Title: Transportation Accessibility

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Problem to be addressed:
We, Deaf, Hard of Hearing, and Deaf-Blind people experience barriers when we are on ships, planes, trains, subways, buses, and other public transportation.

Proposed Solution:
NAD should create a Task Force where they can work with Amtrak, FAA, and airports to ensure that Deaf, Deaf-Blind, and Hard of Hearing people have access to information including VP or text if there are any changes, emergencies, or safety information. The Task Force also should develop a position statement for the State Associations to pass on to work on local transportation for subway, metro, bus, and public transportation. The Task Force also should develop resources to educate about the transportation accessibility.

Rationale:
It is an ongoing issue within our community. It is time for NAD to address transportation accessibility and it is a serious concern regarding safety for us. We are in the 21st century and it is time to address that now and improve our lives. We should have equal access.

Fiscal Impact:
There will be no fiscal impact for this priority proposal.

NAD Board/HQ Response:
The NAD, through its Policy Institute, has done extensive work on all modes of transportation with respect to legal and regulatory requirements as well as position statements and ranking projects to promote best practices. These efforts include work with many stakeholder groups including organizations representing other people with disabilities on task forces that focus on the FAA (for airplanes regulations), Amtrak (for train regulations), FMCSA (for CDLs), Access Board (for regulations on buses, trains, trucks, ships, and autonomous vehicles) and other entities to improve access. The NAD is also working with several car manufacturers to ensure autonomous vehicles (self-driving cars) include access for deaf, hard of hearing, DeafBlind, and deaf with other disabilities.