



NATIONAL CAPITAL REGION

TRANSPORTATION PLANNING BOARD

Item 5

MEMORANDUM

July 10, 2014

TO: Transportation Planning Board

FROM: Gerald K. Miller
Acting Co-Director, Department of
Transportation Planning

RE: Letters Sent/Received Since the June 18TPB Meeting

The attached letters were sent/received since the June 18 TPB meeting. The letters will be reviewed under Agenda 5 of the July 16 TPB agenda.

Attachments



U.S. Department
of Transportation

Federal Transit Administration
Region III
1760 Market Street, Suite 500
Philadelphia, PA 19103
215-656-7100
215-656-7260 (fax)

Federal Highway Administration
DC Division
1990 K Street, N.W., Suite 510
Washington, DC 20006
202-219-3570
202-219-3545 (fax)

JUL 09 2014

The Honorable Patrick Wojahn, Chairman
National Capital Region Transportation Planning Board
c/o Mr. Gerald Miller, Acting Co-Director of Transportation Planning
Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments
777 North Capital Street, NW, Suite 300
Washington, D.C. 20002-4201

Mr. Lloyd Robinson
Director, Fredericksburg Area Metropolitan Planning Organization
406 Princess Anne Street,
Fredericksburg, VA 22401

Dear Chairman Wojahn and Mr. Robinson:

Re: Federal Certification of the National Capital Region Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) Planning Process

The Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) and Federal Transit Administration (FTA) will be conducting a Site Visit for the Certification Review of the National Capital Region MPO Planning Process. As agreed upon through prior discussions with the MPO staffs and the District Department of Transportation, Maryland Department of Transportation (MDOT) and Virginia Department of Transportation, this Site Visit has been scheduled for October 28, 29 or 30, 2014. The public meeting portion of the Federal Certification will take place on October 9, 2014.

The Federal Certification Review Process is required every four years for all Transportation Management Areas (TMAs). Urbanized areas with 200,000 or more population are referred to in Federal legislation as TMAs. The Federal Certification Review of TMAs was first required by the Intermodal Surface Transportation Efficiency Act (ISTEA), which established a requirement in 23 U.S.C. 134 and 49 U.S.C. 1607 for the FHWA and the FTA to jointly certify the metropolitan transportation planning processes in MPOs that are designated TMAs at least every three years. As revised by the enactment of the Safe, Accountable, Flexible, Efficient Equity Act: A Legacy for Users, (SAFETEA-LU) 23 U.S.C. 134 continues to require that the FHWA/FTA jointly certify the metropolitan transportation planning processes in TMAs at least every four years. These reviews also must “provide for public involvement appropriate to the metropolitan area under review.” Moreover, 23 U.S.C. 134 (k)(5) states that these certifications may be issued if: (i) the transportation planning process complies with the requirements of 23 U.S.C. 134 and 49 U.S.C. 1607 (as amended) and other applicable Federal requirements and (ii) there is a Transportation Improvement Program for the TMA that has been approved by the

Re: Federal Certification of the National Capital Region Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) Planning Process

MPO and the Governor (or Governor's designee). Moving Ahead for Progress in the 21st Century (MAP-21) continues the requirement for Certification Review of the transportation planning process.

In general, the review will focus on the MPO's various approaches, activities, and issues associated with conducting the "3-C" (coordinated, continuous, and comprehensive) metropolitan transportation planning process. The Certification Review process will not only utilize the knowledge gained throughout routine contact with the planning process in the Washington Metropolitan region, but also through the following five phases: 1) a Desk Review of Planning Products and Processes; 2) Issuance of Desk Review Findings; 3) a Site Visit; 4) Verbal Close Out; and 5) a Finalized Certification Review Report.

