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Ms. Garcia-Aline, Ms. Fletcher,

As we work through the STIP Tier 1 findings issued Monday, we have prepared a list of proposed actions and a one question. Thank you in advance for FHWA's consideration. Having concurrence from FHWA on our proposed actions and answer to our question will allow DOT&PF to move quickly to incorporate changes into our required STIP re-submittal.

### **Tier 1, Finding 1: MPO and Other Transportation Improvement Programs**

Proposed actions: All projects and programs listed in Appendix A will be removed and incorporated into single programs for each MPO, that include the summaries of designated funding sources for the individual projects and programs identified in the representative TIPs to meet fiscal constraint requirements.

We note that within 6 months we are required under Tier 2, Condition 1 to further work on DOT&PF's roles and responsibilities working with MPO's, and will address additional concerns at that time.

### **Tier 1, Finding 2: Project Groupings**

Proposed actions: The groupings identified in Appendix B will be removed. Revenue allocated to removed groupings will be allocated to accepted projects and programs.

### **Tier 1, Finding 3: Fiscal Constraint**

Corrective action c proposed action: A summary of Alaska's FY2020-2023 Operating Budgets will be provided, outlining all funding sources, with a system approach that looks at 2020-2023 infrastructure improvements and documented deficiencies that may increase or reduce the State of Alaska's maintenance burden. .

Corrective action d proposed action: A statement of the State's ability to fund Advanced Construction projects will be included.

Corrective action e proposed action: We will use the STIP's 4 year time horizon and an estimate of discretionary grant future availability, as well as the State of Alaska's probability of success as a measure of "reasonable" in including discretionary grants.

Corrective action f: Will comply

Corrective action g: will comply

Corrective action h: will comply

Corrective action i: will comply

**Tier 1, Finding 4: STIP Amendment and Modifications**

Corrective action j:

Question: Without agreed upon exemptions of amendments and modification criteria and thresholds, certain aspects of project delivery may be put at risk. Our understanding from the language in the corrective action statement is we are being asked to remove the “Funding Adjustments to Award Contracts” bullet from the section titled: “Updates that do not require a STIP Change” on page 20. Is this a correct assumption?

A primary concern is the State’s ability to award contracts timely when bid increases exceeding thresholds are experienced. In Alaska, our construction windows are short, and delays in awarding contracts are likely to increase construction timeframes and potentially delaying projects into subsequent seasons (and increasing costs). Contract award adjustments required during construction activities can have the same effect.

Proposed action (corrective action j): Maintain the State’s prior authority outlined in Approved STIP AMD #8 to conduct contract changes without waiting for STIP modifications and Amendments.

Corrective action k: will comply.

**Tier 1, Finding 5: Self Certifications, Federal Findings, and Federal Approvals**

Corrective action I proposed action: Will add a section to narrative regarding Air Quality Confrmy Freeze of FNSB.

Corrective action M proposed action: Will remove projects that haven’t been processed through the FNSB Interagency Consultation process.

Thank you.

**Ryan Anderson, P.E.**  
Commissioner