



Federal Highway Administration

Florida Division Office
3500 Financial Plaza, Suite 400
Tallahassee, Florida 32312
(850) 553-2201
www.fhwa.dot.gov/fldiv

Federal Transit Administration

Region 4 Office
230 Peachtree St, NW, Suite 1400
Atlanta, Georgia 30303
(404) 865-5600

October 31, 2023

Mayor Chris Cloudman, Chair
River to Sea Transportation Planning
Organization
1 Deuce Court, Suite 100
Daytona Beach, FL 32124

Dear Mayor Cloudman:

Federal law requires the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) and the Federal Transit Administration (FTA) to jointly review and certify the metropolitan transportation planning process for each Transportation Management Area (TMA) every four years. A Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) with an urbanized area of 200,000 or more in population is referred to, in federal legislation, as a TMA. We recently conducted a review of the Palm Coast-Daytona Beach-Port Orange TMA commonly referred to as River to Sea Transportation Planning Organization (R2CTPO).

As a part of the TMA certification review process, FHWA and FTA utilized a risk-based approach containing various factors to determine which topic areas required additional evaluation during the certification review. The certification review process is one of several methods used to assess: the quality of a regional metropolitan transportation planning process, compliance with applicable statutes and regulations, as well as the degree of technical assistance needed to enhance the effectiveness of the planning process. This certification review was conducted to highlight best practices, identify opportunities for improvements, and ensure compliance with regulatory requirements.

The review of R2CTPO's planning process included a site visit, conducted by representatives from the FHWA and the FTA on June 14 and 15, 2023. During the site visit, time was spent with the MPO staff, the Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT), and the transit agency to discuss the status of the TPO's "3-C" planning process. Throughout the site visit, opportunities were afforded to local elected/appointed officials and the general public to provide their insights on the R2CTPO's planning process. In addition to assessing the MPO's progress in addressing the findings from the previous certification review, the MPO's current and/or future implementation of the metropolitan transportation planning requirements was also considered.

Enclosed for your consideration is the final TMA Certification Review Report for the Palm Coast-Daytona Beach-Port Orange TMA, which includes documentation of the various components of the FHWA/FTA certification review of R2CTPO. The report provides an overview of the TMA certification review process, summarizes the various discussions from the recent site visit, provides a series of review findings, and issues the FHWA/FTA certification action. In general, the review determined the existence of a “3-C” metropolitan transportation planning process that satisfies the provisions of 23 U.S.C. 134, 49 U.S.C. 5303/5305, and associated Federal requirements. The Federal Review Team identified six (6) noteworthy practices, no corrective actions, and two (2) recommendations to improve the current planning process of R2CTPO.

Based on the overall findings, the FHWA and the FTA jointly certify that the transportation planning process of the Palm Coast-Daytona Beach-Port Orange TMA, which is represented entirely by R2CTPO, substantially meets the federal planning requirements in 23 CFR 450 Subpart C. This certification will remain in effect until October 2027.

If you have any questions regarding the certification review process and/or the TMA Certification Review Report, please contact Jean Parlow at (407) 867-6415 or by email at Jean.Parlow@dot.gov or Curlene Thomas at (407) 867-6422 or by email at Curlene.Thomas@dot.gov

Sincerely,

FOR: Jamie Christian, P.E.
Division Administrator
Federal Highway Administration

Yvette G. Taylor
Yvette G. Taylor, PhD
Regional Administrator
Federal Transit Administration

Enclosure:
Final TMA Certification Review Report

cc: Ms. Jean Parlow, FHWA
Ms. Curlene Thomas, FHWA
Mr. Carey Shepherd, FHWA
Ms. Karen Brunelle, FHWA
Ms. Cathy Kendall, FHWA
Mr. Robert Sachnin, FTA, Region 4
Ms. Aviance Web, FTA, Region 4
Mr. Jonathan Scarfe, FDOT, District 5
Mr. Mark Reichert, MPOAC
Mr. Mike Neidhart, FDOT