



U.S. Department
of Transportation
**Federal Highway
Administration**

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

Federal Highway Administration
MD Division
10 S. Howard Street, Suite 2450
Baltimore, Maryland 212101
410-962-4440
410-962-4054 (fax)

July 25, 2012

The Honorable Darrell Mobley,
Acting Secretary,
Maryland Department of Transportation
7201 Corporate Center Drive
P.O. Box 548
Hanover, Maryland 21076

Dear Mr. Mobley:

The following is in response to the Department's letter dated June 14, 2012, which transmitted for our review the Fiscal Year (FY) 2012 Transportation Improvement Programs (TIPs) for five of Maryland's Metropolitan Planning Organizations (MPOs) and Maryland's FY 2013 Statewide Transportation Improvement Program (STIP), respectively. The joint Federal Transit Administration (FTA) and Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) review of the Maryland 2013 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 2012 TIPs developed and adopted by MPOs for the Baltimore, Hagerstown, Cumberland, and Salisbury metropolitan areas 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. FHWA/FTA has reviewed the Statewide Transportation Planning Process and finds that the projects in the FY 2013 STIP meet the above mentioned statutory requirements. Therefore, based on the above, Maryland's FY 2013 STIP is hereby approved.

Our review of various aspects of the statewide transportation planning process concludes that the statewide transportation planning process satisfies the above requirements. Therefore, based on the above, Maryland's FY 2013 STIP is hereby approved for the Baltimore, Hagerstown, Cumberland metropolitan regions and the Cecil County, Maryland portion of the Philadelphia- Wilmington metropolitan region. The STIP is also approved for highway projects in the Salisbury metropolitan region. Following submission of the Washington, DC TIP and the amendment to include fiscally constrained transit projects in the Salisbury region, we anticipate granting approval for the inclusion of these projects in the STIP.

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 approval of a grant application by 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.



Gregory Murrill
Division Administrator,
Federal Highway Administration

Sincerely yours,



Brigid Hynes-Cherin
Regional Administrator, Region III
Federal Transit Administration

cc:

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