



U.S. Department  
of Transportation

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November 30, 2011

Richard A. Davey  
Secretary and Chief Executive Officer  
Massachusetts Department of Transportation (MassDOT)  
10 Park Plaza, Suite 3170  
Boston, MA 02116

Re: **Approval of Massachusetts FY 2012-2015 Statewide Transportation Improvement Program**

Dear Secretary Davey:

The Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) and the Federal Transit Administration (FTA) have completed our joint review of the FY 2012 - 2015 Massachusetts Statewide Transportation Improvement Program (STIP) transmitted to us on October 3, 2011. The FHWA and FTA are making the following determinations:

- The projects in the STIP are based on a planning process that substantially meets the requirements of Title 23 U.S.C., the Federal Transit Act and Subparts A, B, and C of 23 CFR 450.
- The Transportation Improvement Programs are based on a continuing, comprehensive transportation planning process carried on cooperatively by the State, the ten MPOs, the three non-metropolitan regions, and the transit operators in accordance with the Federal Transit Act.
- As of November 30, 2011, the Transportation Improvement Programs and the Regional Transportation Plans are found to be in conformity with the Clean Air Act.

The State is commended on obligating a figure that substantially exceeded the apportionment for the Highway Safety Improvement (HSIP) in FY 2011, and the FHWA looks forward to another successful delivery of HSIP in FY 2012. As in previous years, Massachusetts Department of Transportation is encouraged to continue to put an emphasis on highway and transit projects that will result in significantly improving and maintaining the "State of Good Repair" of these transportation systems, with continued focus on the Bridge Program, Safety, National Highway System, and the Interstate.

There are several major projects that have significant infrastructure needs, including the Springfield I-91 Viaduct, I-93 Lowell Junction and the Methuen Rotary. MassDOT is encouraged to identify funding for these projects and program in the STIP accordingly.


The State made an advance payment for FY 2012 on the Central Artery GANS using FY 2011 August Redistribution funds. As previously discussed, please consider local needs when adjusting for this payment for FY 2012.

We will work with you to expedite project delivery to ensure an uninterrupted program. The FY 2012- 2015 STIP is hereby approved, and should you have any questions, please let us know.

Sincerely,



Mary Beth Mello  
Regional Administrator  
Federal Transit Administration



Pamela Stephenson  
Division Administrator  
Federal Highway Administration

cc: David J. Mohler, OTP Executive Director, MassDOT  
Frank DePaola, Acting Highway Division Administrator, MassDOT  
Curtis Spalding, EPA Regional Administrator  
Kenneth Kimmell, Commissioner, Massachusetts DEP  
Donald O. Cooke, Environmental Scientist, EPA  
Massachusetts Regional Planning Agencies