



U.S. DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

**Federal Highway Administration
New Jersey Division
840 Bear Tavern Road, Suite 310
West Trenton, New Jersey 08628-1019**

**Federal Transit Administration
Region 2
One Bowling Green, Room 429
New York, New York 10004-1415**

September 29, 2006

**IN REPLY REFER TO:
HPL-NJ
TRO-2**

Mr. Kris Kolluri, Esq.
Commissioner
New Jersey Department of Transportation
1035 Parkway Ave
PO Box 600
Trenton, NJ 08625-0600

Dear Commissioner Kolluri:

The Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) and the Federal Transit Administration (FTA) of the US Department of Transportation (USDOT) have reviewed the New Jersey Department of Transportation's (NJDOT) Fiscal Year 2007-2010 Statewide Transportation Improvement Program (STIP).

Based on our review, we find that the STIP is in compliance with the requirements of 23 USC Sections 134 and 135 and the Statewide and Metropolitan Planning Regulations as outlined in 23 CFR Section 450 and 49 USC Sections 5303-5306, with the exception of the following projects as discussed previously between the FHWA and the NJDOT staff:

- Section II, Page 115 - Speed Limit/No Passing Zone Review
- Section II, Page 176 - Route 21 Fwy., Park Avenue Interchange, Safety Improvements
- Section II, Page 177 - Route 21 Fwy., Route 3 Interchange, Safety Improvements
- Section II, Page 92 - Rail Grade Crossing Technologies, Demonstration Project



In regards to improving efficiencies in the management of New Jersey's capital program, the FHWA is pleased to see the implementation of an agreed framework to reference STIP projects directly with their corresponding management systems for the FY 2007-2010 STIP. Additionally the FTA looks forward to continuing its work with New Jersey Transit and the three Metropolitan Planning Organizations in the state in their efforts to provide clearer and more detailed project descriptions, a defined listing of carryover funding, a more accurate representation of expected funding for the FY 2008-2011 STIP, and an early submittal of NJT's program of projects identifying those projects that may require modification and/or amendments to the STIP.

The USDOT also finds that New Jersey's metropolitan Transportation Improvement Programs (TIP) and the Long Range Transportation Plans (LRTP) are adequately based on a continuing, comprehensive, and cooperative planning process as carried out by the NJDOT, New Jersey Transit, the North Jersey Transportation Planning Authority (NJTPA), the Delaware Valley Regional Planning Commission (DVRPC), and the South Jersey Transportation Planning Organization (SJTPO) in accordance with the requirements of 23 USC Section 134 and Sections 5303 and 5313 of the Federal Transit Act. However, the FHWA and the FTA encourage further progress on integration of metropolitan transportation planning activities in the New York-Newark, NY-NJ-CT, Transportation Management Area (TMA). These findings are based on the self-certification statements submitted by the State and the Metropolitan Planning Organizations (MPO), and other reviews conducted by the USDOT.

Finally, the FHWA and the FTA, in concurrence with the United States Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA), have determined that conformity has been demonstrated for the FY 2007-2010 STIP and each of the LRTPs for all non-attainment and maintenance areas of New Jersey. These findings are consistent with the Statewide Implementation Plan (SIP) and adequately address and conform to the requirements contained in the Federal Conformity Rule and the Clean Air Act and its subsequent amendments.

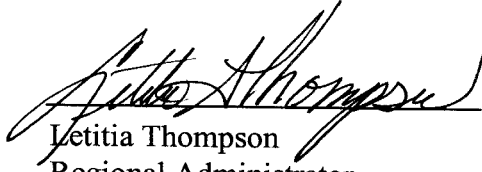


We hereby approve the FY 2007-2010 STIP for New Jersey with a limited exception noted above. Please let us know if you have any questions.

Sincerely,



Dennis L. Merida, P.E.
Division Administrator
Federal Highway Administration
New Jersey Division



Letitia Thompson
Regional Administrator
Federal Transit Administration
Region 2

CC: Joel Weiner, NJTPA
Barry Seymour, DVRPC
Tim Chelius, SJTPO

