

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

FEDERAL HIGHWAY ADMINISTRATION ALASKA DIVISION 709 W. 9TH STREET, ROOM 851 P.O. BOX 21648 JUNEAU, ALASKA 99802-1648

FEDERAL TRANSIT ADMINISTRATION 915 SECOND AVENUE, SUITE 3192 SEATTLE, WASHINGTON 98174

February 9, 2024

Mr. Ryan Anderson, P.E., Commissioner Alaska Department of Transportation and Public Facilities P.O. Box 112500 3132 Channel Drive Juneau, AK 99811

Subject: 2024 – 2027 Alaska State Transportation Improvement Program (STIP)

Dear Mr. Anderson:

In accordance with 23 CFR 450.218, the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) and the Federal Transit Administration (FTA) have jointly reviewed the 2024 – 2027 Alaska State Transportation Improvement Program (STIP), transmitted with your e-mail of January 19, 2024. As part of the STIP review, the FHWA and FTA are required to make a joint Federal Planning Finding (FPF) on the extent to which the transportation planning processes through which statewide transportation plans and programs are developed are consistent with 23 USC 134 and 135 (FHWA) and 49 U.S.C 5303 – 5304 (FTA). The FPF includes a determination whether the Statewide Transportation Improvement Program (STIP) and the metropolitan Transportation Improvement Programs (TIPs) were developed in accordance with applicable requirements. The FPF is a prerequisite to FHWA and FTA's approval of the STIP and STIP amendments (23 U.S.C. 135 (g)(7) and 49 U.S.C. 5304 (g)(7)). Based on our joint and thorough review of the 2024 – 2027 STIP, FHWA and FTA have determined that the STIP cannot be approved.

The Federal Planning Finding in the Attachment is divided into three tiers, each of which carry specific conditions and requirements to resolve the Federal actions identified. The tiers are as follows:

- Tier 1: Conditions for STIP approval
- Tier 2: Conditions for STIP amendment approval
- Tier 3: Conditions for project approvals

Once the Tier 1 conditions are met and assurances provided that Tier 2 and Tier 3 conditions will be met, please formally resubmit the 2024 – 2027 STIP for approval. The FHWA and FTA require a 30-day review timeframe. To meet the STIP extension deadline of March 31, 2024, your formal submittal of a revised STIP that meets conditions as described above must be received by FHWA and FTA by March 1, 2024.

Also, please note that illustrative projects identified in the STIP document cannot advance without a TIP and/or STIP amendment and an action by FHWA and FTA on the STIP.

If your staff has any questions, please have them contact Julie Jenkins, FHWA Financial Manager and Team Leader at (907) 586-7476, or Ned Conroy, FTA Community Planner (206) 220-4318.

Sincerely,

SANDRA A GARCIA - Digitally signed by SANDRA A GARCIA-ALINE Date: 2024.02.12 11:11:29 -09'00'

Sandra A. Garcia-Aline Division Administrator Federal Highway Administration SUSAN KAY FLETCHER 15:20:53 -08'00'

Susan Fletcher Regional Administrator Federal Transit Administration

Attachments:

2024 – 2027 STIP FHWA FTA Joint Federal Planning Finding

Electronically cc:

Katherine Keith, Deputy Commissioner, DOT&PF James Marks, Director Project Delivery, DOT&PF Dom Pannone, Director, Program Management and Administration, DOT&PF