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October 17, 2023

Matthew L. Jewell, St. Charles Parish President & Transportation Policy Committee Chairman
New Orleans Metropolitan Planning Organization
c/o
St. Charles Parish Government
PO Box 302
Hahnville, LA 70057

Subject: New Orleans Transportation Management Area Federal Certification Review

Dear President Jewell:

This letter notifies you that the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) and the Federal Transit Administration (FTA) jointly certify the planning process for the New Orleans Transportation Management Area (TMA) and Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO). This certification is based on the findings from the Federal Certification Review site visit conducted on January 31st and February 1st, 2023, the desk review conducted prior to and following the site visit, and our working experience with the MPO.

The conclusion of the Certification Review is that the planning process for the New Orleans TMA complies with the spirit and intent of Federal metropolitan transportation planning laws under 23 USC 134 and 49 USC 5303. The planning process undertaken at the New Orleans TMA is a continuing, cooperative, and comprehensive process and reflects a significant professional commitment to deliver quality transportation planning.

We thank Mr. Jeff Roesel and his staff for their time and assistance in planning and conducting the review. Enclosed is the report that documents the results of this review and offers nine recommendations to improve and enhance the planning process and one commendation for a noteworthy practice.

This report has been transmitted concurrently to the TMA/MPO staff, the Louisiana Department of Transportation and Development (LADOTD), the Regional Transit Authority and Jefferson Transit.

If you have any questions regarding the Certification Review process, the Certification action, and/or the enclosed report, please contact either Ms. Laura Phillips, Planner with the FHWA Louisiana Division, at (225) 757-7622 or Ms. Michelle Bloomer, Planner with the FTA Region 6, at (817) 978-0570.

Sincerely yours,

Sincerely yours,

David Bartels
Director of Planning and Program Development
Federal Transit Administration

Raegan Ball
Acting Division Administrator
Federal Highway Administration

Enclosure(s)

c:

Jeff Roesel, RPC Executive Director
Jason Sappington, RPC Deputy Director
Ninette Barios, Jefferson Transit, Director
Lona Edwards Hankins, Regional Transit Authority, Chief Executive Officer
Connie Porter Betts, LADOTD, Office of Planning Assistant Secretary
Mary Elliott Bergeron, LADOTD, Transportation Planning Administrator
Dawn Sholmire, LADOTD, Statewide Planning Engineer
Chris Cole, LADOTD, Urban Transportation Planning Engineer
S. Michelle Horne, LADOTD, Public Transportation Director
Tina Athalone, LADOTD, Urban Public Transportation Program Manager
Laura Phillips, FHWA, Transportation Planner
Mary Stringfellow, FHWA, Acting Deputy Division Administrator
Michelle Bloomer, FTA, Community Planner
David Bartels, FTA, Director of Planning and Program Development