



NORTHWEST ARKANSAS REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION

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August 24, 2023

Via email Sunny Farmahan and Patricia Slater, ARDOT
Frank Miller, Kimberly Ader, and Britni O'Connor, MoDOT
Tim Conklin, Tim Reavis, and Cristina Scarlat, NWARPC
Joel Gardner and Mindy Campbell, ORT
Ronisha Hodge, FTA

RE: NARTS FFY 2023-2026 TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM (TIP) AMENDMENT #2 APPROVAL

All:

The Northwest Arkansas Regional Planning Commission (NWARPC) has determined, in conjunction with the Ozark Regional Transit Authority (ORT), Arkansas Department of Transportation (ARDOT), and the Federal Transit Administration (FTA), an amendment to the Northwest Arkansas Regional Transportation Study (NARTS) FFY 2023-2026 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) is necessary to include \$936,626 in suballocated Conway FTA Section 5307 FFY 2018 Federal Appropriation for use by ORT to purchase vehicles.

Both the NARTS TIP and the Arkansas STIP list projects for roadway, bridge, safety, intersection improvement and transit projects. The NARTS TIP is consistent with the NWA 2045 Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP) and the Arkansas STIP is consistent with the Statewide Long-Range Plan. The NARTS TIP is a component of the STIP, and as such, the projects, funding amounts, categories, FFY, etc., must match the STIP.

PUBLIC NOTIFICATION: In accordance with NWARPC's Public Participation Plan, notification was published in the Northwest Arkansas Democrat Gazette on Sunday, August 6, 2023, the La Prensa Libre on Wednesday, August 9, 2023, and the McDonald County Press on Thursday, August 10, 2023, and online at www.nwarpc.org/public-notifications/. A public comment period for TIP Amendment #2 began on Monday, August 7, 2023 and ran through Monday, August 21, 2023. Written comments were encouraged via email or using the comment tab on the NWARPC website. No public comments were received.

RECOMMENDATION AND APPROVAL: The Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) held a hybrid, in-person and virtual, meeting on August 17, 2023 and recommended approval of the TIP Amendment to the RPC/Policy Committee. The RPC/Policy Committee held a hybrid, in-person and virtual, meeting on August 23, 2023 and approved Resolution #2023-17 Amending the NARTS FFY 2023-2026 TIP.

This approval letter along with the approved Resolution #2023-17 have been incorporated into the NARTS FFY 2023-2026 TIP Amendments and Administrative Modifications, which can be viewed at www.nwarpc.org/transportation/transportation-improvement-program/.

Thank you for your assistance in this endeavor. Please contact me if you require additional information.

Sincerely,

Nicole Gibbs

Nicole Gibbs, AICP
Regional Planner, NWARPC

Enclosed:
NWARPC Resolution #2023-17

RESOLUTION #2023-17
AMENDING THE NORTHWEST ARKANSAS REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION STUDY (NARTS)
FFY 2023-2026 TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM (TIP)

WHEREAS, Northwest Arkansas Regional Planning Commission (NWARPC) is the officially designated Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) and Federal Transit Administration (FTA) Designated Recipient for the Fayetteville-Springdale-Rogers, metropolitan area; and

WHEREAS, the MPO is charged with the responsibility of developing and administering the Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) for the Northwest Arkansas Regional Transportation Study (NARTS); and

WHEREAS, the Conway City Council has given the Arkansas Department of Transportation (ARDOT) authority to sub-allocate Conway's FFY 2018 Urbanized Area Formula Program (Section 5307) funds to other urbanized areas in Arkansas; and

WHEREAS, Ozark Regional Transit (ORT) was selected by ARDOT to receive the sub-allocated Conway FTA Section 5307 FFY 2018 Federal Appropriation of \$936,626 to purchase vehicles; and

WHEREAS, NWARPC, in conjunction with the ORT, ARDOT, and the Federal Transit Administration (FTA), have determined an amendment to the Northwest Arkansas Regional Transportation Study (NARTS) Federal Fiscal Year (FFY) 2023-2026 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) is necessary; and

WHEREAS, based on the adopted NWARPC Public Participation Plan, this ORT requested TIP amendment was subject to public comment from August 7, 2023 to August 21, 2023.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE NORTHWEST ARKANSAS REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION:

That the Northwest Arkansas Regional Planning Commission hereby amends the NARTS FFY 2023-2026 TIP by adding the following job item:

JOB	COUNTY	ROUTE	TERMINI	LENGTH	TYPE WORK	ESTIMATED COST	AGENCY CARRYING OUT THE PROJECT	FFY	MPO
						Funding Breakdown (in thousands)			
ADD:									
NARTS16			Capital - Rolling Stock - Conway Funds	-	Transit	1,102 - TOTAL 937 - FTA 5307 165 - Local	Local-ORT	2023	NARTS
Suballocated Conway FTA Sec. 5307 FFY 2018 Federal Appropriation									

PASSED AND APPROVED ON THIS 23RD DAY OF AUGUST, 2023



Mayor Chris Keeney, Acting Chair/Treasurer, NWARPC

ATTEST: 