



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

Rhode Island Division

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September 16, 2024

Mr. Peter Alviti, Jr., P.E.
Director
Rhode Island Department of Transportation
Two Capitol Hill
Providence, RI 02903-1124

Attention: Pamela Cotter, Administrator of Planning
Christos S. Xenophontos, Assistant Director for Administrative Services

Subject: Rhode Island Department of Transportation Resilience Improvement Plan

Dear Director Alviti:

The Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) hereby confirms that the Rhode Island Department of Transportation (RIDOT) Resilience Improvement Plan dated June 24, 2024, meets all the minimum requirements provided in 23 U.S.C. 176(e)(2).

We have noted that Rhode Island intends to incorporate the 2024 Resilience Improvement Plan (RIP) into the 2050 long-range statewide transportation plan and metropolitan transportation plan (Rhode Island's Long Range Transportation Plan or LRTP).

Below are two requests for future updates to the plan and to aid our office in future reviews.

- Future updates: Division requests a 30-day notification to review any updates to the plan, including time to review the integration of the RIP with the LRTP. The Division will provide a written response to acknowledge that the RIP has been incorporated into the LRTP to allow opportunity to reduce the non-Federal cost participation on projects identified in the Resilience Improvement Plan.
- Project approval in FHWA's Fiscal Management Information System (FMIS): Please include in the FMIS "notes" field a note identifying which projects are asking for a reduced federal share.¹ The note should include a reference to the date FHWA determined the plan to be complete and the date the plan was incorporated into the LRTP.²

¹ A 7% reduction in the non-Federal share can be applied if the state has developed a Resilience Improvement Plan in accordance with 23 U.S.C. 176(e) and prioritized the project in the plan.

² A 3% reduction in the non-Federal share can be applied if the state incorporates the Resilience Improvement Plan into the long-range statewide transportation plan under 23 U.S.C. 135, or an MPO incorporates the plan into its metropolitan transportation plan under 23 U.S.C. 134.

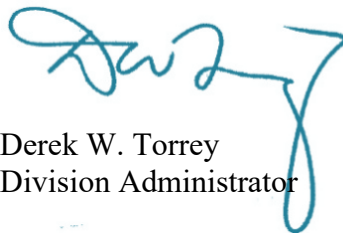
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We would like to commend you and your staff for the broad participation in development of the RIP. The plan provides excellent information, methodology, and rationale for future climate projection data. It also includes well-documented evaluations of asset criticality, vulnerability, and potential climate threats and the risk-based assessment is a strong example of Promoting Resilient Operations for Transformative, Efficient, and Cost-Saving Transportation (PROTECT) Program requirements and best practices.

The RIDOT's RIP establishes a systemic approach to addressing climate and resilience needs and sets guidelines for how to better manage the uncertainty of climate risks to the transportation network. We look forward to seeing the RIP integrated with short and long-term planning efforts and the development of investment strategies to fund priority projects listed in the plan.

If you have any questions or would like to discuss this project in more detail, please contact me or Michael D'Alessandro, Planning and Environmental Program Manager, at (401) 330-5229 or michael.dalessandro@dot.gov.

Sincerely,



Derek W. Torrey
Division Administrator