In Reply Refer To:

HPP-TN

Mr. John C. Schroer
Commissioner
Tennessee Department of Transportation
James K. Polk Building, Suite 700
Nashville, TN 37243

Subject: Approval of Fiscal Years 2017-2020 Statewide Transportation Improvement Program

Dear Commissioner Schroer:

The Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) Tennessee Division and Federal Transit Administration (FTA) Region IV Office have completed the Federal Fiscal Years (FY) 2017 Statewide Planning Finding and jointly approve the Tennessee Department of Transportation’s (TDOT) FY 2017-2020 Statewide Transportation Improvement Program (STIP) and the associated Transportation Improvement Programs (TIPs) for Tennessee’s eleven Metropolitan Planning Organizations (MPOs).

The FHWA and FTA have joint responsibility to ensure that the statewide and metropolitan planning processes in Tennessee meet the Federal planning requirements in Titles 23 and 49 of the United States Code (USC) and Titles 23 and 49 of the Code of Federal Regulations (CFR). Based on our review, we find that the STIP is in overall compliance with the requirements of 23 USC Sections 134 and 135 and the Statewide and Metropolitan Planning Regulations, 23 CFR 450 and 49 U.S.C. Sections 5303-5304. We also find that all metropolitan TIPs are based on a continuing and comprehensive transportation planning process, carried out cooperatively by the State, MPOs, and public transit operators, in accordance with the requirements of 23 USC 134 and 49 USC Section 5303. The FHWA and FTA base these findings on TDOT’s and the MPO’s self-certification statements, federal review of supporting documentation, Federal Certification of Transportation Management Areas within the State, the federal desk audit review, and interviews with TDOT staff.

The FHWA and FTA evaluated and discussed the major transportation planning process components and found TDOT’s transportation planning process meets the necessary requirements and is hereby certified. This approval for the FY 2017-2020 STIP supersedes the December 18, 2013, approval for the FY 2014-2017 and shall remain in effect through September 30, 2020.

The enclosed FY 2017 Statewide Planning Finding report does not contain any corrective actions, but FHWA and FTA identified six recommendations for TDOT and the MPOs to consider in the development of the next STIP (FY 2020-2023).
We appreciate your leadership in Tennessee’s statewide and metropolitan transportation planning processes. If you have any questions regarding the FY 2017 Statewide Planning Finding or the FY 2017-2020 STIP approval, please contact Theresa Claxton from the FHWA Tennessee Division at (615) 781-5772 or Holly Peterson from the FTA Region IV Office at (404) 865-5600.

Sincerely,

[Signature]
Sabrina David, AICP
Acting Division Administrator
Federal Highway Administration
Tennessee Division

[Signature]
Dr. Yvette Taylor
Regional Administrator
Federal Transit Administration
Region IV

Enclosure

cc:  Mr. Paul Degges, Deputy Commissioner and Chief Engineer, TDOT
     Mr. Toks Omishakin, Deputy Commissioner and Environmental Bureau Chief, TDOT
     Ms. Lyndsay Botts, Deputy Commissioner and Chief of Staff, TDOT
     Mr. Daniel Pallme, Assistant Chief of Environmental & Planning Bureau/Freight and Logistics Director, TDOT
     Mr. Ronnie Porter, Director of Program Development and Administration, TDOT
     Ms. Tanisha Hall, Director of Long Range Planning, TDOT
     Mr. Steve Allen, Director of Strategic Transportation Investments, TDOT
     Ms. Liza Joffrion, Director of Multimodal Transportation Resources, TDOT
     Ms. BJ Doughty, Director of Community Relations, TDOT
     Mr. Greg Rawlings, Transportation Specialist, FHWA Kentucky
     Mr. Kevin Jones, Transportation Specialist, FHWA Virginia
     Ms. Ann-Marie Day, Transportation Planner, FHWA Georgia
     Mr. Randal Jansen, Planning Engineer, FHWA Mississippi
     Ms. Jennifer Hibbert, Director of Planning and Program Development, FTA Region IV
     Ms. Holly Peterson, Community Planner, FTA Region IV