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## Memorandum

Date: October 25, 2021

Subject: INFORMATION: Audit Announcement | Cybersecurity Review of DOT's High Value Assets | Project No. 21T3004T000  
Department of Transportation

From: Kevin Dorsey  
Assistant Inspector General for Information Technology Audits 

To: DOT Chief Information Officer

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Since 2015, the Federal Government's High Value Asset (HVA) initiative has focused on the protection of the most critical and high impact information and information systems. The broader Government effort and related policy statements address the identification, categorization, and prioritization of HVAs in all Federal agencies.

The loss of access or corruption to a DOT HVA system would have a serious impact on the Department's ability to perform its primary mission essential functions (PMEF), which are to (1) assure the operation, availability, and safety of critical transportation systems and infrastructure necessary for national defense; (2) lead and coordinate the national response to significant disruption to the transportation sector; and (3) ensure continuous National Airspace System operations and maintain critical air services and safety.

Given the impact that cyberattacks can have on the security and resilience of the Nation's transportation infrastructure, we are initiating this audit on DOT's 21 identified HVA systems. Our audit objectives will be to evaluate whether DOT (1) established an effective organization-wide HVA governance program to identify and prioritize HVAs and (2) assesses HVA security controls and ensures timely remediation of identified vulnerabilities.

We plan to begin this audit later this month and will conduct our work at DOT Headquarters in Washington, DC. We will contact your audit liaison to schedule an entrance conference. If you have any questions or need additional information, please contact me at (202) 366-1518, or Leon Lucas, Program Director, at (202) 366-0377.

cc: DOT Audit Liaison, M-1