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December 19, 2024

Mr. Geoff Anderson
Acting Director, Office of Planning and Capital Programming
Maryland Department of Transportation
7201 Corporate Center Drive
Hanover, MD 21076

**RE: Maryland FY 2022-2025 STIP Amendment Control #22-155, and Air Quality
Conformity Determination for the FY 2025-2028 TIP and Resilience 2050 LRTP for the
Baltimore Metropolitan Region**

Dear Mr. Anderson:

The Maryland Department of Transportation (MDOT) requested approval of an Amendment to the FY 2022-2025 Statewide Transportation Improvement Program (STIP), Control #22-155 dated August 6, 2024. This Amendment updates the STIP to include the Baltimore Regional Transportation Board (BRTB) FY 2025-2028 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP), approved by the BRTB on July 23, 2024. BRTB's TIP update triggered requirement for transportation air quality conformity determination to be re-assessed (42 USC 7506). This letter addresses both STIP Control #22-155 and the air quality conformity determination for BRTB's FY 2025-2028 TIP and Resilience 2050 Long-Range Transportation Plan (LRTP).

Maryland STIP FY 2022-2025, MDOT Control #22-155

The Federal Transit Administration (FTA) and Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) have completed review of the BRTB FY 2025-2028 TIP and find that it was developed based on a continuing, cooperative, and comprehensive transportation planning process and demonstrates financial constraint, in accordance with 23 USC 134 and 135 and 49 USC Sections 5303-5305. STIP Amendment Control #22-155 is jointly approved.

This approval does not constitute an obligation of Federal funds. FTA and FHWA finalize Federal funding for projects included in the STIP upon approval of a grant application.

**Air Quality Conformity Determination for the Baltimore Metropolitan Region
FY 2025-2028 TIP and Resilience 2050 LRTP**

The 1990 Amendments to the Clean Air Act require transportation air quality conformity determinations for LRTPs, TIPs, sections of a STIP covering rural nonattainment/maintenance areas, and projects in areas that are designated as air quality nonattainment and maintenance areas. Section 176(d) of the Clean Air Act establishes priority requirements for programs supported by the Federal government that target nonattainment or maintenance areas in order to provide for timely implementation of eligible portions of air quality plans.

The FTA and FHWA coordinated this transportation air quality conformity determination with the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and are jointly making this air quality conformity determination. The last air quality conformity determination for the Baltimore metropolitan region was made on October 27, 2023. BRTB approved its analysis to demonstrate conformity consistent with EPA's Transportation Conformity Rule (40 CFR 93), as amended, July 23, 2024. FTA and FHWA find that the FY 2025-2028 TIP and 2050 Resilience LRTP conform to the region's State Implementation Plans and that the conformity determination has been performed in accordance with the requirements specified in 40 CFR 93.

Any questions concerning this STIP Amendment approval or air quality conformity determination should be directed to Jasmine Champion, Planning & Program Manager, FHWA, Maryland Division, or Daniel Sommerville, Lead Community Planner, FTA Region III.

Sincerely,

Terry Garcia Crews
Regional Administrator
Federal Transit Administration
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