



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

Montana Division

March 11, 2016

585 Shepard Way, Suite 2
Helena, MT 59601
Phone: (406) 441-3900
Fax: (406) 449-5314
www.fhwa.dot.gov/mtdiv

In Reply Refer To:
HDA-MT

Lynn Zanto
Administrator
Rail, Transit & Planning Division
Montana Department of Transportation
2701 Prospect Avenue
Helena, MT 59620-1001

RECEIVED

MAR 17 2016

TRANSPORTATION PLANNING

Subject: Great Falls FFY 2014-18 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) Amendment 2

Dear Ms. Zanto:

This responds to your March 2 letter transmitting the subject TIP Amendment 2 for Great Falls. This amendment does not add new transit revenue or projects; it adjusts the 5307 line item to match the grant amount and adds State funding for transit (TRANSADE).

The amendment adds projects for pavement preservation (UPN 8971 – p. 23; UPN's 8978, 8979, 8980, 8966 – p. 24), bridge preservation (UPN 8085 – p. 25), and operational and safety improvements (UPN 9053 – p. 25; UPN 9092 – p. 23). The new projects meet the criteria in Table 2 of 40 CFR 93.126 "Exempt Projects".

One added project reconstructs seven miles of US 87, adding passing and turn lanes (UPN 7625 – p. 23; committed project in the LRTP p. 182). The amendment also includes revised cost estimates where applicable.

My staff consulted with the Environmental Protection Agency Region 8 and received concurrence that the conformity determination for the Great Falls Long Range Transportation Plan remains effective as does the determination for the Great Fall 2014-18 TIP. Approval is hereby given to incorporate by reference Amendment 2 of the Great Falls TIP into Montana's current Statewide Transportation Improvement Program (STIP).

Sincerely,

Kevin L. McLaury, P.E.
Division Administrator

ec: Tim Russ, EPA Region 8 (russ.tim@epa.gov)
Kristin Kenyon, FTA Region 8 (kristin.kenyon@dot.gov)
Judy Broadwater, FHWA Finance Manager
Jeff Patten, FHWA Operations Engineer