

National Capital Region Transportation Planning Board

777 North Capitol Street, N.E., Suite 300, Washington, D.C. 20002-4290 (202)962-3310 Fax: (202) 962-3202 TDD: (202) 962-3213

Item #5

MEMORANDUM

March 21, 2012

TO: Transportation Planning Board

FROM: Ronald F. Kirby *RK*
Director, Department of
Transportation Planning

RE: Additional Letters Sent/Received

The attached additional letters sent/received will be reviewed along with other letters sent/received under item #5 of the March 21st TPB agenda.

Attachment

From: Weissberg, Victor [VWeissberg@co.pg.md.us]
Sent: Tuesday, March 20, 2012 4:55 PM
To: Ron Kirby; Turner, Todd M.
Cc: 'Lyn Erickson'; Gerald Miller; Hijazi, Haitham A.; Turner, Linda; Cooper, Debbie V.; Gordon, J. Rick; Hassan, Abul; McReynolds, Byran K.
Subject: Designation of Temporary Alternate Board Member

Dear Chairman Turner and Mr. Kirby,

As the County's regular alternate to the Transportation Planning Board who will not be able to attend, as well as our full Board Member who is also unavailable for the TPB meeting on Wednesday, March 21, 2012. We are hereby designating Mr. Abul Hassan as our temporary Alternate Member for the March meeting to be held tomorrow from Noon to 2 on March, 21, 2012 and has our authority to act on our behalf. Please let us know if there are any questions. Sincerely,

Victor Weissberg

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M E M O R A N D U M

TO: Transportation Planning Board

FROM: Ronald F. Kirby
Director, Department of
Transportation Planning

SUBJECT: Regional Requests for TPB Endorsement of FTA Grant Applications

DATE: March 21, 2012

The Federal Transit Administration (FTA) recently released a series of notices for funding availability for four discretionary grant programs: Bus Livability, Bus State of Good Repair, Clean Fuels, and Alternatives Analysis. FTA discretionary grant applications require metropolitan planning organization endorsement to ensure that funded projects will be incorporated into long-range plans (i.e., the CLRP) and transportation improvement programs (i.e., the TIP).

The TPB has received the following requests for endorsement of applications for Federal Transit Administration discretionary grants.

A. Montgomery County

Montgomery County is submitting three applications for FTA discretionary grants.

1. Bus State of Good Repair for \$405,121 to purchase an asset management system, radios and operational software.
2. Bus Livability for \$440,000 to purchase Automated Transit Information System signs and an interactive voice response system.
3. Clean Fuels for \$6.7 million to purchase 11 hybrid buses and 3 CNG buses.

B. WMATA

WMATA is submitting four applications for FTA discretionary grants.

1. Bus State of Good Repair for \$9.63 million to make bus garage improvements at the Bladensburg garage.
2. Bus State of Good Repair for \$2.82 million for water treatment and HazMat storage improvements at Montgomery & Four Mile Run bus garages and an ADA-required elevator at Four Mile Run garage.
3. Bus Livability for up to \$2.25 million annually over three years for accessibility improvements to bus stops in the District of Columbia, Maryland and Virginia.
4. Clean Fuels for up to \$7.2 million to fix the CNG pump system at Bladensburg bus garage.

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Mr. Peter Rogoff
Administrator, Federal Transit Administration
US Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Ave, SE
Washington DC, 20590

Dear Administrator Rogoff:

I am writing to express the support of the National Capital Region Transportation Planning Board (TPB) for Montgomery County's application for \$405,121 under FTA's State of Good Repair Grant Program to purchase an asset management system, radios and operational software.

The TPB as the metropolitan planning organization (MPO) for the national capital region has long supported increased investment of transportation dollars to support improvements in the environment and the region's bus system. Ride On's operational capabilities will be enhanced through the deployment of an asset management tracking system, implementation of operational software and the purchase of radios that meet new Federal Communication Commission standards.

This application was endorsed by the TPB on March 21, 2012 and the board enthusiastically supports Montgomery County's grant application. The application is consistent with the region's constrained long-range plan (CLRP), the region's transportation improvement program (TIP) can be amended to include the project upon award, and the application is coordinated and supported among the region's transit operators.

Sincerely,

Todd M. Turner
Chair, National Capital Region Transportation Planning Board

cc: Ms. Brigid Hynes-Cherin, FTA Regional Administrator for Region III

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Mr. Peter Rogoff
Administrator, Federal Transit Administration
US Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Ave, SE
Washington DC, 20590

Dear Administrator Rogoff:

I am writing to express the support of the National Capital Region Transportation Planning Board (TPB) for Montgomery County's application for \$440,000 under FTA's Bus Livability Grant Program to purchase Automated Transit Information System signs and an interactive voice response system.

The TPB as the metropolitan planning organization (MPO) for the national capital region has long supported increased investment of transportation dollars to support improvements in the environment and the region's bus system. Montgomery County's grant project will increase travel mobility by providing real-time bus information. Automated Transit Information System signs will be installed at local Metro stations and an interactive voice response system will enable phone users to find out when the next bus arrives.

