dr. Lund is a recognized media authority on highway safety and was included in Motor Trend’s Power List in 2015 and 2016. Currently, Lund serves as a Trustee for the Towards Zero Foundation (formerly Global New Car Assessment Programme); as a member of the Research Advisory Board for Veoneer; and as a member of the Safety Advisory Board for Aurora.
Jeff Paniati
Executive Director and CEO, Institute of Transportation Engineers

Jeff Paniati leads the Transportation Engineers (ITE), an international membership association of more than 16,000 transportation professionals who work to improve safety and mobility for all transportation system users and help build smart and livable communities. Prior to joining ITE, Paniati had a 32-year career with the Federal Highway Administration, where Paniati held leadership positions in the areas of system management and operations, intelligent transportation systems, and highway safety. Paniati served as FHWA Executive Director from 2008–2015. Paniati has received numerous honor awards, including the prestigious Presidential Rank Award of Distinguished Executive. Paniati has been inducted into the University of Connecticut Academy of Distinguished Engineers, the ITS America Hall of Fame, and the ITS World Congress Hall of Fame.

Brittany Rawlinson, PhD
Statistician, NTSB

Brittany Rawlinson joined the NTSB in 2020 and is a statistician in the Safety Research Division. In her current role, Rawlinson is responsible for designing, planning, and conducting transportation safety research studies; providing statistical and data analysis support during accident investigations; compiling and publishing annual accident statistics; and developing safety recommendations and reports. Rawlinson also serves as secretary of the Diversity and Inclusion Council for the Agency. Rawlinson received her doctorate in Sociology and master’s degree in public administration from Florida State University, and a bachelor’s degree in political science from Presbyterian College. Prior to joining the NTSB, Rawlinson worked as a research analyst in the Office of Labor Policy and Standards at the New York City Department of Consumer Affairs. In that role, Rawlinson conducted statistical analysis, produced reports, assisted in public education efforts, and provided research-driven recommendations for achieving workplace equity, furthering the agency’s mission to give workers a voice in municipal labor law enforcement.

Betty Smoot-Madison
Mobility Director, City of Atlanta, Department of Transportation

Betty Smoot-Madison began a planning career in Prince George’s County, Maryland, one of the nation’s wealthiest, predominantly African-American counties, located just outside the nation’s Capital, where Smoot-Madison gained experience in transit-oriented development, implementation strategies, neighborhood revitalization, and university-oriented development, as well as other planning principles. While working in P.G. County, Smoot-Madison led the Pedestrian Safety Workgroup, which was established by the P.G. County Healthcare Action Coalition to create policies and strategies for improving pedestrian and bicycle safety in the built environment. Smoot-Madison worked in P.G. County for five years, then moved on to work for the Baltimore City Department of Transportation, where Smoot-Madison occupied several roles, including Senior Transportation Planner, ADA Coordinator, and Ombudsman for the Automated Traffic Violation Enforcement System. While working in Baltimore, Smoot-Madison initiated and led the city’s first roadway safety program, Toward Zero Baltimore, and played a major role in developing the speed and red-light camera program, which has been the most successful automated enforcement program to date for the city.

Jane Terry
Vice President of Government Affairs, National Safety Council

Jane Terry is an experienced policy and legislative leader with nearly 20 years of experience working with local, state, and federal government officials on transportation, telecommunications, workplace safety, community development, and healthcare initiatives. Prior to joining the National Safety Council, Terry served as the director of government affairs at the National Transportation Safety Board. In this role, Terry communicated the work of the NTSB to Congressional leaders, resulting in a higher level of funding for the agency during a time of budget cuts. Her education and advocacy efforts resulted in safety recommendations issued by the NTSB related to aviation, pipeline, rail and highway safety, which ultimately were adopted and became law. At the NTSB, Terry developed the platform for on-scene government affairs support for accident investigations. Terry led on-the-ground engagement with elected officials and the community during the 2015 Amtrak derailment in Philadelphia, PA; the 2014 Harlem, NY gas pipeline explosion; the 2013 crude oil train derailment and explosion in Casselton, ND; the 2013 Asiana Airlines accident in San Francisco; the 2013 I-5 bridge collapse in Washington state; the 2012 hazardous materials train derailment in Paulsboro, NJ; and the 2010 Marshall, MI, oil pipeline rupture.