

U.S. Department of Transportation Federal Transit Administration REGION X Alaska, Idaho, Oregon, Washington 915 Second Avenue Federal Bldg. Suite 3142 Seattle, WA 98174-1002 206-220-7954 206-220-7959 (fax)

October 22, 2018

John Clauson Executive Director Kitsap Transit 60 Washington Avenue, Suite 200 Bremerton, WA 98337

Subject: Kitsap Transit Annapolis Ferry Dock Upgrade Project NEPA Documented Categorical Exclusion Confirmation Grant No.: 1746-2018-2

Dear Mr. Clauson:

In correspondence dated April 7, 2017, the Federal Transit Administration (FTA) provided confirmation that the Annapolis Ferry Dock Upgrade Project (Project), a proposal to upgrade the Annapolis Ferry Dock located in Sinclair Inlet along Beach Drive in Port Orchard, Washington, qualifies as a Documented Categorical Exclusion (DCE) under the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) pursuant to 23 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) Part 771.118(d). This confirmation was conditioned on the satisfactory completion of the Endangered Species Act (ESA) and Marine Mammal Protection Act (MMPA) processes, and on the satisfactory resolution of any treaty-related concerns of the Suquamish Tribe.

On March 15, 2017, Alison O'Sullivan of the Suquamish Indian Tribe of the Port Madison Reservation (Suquamish Tribe) provided concurrence on the Annapolis Ferry Dock Upgrade Project Mitigation Summary document, which outlines the proposed mitigation approach for the Project. To date, no additional concerns about the Project have been raised by the Suquamish Tribe. On July 3, 2018, the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) issued an Incidental Harassment Authorization (IHA) for the Project, pursuant to Section 101(a)(5)(D) of the MMPA. On October 4, 2018, NMFS issued a Biological Opinion (BO) for the Project October 4, 2018, pursuant to Section 7 of the ESA. These two actions by NMFS complete the ESA and MMPA processes for the Project.

With the issuance of the BO by NMFS, the above-mentioned conditions from FTA's April 7, 2017 DCE Confirmation letter have been satisfactorily met. Other conditions and required

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mitigation measures outlined in FTA's April 7, 2017 DCE Confirmation letter remain in effect. This DCE Confirmation is further conditioned on implementation of the following:

- 1. The Impact Minimization Measures and Mitigation Actions outlined in the March 15, 2017 Annapolis Ferry Dock Upgrade Project Mitigation Summary document;
- 2. The Terms and Conditions outlined in the July 3, 2018 NMFS IHA; and,
- 3. The Reasonable and Prudent Measures, Terms and Conditions, Essential Fish Habitat Conservation Recommendations and other requirements outlined in the October 4, 2018 NMFS BO.

Should the Project scope change or new information on the Project or its potential environmental effect be provided, FTA may require a re-evaluation of the NEPA determination and may withdraw or suspend the DCE or require additional environmental reviews.

This confirmation is not an expressed or implied promise that Federal financial assistance for the Project will be awarded. Please contact Mark Assam at 206-220-4465 or <u>mark.assam@dot.gov</u> if you have any questions.

Thank you for coordinating with FTA.

Sincerely,

Linda M. Gehrke Regional Administrator

cc: Jeff Davidson, Kitsap Transit