



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

Montana Division

March 3, 2015

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MAR 02 2015

TRANSPORTATION PLANNING

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

RE: Montana 2014-2018 Statewide Transportation Improvement Plan (STIP), Amendment #7

Dear Ms. Zanto:

The Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) has reviewed the subject Amendment #7 for the Montana FY 2014-2018 STIP. Amendment #7 provides the applicable project numbers with the phases the Montana Department of Transportation wishes to program. The projects shown will not require a revised air quality conformity finding or transfer of funds between FHWA and the Federal Transit Administration. However, given that the amendment acknowledges by reference the Billings FFY 2015-19 Metropolitan Transportation Improvement Program, the Missoula 2015-19 MTIP, and the Great Falls 2014-18 MTIP, the Division Office coordinated the review of this amendment with FTA Region 8.

In consultation with FTA Region 8, our approval for this amendment is hereby given.

Please note, however, that while the ITS projects included within this STIP amendment are acceptable, upon completion and implementation of the Department's regional ITS architecture update, it is the Division's expectation that MDT will establish appropriate procedures to ensure that all future ITS projects funded with federal funds will be identified using a systems engineering analysis and that final design of all ITS projects funded with federal funds will accommodate the interface requirements and information exchanges, as specified in the regional ITS architecture per 23 CFR 940.11(d).

Sincerely,

For Kevin L. McLaury, P.E.
Division Administrator