



U.S. Department
of Transportation

**Federal Highway
Administration**

Illinois Division

3250 Executive Park Dr.
Springfield, IL 62703

December 17, 2008

Refer To: HDA-IL

Mr. Frederic C. Brereton
Chairman, Policy Committee
Rockford Metropolitan Agency for Planning
313 North Main Street
Rockford, IL 61103

Attention: Mr. Steve Ernst
Executive Director

Dear Mr. Brereton:

On March 19, and August 27, 2008, the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) and the Federal Transit Administration (FTA) notified you of the status of the Conditional Certification issued from the 2008 Certification Review of the Rockford, Illinois, Transportation Management Area. With the December 4, 2008, action of the Rockford Metropolitan Agency for Planning (RMAP) Policy Committee to adopt the Management and Operations (M&O) Plan, the final Corrective Action issued in the Certification Review has been satisfied. Therefore, based on all elements of the review process and continued consultation with the FTA, the FHWA now fully certifies the transportation planning process for the Rockford Metropolitan Planning Area.

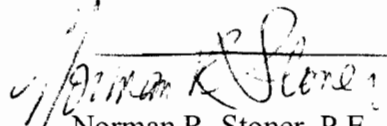
We also note that the approved M&O Plan satisfies requirements for Management and Operations considerations in the planning process, but that additional efforts are necessary for fully implementing a robust Congestion Management Process (CMP) for the region. As noted in the M&O Plan, as the CMP evolves it is expected to implement a performance measure program, identify responsibilities for implementation, and identify funding sources for implementation. As discussed in the Certification Review report, FHWA and FTA recommend that RMAP emphasize the continued development of the CMP so that congestion management strategies are able to be meaningful and useful considerations in project selection processes.

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We appreciate your cooperation and that of your staff in assisting us with this review and we look forward to continue working with all the local planning partners to advance transportation improvements in the Rockford Metropolitan Area. Please contact Mr. John Donovan at (217) 492-4642 if you have any questions regarding this certification action.

Sincerely,



Norman R. Stoner, P.E.
Division Administrator

ecc: Mr. Steve Ernst, RMAP

Mr. Leslie Nunes, Bureau of Urban Program Planning, Illinois Department of Transportation

Mr. James Stack, Bureau of Urban Program Planning, Illinois Department of Transportation

Mr. Stephen Polito, FTA

Mr. Reggie Arkell, FTA