Ms. Janice Bonham, Chairman
Intermodal Planning Group
Federal Railroad Administration
Office of Federal Assistance
819 Taylor Street, Room 11A23
Fort Worth, Texas 76102

Dear Ms. Bonham:

The Northwest Arkansas Regional Planning Commission is hereby designated as the Metropolitan Planning Organization for the Fayetteville-Springdale area which is expected to be urbanized when the final 1980 Census is released. This designation is pursuant to Section 134, Title 23, Chapter I, U.S. Code, as amended by Section 169 of the Federal Highway Act of 1978, and Section 112 of the 1973 Federal-Aid Highway Act.

The Northwest Arkansas Regional Planning Commission is responsible for comprehensive planning in the Fayetteville-Springdale Standard Metropolitan Statistical Area. Although not Federally required, it has conducted transportation planning in the Fayetteville-Springdale area for almost 10 years. Those activities that are normally required for planning certification have been satisfactorily carried out by this organization.

I am pleased to recommend the Northwest Arkansas Regional Planning Commission as the Metropolitan Planning Organization for the Fayetteville-Springdale area, and to receive funds provided by the U. S. Department of Transportation.

The Arkansas State Highway and Transportation Department assists this organization in implementing the transportation planning requirements. Please do not hesitate to call on them if they may be of assistance to you.

Sincerely,

FRANK WHITE
Governor

cc: Charles McKinney - Chairman, NWARPC
Henry Gray - Director, AHTD
August 28, 2003

Ms. Sandra L. Otto
Division Administrator
Federal Highway Administration
3130 Federal Office Building
Little Rock, AR 72201

Mr. Robert Patrick
Regional Administrator
Federal Transit Administration
819 Taylor Street, Suite 8A36
Fort Worth, TX 76102

Dear Ms. Otto and Mr. Patrick:

Reference is made to the 2000 Census results that expanded the Fayetteville-Springdale urbanized area to include the cities north of Springdale to Bentonville. In response to this expanded area, the Northwest Arkansas Regional Transportation Study (NARTS) Policy Committee has voted to expand the study area to encompass all of Benton and Washington Counties.

I am pleased to approve the expanded NARTS study area of Benton and Washington Counties. Enclosed are copies of a map of the study area and the letter from NARTS Policy Committee Chairman Bob Crafton requesting this approval.

Sincerely,

Mike Huckabee

Enclosures

cc: Highway Commission
    Dan Flowers, Director of Highways and Transportation
    Bob Crafton, Chairman, NARTS Policy Committee
    Jeff Hawkins, Director, Northwest Arkansas Regional Planning Commission