This application was endorsed by the TPB on March 21, 2012 and the board enthusiastically supports Montgomery County's grant application. The application is consistent with the region's constrained long-range plan (CLRP), the region's transportation improvement program (TIP) can be amended to include the project upon award, and the application is coordinated and supported among the region's transit operators.

Sincerely,

Todd M. Turner
Chair, National Capital Region Transportation Planning Board

Cc: Brigid Hynes-Cherin, FTA Regional Administrator for Region III

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Mr. Peter Rogoff
Administrator, Federal Transit Administration
US Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Ave, SE
Washington DC, 20590

Dear Administrator Rogoff:

I am writing to express the support of the National Capital Region Transportation Planning Board (TPB) for Montgomery County's application for \$6.7 million under the Clean Fuels Grant Program to purchase 11 hybrid buses and 3 CNG buses.

The TPB as the metropolitan planning organization (MPO) for the national capital region has long supported increased investment of transportation dollars to support improvements in the environment and the region's bus system. New buses using clean fuels will provide benefits to the region's citizens through cleaner and higher quality transportation service.

This application was endorsed by the TPB on March 21, 2012 and the board enthusiastically supports Montgomery County's grant application. The application is consistent with the region's constrained long-range plan (CLRP), the region's transportation improvement program (TIP) can be amended to include the project upon award, and the application is coordinated and supported among the region's transit operators.

Sincerely,

Todd M. Turner
Chair, National Capital Region Transportation Planning Board

Cc: Brigid Hynes-Cherin, FTA Regional Administrator for Region III

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Mr. Peter Rogoff
 Administrator, Federal Transit Administration
 US Department of Transportation
 1200 New Jersey Ave, SE
 Washington DC, 20590

Dear Administrator Rogoff:

I am writing to express the support of the National Capital Region Transportation Planning Board (TPB) for the following grant applications submitted by the Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority (WMATA) to the Federal Transit Administration (FTA) for consideration under its FY 2012 Discretionary Funding Opportunities, *Bus and Bus Facilities Programs (State of Good Repair and Bus Livability Initiatives)* and *Clean Fuels Grant Program*:

Grant Program	Project Proposals	Scalable Federal Funds Request	Commitment to provide Local match
Bus SGR Facilities	1. Bus Garage improvements – unfunded reconfiguration/rehab needs at Bladensburg bus garage (programming gap): bus bays for clean fuel articulated buses and ADA-required elevators;	1. \$9.63 M	1. \$2.16 M
	2. Wash down water treatment and HazMat storage improvements at Montgomery & Four Mile Run bus garages; ADA-required elevator at Four Mile Run; Grey/Storm water reduction system at Montgomery.	2. \$2.82 M	2. \$.58 M
	Total ≈ \$12.45 M	Total ≈ \$2.74M	
Bus Livability	Accessibility improvements to bus stops in the District of Columbia, Maryland and Virginia. Funds will be used to augment the current program to address recently identified needs for improvements to stops currently inaccessible to people with disabilities, including prescribed combinations of improvements to sidewalks, ramps, concrete pads, shelters, benches, trash receptacles, landscaping, lighting, bulb-outs, bus bays, static signage, and real-time signage.	Up to \$2.25 M annually over three years	No additional commitment required; up to \$.25 M annually over three years is already programmed
Clean Fuels	Remediate CNG pump pressure irregularity at Bladensburg bus garage which seems to be causing premature aging and failure of compressors and equipment. [Remediation solution is currently under study; results due in about four weeks. Estimate is “Worst Case Scenario,” full replacement of three compressor plants and the gas dryer system.]	\$6.4 – 7.2 M	\$.8 - \$1.6 M

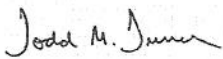
The TPB as the metropolitan planning organization (MPO) for the national capital region has long supported the use of transportation dollars to support re-investment in the region’s bus system. WMATA plays a key role in the daily lives of hundreds of thousands of federal employees, area residents, and tourists who make it the transportation mode of choice in the National Capital Region. Operating the second-largest rail transit system and sixth-largest bus network in the nation, WMATA currently serves a population of 3.5 million, and provides about 744,000 rail trips, 436,000 bus trips, and 7,200 paratransit trips on an average weekday. With such widespread ridership, the TPB appreciates your thoughtful review of WMATA’s project proposals. They

represent unfunded priority needs which, if met, will improve efficient delivery of transportation services to all area residents and visitors.

The applications are consistent with the region's constrained long-range plan (CLRP), the region's transportation improvement program (TIP) can be amended to include the projects upon award, and the application is coordinated and supported among the region's transit operators.

Thank you for your consideration. If you or your staff has any questions or need additional information, please feel free to contact me.

Sincerely,



Todd M. Turner
Chair, National Capital Region Transportation Planning Board

cc: Ms. Brigid Hynes-Cherin, FTA Regional Administrator for Region III