



U.S. Department of Transportation
Federal Transit Administration
Region V
200 West Adams, Suite 320
Chicago, IL 60606



U.S. Department of Transportation
Federal Highway Administration
Illinois Division Office
130 South Martin Luther King Jr. Drive, Ste. A
Springfield, IL 62703

February 13, 2026

In Reply Refer To:
HPA-IL

Mr. Chuck Nagel
Full Commission Chair
Tri-County Regional Planning Commission
456 Fulton Street, Suite 401
Peoria, IL 61602

Subject: Peoria, Illinois Transportation Management Area Federal Certification Review

Dear Mr. Nagel:

The Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) and Federal Transit Administration (FTA) will be conducting a Certification Review of the transportation planning process for the Peoria metropolitan area over the next several weeks. Consistent with Federal regulations, a Certification Review is required at least every four years as part of continuing oversight of the transportation planning process for Transportation Management Areas which are defined as an urban area with a population over 200,000. The last Federal Certification of the Tri-County Regional Planning Commission (TCRPC) was finalized on May 2, 2022.

A Certification Review is accomplished through three phases: a desk review, a site visit, and documentation of the process in a report. The intent of the desk review is for FHWA and FTA to identify any items or issues requiring specific discussion during the site visit. FHWA and FTA staff will review TCRPC's planning documents and provide TCRPC staff with a list of topics and questions to prepare for the site visit.

As coordinated and confirmed with TCRPC staff, the site visit is scheduled for Tuesday, March 10, 2026. The visit will be held at TCRPC's office where staff from FHWA Illinois Division and FTA Region V will meet with TCRPC staff, representatives of area transit operators, as well as the Illinois Department of Transportation (IDOT). In coordination with TCRPC staff, a virtual meeting option will be made available for any individuals who will not be able to attend in person.

The Certification Review will involve an opportunity for the public, including key Metropolitan Planning Organization committee members and stakeholders, to provide comments to FHWA and FTA on the transportation planning process. A final agenda will be sent prior to the onsite review containing information on how to participate in the Certification Review and public comment.

The Federal Review Team will prepare a report documenting the desk review and site visit. This report will include a summary of the subjects discussed and any corresponding findings. Accompanying the delivery of the final report, FHWA and FTA will also provide a joint certification finding.

We will continue to work with your staff in this process to finalize activities surrounding the site visit. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact, Anna Musial, FHWA, at (217) 492-4620 or Mark Kane, FTA, at (312) 353-1552.

Sincerely,

ANNA
MICHELLE
MUSIAL

 Digitally signed by ANNA
MICHELLE MUSIAL
Date: 2026.02.13 10:15:01
-06'00'

Anna M. Musial
Transportation Planning Specialist

ecc: Ms. Holly Bieneman, Office of Planning & Programming, IDOT
Mr. Mike Vanderhoof, Bureau of Planning, IDOT
Mr. Brandon Geber, Bureau of Planning, IDOT
Mr. Doug Delille, Bureau of Planning, IDOT
Mr. Eric Miller, TCRPC
Mr. Michael Bruner, TCRPC
Ms. Kelley Brookins, FTA Region V
Mr. Tony Greep, FTA Region V
Mr. Mark Kane, FTA Region V