



U.S. Department
Of Transportation
**Federal Transit
Administration**

Headquarters

1200 New Jersey Avenue S.E.
Washington DC 20590

JUN 20 2018

Ms. Jean W. Duncan, P.E.
Director of Transportation and Stormwater Service
City of Tampa
306 East Jackson Street
6th Floor East
Tampa, Florida 33602

Re: Project Development Initiation – Tampa Streetcar Extension

Dear Ms. Duncan:

Thank you for your letter dated April 27, requesting entry into the Project Development (PD) phase under the Federal Transit Administration's (FTA) Small Starts program for the City of Tampa Streetcar Extension project. After reviewing your initial letter, FTA requested additional information that was submitted on May 11 and May 21. At that time, FTA determined that the information provided is sufficient to enter the PD phase.

Please note that the President's Budget for FY 2019 proposes no funding for new Capital Investment Grants (CIG) program Projects, and thus the City of Tampa acknowledges that it is undertaking this PD work at its own risk which may not receive CIG funding.

In accordance with Federal public transportation law, 49 USC 5309(d)(1)(ii)(I), the following activities must be completed during PD:

- Select a locally preferred alternative;
- Have the locally preferred alternative adopted into the fiscally constrained long range transportation plan;
- Complete the environmental review process; and
- Complete the activities required to develop sufficient information for evaluation and rating under the CIG criteria.

FTA encourages you to familiarize yourself with the information found on the Capital Investment Grants program webpage at <https://www.transit.dot.gov/funding/grant-programs/capital-investments/about-program>. There you will find more details and information on the activities mentioned above including the information that must be provided to FTA for project evaluation and rating.

FTA will be in contact to discuss its technical assistance and project oversight plans as the project moves through PD. FTA would appreciate periodic updates from the City of Tampa on the status of completion of PD activities.

With this entry into PD, the City of Tampa has pre-award authority to incur costs for PD activities prior to grant approval and to retain eligibility of those activities for future FTA grant assistance. PD activities include the work necessary to complete the environmental review process and as much engineering and design activity as the City of Tampa believes is necessary to support the environmental review process. Upon completion of the environmental review process, FTA extends pre-award authority to project sponsors in PD to incur costs for as much engineering and design as necessary to develop a reasonable cost estimate and financial plan for the project, utility relocation, and real property acquisition and associated relocations. This pre-award authority does not constitute a commitment that future Federal funds will be approved for PD or any other project cost. As with all pre-award authority, relevant Federal requirements must be met prior to incurring costs in order to preserve eligibility of the costs for future FTA grant assistance.

If you have any questions or comments, please contact Tyrhonda Edwards at 202-366-8521 or Tyrhonda.Edwards@dot.gov.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Elizabeth S. Riklin". The signature is fluid and cursive, written over a light background.

Elizabeth S. Riklin
Acting Associate Administrator for Planning
and Environment

cc: Yvette Taylor, Regional Administrator, FTA Region IV