



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

Headquarters

1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE
Washington, DC 20590

MAR 22 2018

Mr. Sean T. Sullivan
Executive Director
Tampa Bay Regional Planning Council
4000 Gateway Centre Boulevard, Suite 100
Pinellas Park, FL 33782

Dear Mr. Sullivan:

Thank you for your letter of March 8, 2018 supporting the Pinellas Suncoast Transit Authority's application for funding under the Federal Transit Administration's (FTA) Capital Investment Grants (CIG) program for the Central Avenue Bus Rapid Transit project. The Secretary has asked me to respond.

As you may know, project sponsors seeking CIG funding are required to complete a multi-year, multi-phase process before a project is considered eligible to receive a potential construction grant award. The Central Avenue Bus Rapid Transit project is currently in the first phase of the CIG program. Many requirements set forth in Federal public transportation law (49 U.S.C. § 5309) must be completed prior to a potential construction grant being awarded. The Central Avenue Bus Rapid Transit project has not yet met these requirements.

Although the President's Fiscal Year 2019 budget proposes no funding for new CIG projects, FTA is continuing to advance CIG projects through the process as required by law. In addition, the Administration has developed a comprehensive infrastructure proposal that accelerates projects, spurs private sector innovation, and improves how the Federal government delivers infrastructure projects, which may include these types of projects in the future.

Thank you for your support of public transportation. If I can provide further information or assistance, please feel free to call me directly at (202) 366-4033.

Sincerely,

for

Lucy Garliauskas
Associate Administrator for Planning
and Environment