



Federal Highway Administration
525 Junction Road, Suite 8000
Madison, WI 53717-2157

Federal Transit Administration
200 W. Adams Street, Suite 320
Chicago, IL 60606-5232

January 21, 2025

Ms. Kristina Boardman, Secretary
Wisconsin Department of Transportation
4822 Madison Yards Way
Madison, WI 53707-7910

Dear Secretary Boardman:

The Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) and the Federal Transit Administration (FTA) hereby approve the Wisconsin Department of Transportation (WisDOT) *2025 - 2028 Statewide Transportation Improvement Program (STIP)* transmitted with the department's letter dated January 6, 2025. Approval is effective January 21, 2025 and subject to the changes detailed in the enclosed project listing.

We find that the STIP is based on statewide and metropolitan transportation planning processes that substantially meet the requirements of 23 U.S.C. Sections 134 and 135, 49 U.S.C. Sections 5303-5305, and implementing regulations. This finding is supported by the self-certifications executed by the WisDOT and the Metropolitan Planning Organizations (MPO), FHWA and FTA involvement in the transportation planning processes, and federal reviews of planning documents and processes.

The STIP includes analysis of federal program funding levels anticipated to be available for the various federal-aid highway and transit program categories over the next four years. The STIP also includes a summary of total anticipated federal, state, and local revenues made available for transportation improvements, that when compared with total expenditures programmed, reasonably demonstrates fiscal constraint.

Projects within each Wisconsin metropolitan planning area have been programmed in Transportation Improvement Programs (TIP) approved by the MPOs and the Governor. The TIPs are incorporated in the STIP by reference and effective with this approval. In prior actions, the FHWA and FTA determined that the metropolitan TIPs in air quality nonattainment and maintenance areas conformed to the Wisconsin State Air Quality Implementation Plan (SIP). Non-exempt STIP projects located in air quality nonattainment and maintenance areas outside of the metropolitan planning areas were previously determined to conform in conjunction with project environmental determinations.

FHWA and FTA have identified the following items to be addressed in the 2025 calendar year prior to the approval of the next STIP:

1. Annual listings of obligated projects must include all federally required data elements and be published prior to the federally identified deadline.
2. Projects submitted to FHWA and FTA for the annual STIP approval and monthly amendments must meet all federal, state, and MPO conditions for approval ensuring that projects are programmed with eligible funding, have been approved in the respective TIP (if applicable), and have completed formal STIP public review. Additional review procedures may be needed prior to submittal to FHWA and FTA to ensure projects submitted for annual approval and monthly amendments meet these conditions.
3. STIP and TIP amendment policies and procedures must be reviewed and updated to ensure that written policies accurately document what is being implemented, change in scope is adequately defined for individual projects, and to ensure compliance with federal regulations. Amendment policies are to be cooperatively developed and agreed to by the state, MPOs, transit agencies, and FHWA/FTA.
4. The STIP must be approved and published prior to the first day of the period covered by the plan. For example, calendar year plans must be approved and published by January 1st and federal fiscal year plans must be approved and published by October 1st.
5. FHWA, WisDOT, and MPOs must actively participate in the mapping of STIP and TIP development, implementation, and amendment policies and processes to ensure all federal, state, and MPO requirements are being met. The mapping needs to be documented and shared with all partners in the transportation planning process.

In conjunction with this approval, and based on the State and MPO self-certifications and FHWA and FTA oversight activities, we jointly find that the metropolitan transportation planning processes by which the TIPs for Wisconsin metropolitan areas were developed, are substantially consistent with 23 U.S.C. 134 and 135, 49 U.S.C. 5303-5305 and 5323.

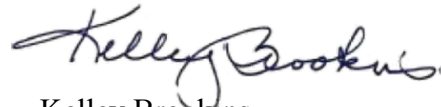
In summary, the Wisconsin STIP is approved for the period through December 31, 2028 or until FTA and FHWA jointly approve a new STIP. This approval is not a determination of federal funding eligibility for any of the projects listed. Only projects included in the approved STIP may be advanced for funding under Title 23 or Chapter 53 of Title 49. Projects that are programmed without federal funding have received a NON-FEDERAL STIP Label. All projects with a NON-FEDERAL label will require an amendment prior to obligating federal funding. The STIP may be amended at any time, consistent with federal procedures and WisDOT's STIP Public Participation Plan, and subject to FHWA and FTA approval.

We appreciate the efforts and cooperation of your staff in developing a STIP that will serve Wisconsin's programming needs. If you have any questions concerning our joint approval action on this STIP, please contact Jason Nordberg, FHWA at (608) 829-7523, or Ellis Combes, FTA at (312) 353-3873.

Sincerely,

Glenn D. Fulkerson
Division Administrator
Federal Highway Administration

Sincerely,



Kelley Brookins
Regional Administrator
Federal Transit Administration

enclosure