



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

REGION III  
Delaware, District of  
Columbia, Maryland,  
Pennsylvania, Virginia,  
West Virginia

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**MAR 25 2011**

Mr. David J. Robertson  
Executive Director  
Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments  
777 North Capital Street, NE, Suite 300  
Washington, DC 20002

Re: City of Alexandria - US Route 1 Transitway, CCPY Section B, Project  
Documented Categorical Exclusion

Dear Mr. Robertson:

I am writing in response to your letter of December 30, 2010 regarding the City of Alexandria's submission of documentation in support of a Documented Categorical Exclusion for the US Route 1 (Section B-Crystal City Potomac Yard) Transitway project. Additional information requested by FTA and provided by the City in March 2011 has also been reviewed.

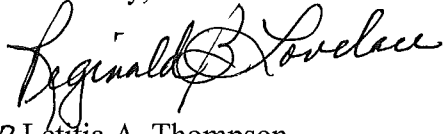
The Federal Transit Administration (FTA) acknowledges that the report and technical memoranda satisfactorily document the absence of any significant environmental effects for the US Route 1 Transitway project. We note environmental contamination has been documented within the footprint of Potomac Yard, a former rail yard in the vicinity of this project. As a precaution, the FTA requires that the City prepare a Health and Safety Plan (HASP) which will address health and safety matters that might be associated with the project if discovered during construction. A letter of commitment from the City for the HASP plan accompanied your March 2011 submission.

Further, it is required that the project sponsor adhere to all Federal, State and local requirements during final design and construction. Such requirements include, but are not limited to, erosion and sediment control and discharge of storm water for which permits are required. Finally, should any of the conditions described in your submission change or decline substantially, or new circumstances relevant to environmental concerns related to the project surface, the FTA should be advised immediately.

Accordingly, the FTA concurs with MWCOG that the proposed actions meet the criteria and standards for a Categorical Exclusion under 23 CFR Section 771.117(d).

If you have any further questions, please contact Ms. Melissa Barlow by telephone at (202) 219-3565 or by email at [melissa.barlow@dot.gov](mailto:melissa.barlow@dot.gov).

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Reginald B. Lovelace". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned above the typed name of the signatory.

*for* Letitia A. Thompson  
Regional Administrator

Cc: Melissa Barlow, FTA-DC Metro Office  
Katie Grasty, FTA Office of Planning and Environment  
Jim Maslanka, Alexandria Transportation and Environmental Services Department  
Jim Ashe, Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority