

## **Regional Transportation Council**

The Transportation Policy Body for the North Central Texas Councill of Governments (Metropolitan Planning Organization for the Dallas-Fort Worth Region)



February 5, 2013

Mr. Jason Gray City Manager City of McKinney 222 N. Tennessee McKinney, Texas 75069

Dear Mr. Gray:

On July 6, 2012, President Obama signed Moving Ahead for Progress in the 21st Century (MAP-21), reauthorizing surface transportation programs through Fiscal Year (FY) 2014. In October, the Federal Transit Administration (FTA) began releasing interim guidance that outlines changes in public transportation programs for FY2013. As a recipient of FTA Urbanized Area Formula Program funding in the McKinney Urbanized Area (UZA), some of these changes impact the City of McKinney.

One important clarification in the interim guidance for FY2013 is that for urbanized areas greater than 50,000 but under 200,000 in population (including the McKinney UZA), the Governor of each State must serve as the Designated Recipient for the program. Their responsibilities include receiving and apportioning funding and those tasks cannot be delegated. However, the Governor may select an entity to delegate the program administration to, including oversight and compliance responsibilities. The delegate is known as a Direct Recipient.

The Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT), acting on behalf of the Governor, has asked the Metropolitan Planning Organization in each impacted area across the State to take the lead in developing the local decision making process and send a regional recommendation to TxDOT to name a new Direct Recipient for the McKinney UZA. This responsibility has four main options:

- 1) TxDOT maintains all responsibilities,
- 2) The City of McKinney becomes the Direct Recipient,
- 3) This status is delegated to Collin County Area Regional Transit (CCART), or
- 4) NCTCOG, through the Regional Transportation Council takes on the responsibility.

We will be in contact shortly to arrange a meeting to discuss the changes outlined in this letter. Please contact Jessie Huddleston, Principal Transportation Planner, at (817) 608-2399 should you have any questions or need additional assistance.

Sincerely,

Michael Morris, P.E.

**Director of Transportation** 

## JH:tmb

cc: The Honorable Geralyn Kever, Councilmember, City of McKinney
The Honorable Brian Loughmiller, Mayor, City of McKinney
The Honorable Keith Self, County Judge, Collin County
Aretha Adams, Assistant to the City Manager, City of McKinney
Kelly Kirkland, Public Transportation Division, TxDOT
Rose Lee, CCART
Anne Polk, Public Transportation Coordinator, TxDOT
Wayne Rock, Board Chairman, Collin County Committee on Aging
Bill Whitfield, CCART
Jessie Huddleston, NCTCOG
Project File