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March 17, 2010

Reply to: HDA-MD  
(709)

The Honorable Beverley Swaim-Staley  
Secretary, Maryland Department of Transportation  
7201 Corporate Center Drive  
P.O. Box 548  
Hanover, Maryland 21076

Dear Ms. Swaim-Staley

The following is in response to the Department's letter dated November 12, 2009 which transmitted for our review the Fiscal Year (FY) 2010 Transportation Improvement Programs (TIPs) for Maryland's six Metropolitan Planning Organizations (MPOs) and Maryland's FY 2010 Statewide Transportation Improvement Program (STIP), respectively. We are pleased to inform you that the joint Federal Transit Administration (FTA) and Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) review of the Maryland 2010 STIP has been completed. Our various metropolitan and STIP findings and actions are summarized below:

### **1. Metropolitan TIPs**

Based upon our review of the annual "self-certification" statements developed by each MPO, we hereby determine that the FY 2010 TIPs developed and adopted by MPOs within the State of Maryland are based on a continuing, comprehensive planning process carried on cooperatively by the respective MPOs, local/regional transit service providers, and the State. We also hereby conclude that the content and elements of the TIPs generally satisfy the requirements of 23 U.S.C. 134, 49 U.S.C. 5303, 23 CFR Part 450 (Subpart C) and 49 CFR Part 613 (Subpart C).

### **2. Statewide Transportation Planning Process and the STIP:**

23 U.S.C. 135(f)(4) and 23 CFR 450.220(b) require that the FHWA/FTA approval of the STIP include a finding that the process from which the STIP was developed is consistent with the provisions of 23 U.S.C. 134 and 135 and 49 U.S.C. 5303 – 5305. Our review of various aspects of the statewide transportation planning process concludes that the statewide transportation planning process satisfies the above requirements.

Ms. Beverly Swaim-Staley  
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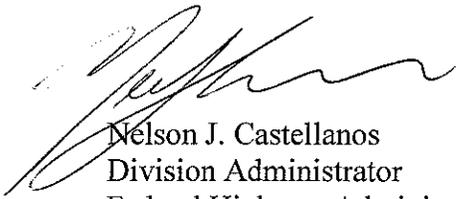
Our review of the STIP, TIPs, and supporting documentation concludes that the FY 2010 STIP satisfactorily addresses the process and content requirements of 23 U.S.C. 134 and 135, 49 U.S.C. 5303 and 5305, 23 CFR Part 450 (Subparts B and C) and 49 CFR Part 613 (Subparts B and C).

Therefore, based on the above, Maryland's FY 2010 STIP is hereby approved.

This approval does not constitute a final commitment of Federal Funds. Federal funding for these projects is finalized when project authorization is requested of FHWA or upon submission of a grant application to FTA. Each FTA application will be subjected to the appropriate project requirements. Should amendments to the STIP become necessary during the course of the year, any highway amendments will be acted upon by the FHWA, while the FTA will act upon transit amendments.

If you have any questions concerning this approval please contact Kwame Arhin, FHWA, Maryland Division, (410) 779-7158, or Gail McFadden-Roberts, FTA Region III, (215) 656-7100.

Sincerely yours,



Nelson J. Castellanos  
Division Administrator  
Federal Highway Administration



Letitia A. Thompson  
Regional Administrator, Region III  
Federal Transit Administration

Enclosure

cc:

Ralign Wells, Maryland Transit Administration  
Neil Pedersen, Maryland State Highway Administration  
Don Halligan, Maryland Department of Transportation  
Martin Kotsch, EPA Region 3