



U.S. Department
of Transportation
**Federal Transit
Administration**

REGION IX
Arizona, California,
Hawaii, Nevada, Guam
American Samoa,
Northern Mariana Islands

90 7th Street
Suite 15-300
San Francisco, CA 94103-6701
415-734-9490

888 South Figueroa Street
Suite 440
Los Angeles, CA 90017-5467
213-202-3950

July 18, 2023

Mr. Hasan Ikhata
Chief Executive Officer
San Diego Association of Governments
401 B Street, Suite 800
San Diego, CA 92101

Re: Request for Categorical Exclusion for the
Clean Transit Advancement Campus Project
in the City of San Diego, California

Dear Mr. Ikhata:

The Federal Transit Administration (FTA) has completed its review of the July 13, 2023 request from the San Diego Association of Governments (SANDAG) for a determination under the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) for the San Diego Clean Transit Advancement Campus Project (Project). Your letter and the submitted supporting documentation state that the project is consistent with the criteria for a categorical exclusion.

The Project involves the construction and operation of a new bus maintenance and operations administration facility located near the Interstate 805 (I-805)/State Route 94 (SR 94) interchange and the intersection of Federal Boulevard and 47th Street in the City of San Diego. Proposed new buildings would include an approximately 155,000-square-foot (sf) maintenance facility and an approximately 75,000 sf operations administration office building including storage areas. The maintenance facility would consist of approximately 20 bus maintenance service bays, 2 bus wash lanes, 4 fare and servicing lanes, and 16 equipment lift bays (which could be a combination of portables and in ground). Charging facilities would include approximately 250 zero emission bus (ZEB) electric chargers. The Project would include a total of about 120 administrative offices.

Based on the information submitted, the FTA determines that the project qualifies as a categorical exclusion under 23 CFR 771.117(d)(8):

“Construction of new bus storage and maintenance facilities in areas used predominantly for industrial or transportation purposes where such construction is not inconsistent with existing zoning and located on or near a street with adequate capacity to handle anticipated bus and support vehicle traffic.”

Under 23 CFR 771.118(e), the Cross-Agency Use of Modal Categorical Exclusions (CEs)

allows for any action qualifying as a CE under section 771.116 or 771.117 may be approved by the FTA when the applicable requirements of those sections have been met.

This review, which is based on past experience with similar projects, finds that the Project: does not induce significant environmental impacts to planned growth or land use for the area; does not require the relocation of significant numbers of people; does not have a significant impact on natural, cultural, recreational, historical or other resource; does not involve significant air, noise, or water quality impacts; does not have significant impacts on travel patterns; does not result in any use of historic or other resources within the meaning of Section 4(f) of the Department of Transportation Act, 49 USC § 303; and does not otherwise, either individually or cumulatively, have any significant environmental impact.

If you have any questions about this review, please contact Mary Nguyen, Environmental Protection Specialist, at 213-202-3960, or via email at mary.nguyen@dot.gov.

Sincerely,

For Ray Tellis
Regional Administrator