



U.S. Department  
of Transportation

**Federal Transit  
Administration**

REGION VI  
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New Mexico, Oklahoma,  
Texas

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May 4, 2023

Kammy Horne, AICP  
Senior Vice President Planning & Development  
VIA Metropolitan Transit  
123 N. Medina St.  
San Antonio, TX 78207

**RE: NEPA Determination for the VIA Advanced Rapid Transit North/South Corridor Project**

Dear Ms. Horne:

The Federal Transit Administration (FTA) has reviewed the environmental documentation that VIA Metropolitan Transit (VIA) submitted to us for the **VIA Advanced Rapid Transit North/South Corridor Project** (the Project) in San Antonio, TX. The Project would construct an advanced rapid transit bus route from San Antonio International Airport in the north, through Downtown San Antonio, to Steves Avenue in the south. The Project is approximately 12 miles long and includes approximately 26 new stations that will be uniquely branded for the service. Service is anticipated to operate in a combination of dedicated center-running transit lanes, curbside business access transit lanes, and in mixed traffic. Based on our review, FTA finds that the Project meets the criteria for a National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) categorical exclusion (CE) in accordance with FTA's regulations implementing NEPA.

Our review found that the Project has the potential to encounter archaeological resources during construction. In anticipation of subsequent discoveries, FTA and VIA developed a Construction Monitoring and Inadvertent Discovery Plan (enclosed). On April 3, 2023, FTA found that the Project would have no adverse effect on historic or archaeological properties under the National Historic Preservation Act and supporting regulations (36 CFR 800). On April 12, 2023, the Texas Historical Commission (THC) concurred in this finding.

Moreover, FTA determined there would be *de minimis* impact to resources protected under Section 4(f) of the Department of Transportation Act of 1966 and supporting regulations (23 CFR 774). THC and the City of San Antonio's Parks and Recreation Department, the officials with jurisdiction, concurred in this determination. Therefore, FTA determines that the Project does not, either individually or cumulatively, have any significant environmental impact, and is categorically excluded from a detailed environmental analysis under 23 CFR 771.118(d).

This CE determination applies only to the Project as described in the supporting materials. Any changes which would result in significant environmental impacts, including disclosure of new information or previously unidentified concerns, would require a re-evaluation per 23 CFR

May 4, 2023  
Ms. Kammy Horne

Page 2

771.129. Please retain this communication for grant purposes. Should you have any questions, please contact Tony Ogboli at (817) 978-0566 or via email at [tony.ogboli@dot.gov](mailto:tony.ogboli@dot.gov). FTA looks forward to continuing to work with you on this project.

Sincerely,

David E. Bartels  
Director of Planning and Program Development

Enclosure: Construction Monitoring and Inadvertent Discovery Plan