



NORTHWEST ARKANSAS REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION

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November 3, 2023

Via email Sunny Farmahan, Anthony Hunter, and John Spears, ARDOT
Ronisha Hodge, FTA
Tim Conklin, Tim Reavis, and Cristina Scarlat, NWARPC
Frank Miller, Kimberly Ader, and Britni O'Connor, MoDOT

RE: NARTS FFY 2023-2026 TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM (TIP) AMENDMENT #3 APPROVAL

All:

The Northwest Arkansas Regional Planning Commission (NWARPC) has determined, in conjunction with the 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 the \$180,000 FTA Areas of Persistent Poverty Grant for the Enhancing Equitable Transit Connections in NWA project.

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, October 8, 2023, the La Prensa Libre on Wednesday, October 11, 2023, and the McDonald County Press on Thursday, October 12, 2023, and online at www.nwarpc.org/public-notifications/. A public comment period for TIP Amendment #3 began on Tuesday, October 10, 2023 and ran through Tuesday, October 24, 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 October 19, 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 October 25, 2023 and approved Resolution #2023-19 Amending the NARTS FFY 2023-2026 TIP.

This approval letter along with the approved Resolution #2023-19 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 #2023-19

RESOLUTION #2023-19
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, Resolution #2023-04 authorized NWARPC to file application for the Federal Transit Administration (FTA) Areas of Persistent Poverty (AoPP) Grant for the Enhancing Equitable Transit Connections in NWA project and administer the grant should it be awarded; and

WHEREAS, the NWARPC was awarded \$180,000 AoPP Grant by the FTA (90% federal) with the \$20,000 local match (10%) being split by Ozark Regional Transit (ORT) and Razorback Transit; and

WHEREAS, the NWARPC, in conjunction with Arkansas Department of Transportation (ARDOT) and the Federal Highway Administration (FTA), has determined an amendment to the NARTS Federal Fiscal Year (FFY) 2023-2026 TIP is necessary to include the \$180,000 FTA AoPP Grant; and

WHEREAS, based on the adopted NWARPC Public Participation Plan, this TIP amendment was subject to public comment from October 10, 2023 to October 24, 2023.

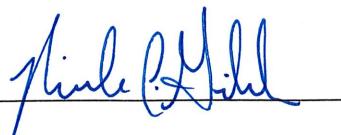
NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE NORTHWEST ARKANSAS REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION:

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 Funding Breakdown (in thousands)	AGENCY CARRYING OUT THE PROJECT	FFY	MPO
ADD:									
NARTS17			FTA Areas of Persistent Poverty Project - Enhancing Equitable Transit Connections in NWA	-	Transit	200 - TOTAL 180 - FTA AoPP 20 - Local	Local-MPO	2023	NARTS

PASSED AND APPROVED ON THIS 25TH DAY OF OCTOBER, 2023

ATTEST:





Judge Barry Moehring, Chair