As part of the Desk Review, FTA and FHWA will be reviewing the following documents and planning products, as well as the development process for each (list is not exhaustive):

- FY2013 Long-Range Transportation Plan (CLRP) approved by the MPO on July 17, 2013 which includes the Congestion Management Process (CMP)
- FY 2013-2018 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) approved by the MPO on July 18, 2012 and as last amended on June 18, 2014 which includes the self-certifications and procedures for TIP Administrative Modifications and Amendments
- Public Participation Plan published on December 19, 2007
- FY2015 Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP) approved by the MPO on March 15 which includes the memorandums of understanding (MOU) between the MWCOG and the District of Columbia, the states of Maryland and Virginia, the Fredericksburg Area Metropolitan Planning Organization (FAMPO), and Charles and Calvert Counties
- Financial Capacity Analysis published on November 17, 2010
- Title VI Programs
- Human Service Transportation Coordination Plan approved by the MPO on December 16, 2009
- Freight Plan approved by the MPO on July 21, 2010

Please ensure that all the document links on your website are up to date. Following the issuance of our Desk Review Findings, FTA and FHWA will prepare and share with you a detailed Agenda for the Site Visit, identifying areas that will be discussed in detail. FTA and FHWA expect to finalize this Agenda by October 1, 2014. The Site Visit will also consist of a follow-up of any "corrective actions" and/or "recommendations" from the 2011 Certification Review, which was completed on June 27, 2011. In addition to assessing the MPO's current level of effort in addressing statutory and regulatory requirements, the review is intended to offer input and examples from other States and MPOs in improving the overall quality of the area's metropolitan transportation planning process.

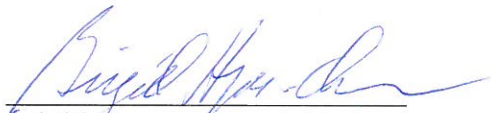
At the conclusion of the Site Visit, an informal closeout session will be held with the MPO and Planning Partners to discuss preliminary review findings. A *MPO Certification Review Report* that summarizes the Site Visit, provides specific review findings, and issues the FHWA/FTA certification action will be prepared after the Site Visit. The *MPO Certification Review Report*

Re: Federal Certification of the National Capital Region Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) Planning Process

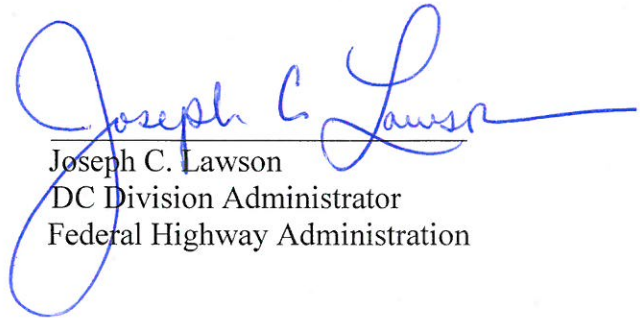
will be finalized within 90 days of the conclusion of the Site Visit. Within this timeframe, the respective MPO planning staffs will be provided 30 calendar days to provide factual verification on the content of the draft report. Subsequently, a formal presentation of the review's findings will be made by FHWA and FTA offices at the next Transportation Planning Board (TPB) meeting following transmittal of the *MPO Certification Review Report* (to the extent practicable).

If you have any questions regarding this Certification Review, please direct them to either Ms. Sandra Jackson, Community Planner, of the FHWA, DC Division, at (202) 219-3521 or Ms. Melissa P. Barlow, Community Planner, of the FTA Region III DC Metro Office, at (202) 219-3565.

Sincerely,



Brigid Hynes-Cherin
Region III Administrator
Federal Transit Administration



Joseph C. Lawson
DC Division Administrator
Federal Highway Administration

cc: FHWA Maryland Division
FHWA Virginia Division

Green Streets Workshop

Best Practices Around the Region and the Country



Photos:
District of Columbia Department of the
Environment,
Arlington County Department of
Environmental Services

Green Streets use landscaping, trees and other design elements to capture and filter stormwater runoff.

This workshop is will bring together DOT staff and their colleagues in environmental programs, to discuss:

- How implementation challenges are being overcome around the region and across the country
- Highway, urban, and residential green street success stories
- Technical, financial, and regulatory hurdles to project implementation

This workshop is sponsored by the Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments and the National Capital Region Transportation Planning Board

Date:
July 28th, 2014

Time:
12:30 – 4:30 p.m.
Training Center, 1st Floor
(Lunch at 11:30 a.m.)

Location:
Metropolitan Washington Council of
Governments
777 North Capitol Street
Washington, DC 20002

RSVP:
https://www.mwcog.org/calendar/registration.asp?COMMITTEE_ID=103&EVENT_ID=8791

For questions, please contact Mike Farrell,
mfarrell@mwcog.org or
Amanda Campbell,
acampbell@mwcog.org