U.S. DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION



FEDERAL TRANSIT ADMINISTRATION FEDERAL HIGHWAY ADMINISTRATION 819 TAYLOR STREET, ROOM 8A36 **FORT WORTH, TEXAS 76102-9003**

300 E. 8TH STREET, ROOM 826 AUSTIN, TEXAS 78701--3225

September 7, 2016

Refer to: HPP-TX

North Central Texas Council of Governments Transportation Conformity Determination – Mobility 2040: The Metropolitan Transportation Plan for North Central Texas and 2015-2018 Transportation Improvement Program

Mr. James M. Bass **Executive Director** Texas Department of Transportation 125 E. 11th Street Austin, TX 78701-2483

Dear Mr. Bass:

We have reviewed the documentation supporting the transportation conformity determination for Mobility 2040: The Metropolitan Transportation Plan for North Central Texas (Mobility 2040 MTP) and the 2015-2018 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP), approved by the Dallas-Fort Worth-Arlington, Lewisville-Denton and McKinney Metropolitan Planning Organization's Regional Transportation Council (RTC) on March 10 and reconfirmed by the RTC on June 16. Reconfirmation was completed to address revisions to the transportation conformity determination stemming from the substitution of transportation control measures (TCMs) associated with the proposed removal of high occupancy vehicle (HOV) lanes on US 67/IH-35E in Dallas County as reflected in the Mobility 2040 MTP. Based upon our review and consultation with the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ), and the Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT), we hereby find

• that the Mobility 2040 MTP and 2015-2018 TIP meet all the requirements for making a joint conformity determination under the Clean Air Act Amendments of 1990.

Additionally, we find

- that the Mobility 2040 MTP complies with the requirements of 23 CFR §450.324 and 23 CFR §450.340 regarding the review and update of metropolitan transportation plans in air quality nonattainment areas; and
- that the 2015-2018 TIP satisfactorily complies with the requirements of 23 CFR §450.326 and 23 CFR §450.340 regarding the update, public involvement, project inclusion, consistency with the plan, and fiscal constraint of TIPs in air quality nonattainment areas.

The interagency consultative partners have indicated that they have no unresolved issues concerning this conformity determination in their letters dated September 2 for EPA, August 30 for TxDOT and September 2 for TCEQ. The conformity determination and procedures used to make this determination are in accordance with the provisions of the transportation conformity rule (40 CFR Parts 51 and 93), dated August 15, 1997, as amended.

Please note that this action restarts the four-year timeframe associated with the update of transportation plans in areas designated nonattainment. Accordingly, a transportation plan update and corresponding transportation conformity determination must be completed by September 7, 2020.

The Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) acts as executive agent for the Federal Transit Administration (FTA) on MTP and TIP air quality conformity determinations. Accordingly, this letter serves as a joint FHWA/FTA conformity determination.

Should you have any questions concerning this action, please contact Barbara Maley at (214) 224-2175 and Barbara.Maley@dot.gov or Jose Campos at (512) 536-5932 and Jose.Campos@dot.gov.

Sincerely yours,

Achille Alonzi

Division Administrator

Federal Highway Administration

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