

To: CRCOG Transportation Committee
From: Jennifer Carrier, Director of Transportation
cc: CRCOG Policy Board
Date: November 3, 2017
Subject: Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) Planning Certification

The Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) and the Federal Transit Administration (FTA) recently completed reviews of the Connecticut Department of Transportation's (CTDOT) Statewide Transportation Improvement Program (STIP) for FFY 2018-2021. As you recall, the regional Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) is a subset of the STIP. Based on their reviews, the FHWA and FTA jointly determined that the STIP for Connecticut substantially meets the applicable Federal requirements. The following summarizes their findings as per 23 CFR 450 (b).

- The projects in the STIP are compliant with federal requirements including the Fixing America's Surface Transportation (FAST) Act.
- The MPOs' 2015 Regional Transportation Plans and FFY 2018-2021 TIPs are in conformity with the 1990 Clean Air Act Amendments and 40 CFR.
- STIP compliance has also been based on the CTDOT's self-certification and the MPOs' self-certifications, documentation of routine FHWA/FTA involvement in the statewide and metropolitan planning processes, and the CTDOT's progress in addressing past planning findings.
- The regional TIPs are based on a continuing, comprehensive transportation planning process carried on cooperatively by the State, the MPOs, and the transit operators.
- TIP compliance has also been based on joint MPO/CTDOT self-certification statements, documentation of routine FHWA/FTA involvement in the metropolitan planning processes, and findings from FHWA/FTA Certification Reviews.
- CTDOT must align the FFY 2018 Section 5337 (State of Good Repair) current carryover funds with expected authorization amounts.
- The MPOs and CTDOT should coordinate prior to initiating transit STIP/TIP amendments to ensure the amendments can be completed in a timely manner.
- The MPOs must update their Self-Certifications to reflect current federal law and regulations by January 19, 2018.

Based on the above findings, FHWA and FTA have issued a conditional approval of the FFY 2018-2021 STIP. CRCOG will follow up with CTDOT as it relates to coordination. To address the last finding, attached to this memo is a draft resolution updating CRCOG's MPO Planning Certification. This resolution reflects the most current federal laws and regulations and would therefore satisfy the above requirement.

Resolution Regarding Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) Planning Certification

WHEREAS, the Capitol Region Council of Governments (CRCOG) has been designated by the Governor of the State Connecticut as the Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) responsible, together with the State, for the comprehensive, continuing, and cooperative transportation planning process for the Capitol Region; and

WHEREAS, the CRCOG conducts the transportation planning process in accordance with the regulations promulgated by the US Department of Transportation by preparing a Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP), preparing, maintaining and amending the endorsed Transportation Improvement Program (TIP), preparing and updating the endorsed Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP), assessing the air quality impacts of the proposed transportation improvement projects included in the TIP and MTP, and proactively involving the public in the metropolitan transportation planning process.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that CRCOG hereby certifies that the metropolitan transportation planning process is being carried out in accordance with all applicable requirements of:

- (1) 23 U.S.C. 134, 49 U.S.C. 5303, and this subpart;
- (2) In nonattainment and maintenance areas, sections 174 and 176(c) and (d) of the Clean Air Act, as amended (42 U.S.C. 7504, 7506(c) and (d)) and 40 CFR part 93;
- (3) Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, as amended (42 U.S.C. 2000d-1) and 49 CFR part 21;
- (4) 49 U.S.C. 5332, prohibiting discrimination on the basis of race, color, creed, national origin, sex, or age in employment or business opportunity;
- (5) Section 1101(b) of the FAST Act (Pub. L. 114-357) and 49 CFR part 26 regarding the involvement of disadvantaged business enterprises in DOT funded projects;
- (6) 23 CFR part 230, regarding the implementation of an equal employment opportunity program on Federal and Federal-aid highway construction contracts;
- (7) The provisions of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (42 U.S.C. 12101 et seq.) and 49 CFR parts 27, 37, and 38;
- (8) The Older Americans Act, as amended (42 U.S.C. 6101), prohibiting discrimination on the basis of age in programs or activities receiving Federal financial assistance;
- (9) Section 324 of title 23 U.S.C. regarding the prohibition of discrimination based on gender; and
- (10) Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 (29 U.S.C. 794) and 49 CFR part 27 regarding discrimination against individuals with disabilities.

CERTIFICATE: The undersigned duly qualified Secretary of the CRCOG certifies that the foregoing is a true and correct copy of a resolution adopted by the voting members of the CRCOG on November 15, 2017.

Lisa Heavner, Secretary
Capitol Region Council of Governments

Date