

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION FEDERAL TRANSIT ADMINISTRATION 819 TAYLOR STREET, ROOM 14A02 FORT WORTH, TEXAS 76102-9003 300 E. 8TH STREET, ROOM 826 AUSTIN, TEXAS 78701

November 6, 2018

In Reply Refer to: HPP-TX

El Paso Metropolitan Planning Organization Transportation Conformity Determination for the Destino 2045 Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP) and Destino FY 2019-2022 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP)

Mr. James M. Bass, Executive Director Texas Department of Transportation 125 E. 11th Street Austin, TX 78701-2483

Dear Mr. Bass:

We have reviewed the documentation supporting the transportation conformity determination for the Destino 2045 Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP) and Destino FY 2019-2022 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) adopted by the El Paso Metropolitan Planning Organization's Transportation Policy Board on May 18, 2018. Based upon our review and consultation with the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ), and the Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT), we hereby find:

- the Destino 2045 MTP and Destino FY 2019-2022 TIP meet all the requirements for making ajoint conformity determination under the Clean Air Act Amendments of 1990.
- the Destino 2045 MTP satisfactorily complies with the requirements of 23 CFR §450.324 regarding the development and content of metropolitan transportation plans in air quality non-attainment areas; and
- the Destino FY 2019-2022 TIP satisfactorily complies with the requirements of 23 CFR §450.326 regarding the development and content of transportation improvement programs in air quality non-attainment areas.

The interagency consultative partners have indicated that they have no unresolved issues concerning this conformity determination in their letters dated November 1, 2018 for TxDOT, November 5, 2018 for TCEQ and November 5, 2018 for EPA. The conformity determination and procedures used to make this determination are in accordance with the provisions of the transportation conformity rule (40 CFR Parts 51 and 93), dated August 15, 1997, as amended.

Please note that this action restarts the four-year time clock associated with a four-year plan update. Accordingly, an updated MTP and corresponding transportation conformity determination will be required by November 6, 2022.

The Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) acts as executive agent for the Federal Transit Administration (FTA) on metropolitan transportation plan and transportation improvement program air quality conformity determinations. Accordingly, this letter will serve as a joint FHWA/FTA conformity determination.

Should you have any questions concerning this action, please contact Jose Campos at Jose.Campos@dot.gov, (512) 536-5932, Barbara Maley at Barbara.Maley@dot.gov, (214) 224-2175 or Genevieve Bales at Genevieve.Bales@dot.gov, (512) 536-5941.

Sincerely,

Achille Alonzi Division Administrator

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