Memorandum

U.S. Department
of Transportation
Federal Highway
Administration

Subject: **ACTION:** Waiver of Match for Census Transportation Planning Products Using the 2005-2009 American Community Survey

Date: July 25, 2006

From: Gloria M. Shepherd
Director, Office of Planning

Reply to
Attn. of: HEPP-20

To: Cynthia J. Burbank
Associate Administrator
Planning, Environment, and Realty (HEP-1)

I am writing to request your approval of a waiver of the matching requirements for State Planning and Research (SPR) and Metropolitan Planning (PL) funding for the Census Transportation Planning Products (CTPP) using the 2005-2009 American Community Survey (ACS). As the ACS replaces the decennial census "long form," the ACS will be a critical source for transportation data at the Traffic Analysis Zone level, including data on the journey-to-work, vehicle availability, combined with worker and household characteristics. The Census data are often used as baseline values for long range transportation plans, as well as other transportation planning applications including environmental justice analysis, transit service planning, and emergency preparedness activities.

Using the most current data available from the U.S. Census Bureau in a format designed for transportation planners will result in many benefits to the Statewide and metropolitan planning processes required in 23 U.S.C. 134 and 135, as amended by the Safe, Accountable, Flexible, Efficient Transportation Equity Act: A Legacy for Users. Therefore, I believe it is in the best interests of the Federal-Aid Highway Program to allow the use of SPR and PL funds by the States and Metropolitan Planning Organizations without matching for the purpose of participating in the next CTPP.

As an historical reference, a waiver for the matching requirements was approved and signed in April 1999 for the most recent CTPP, the CTPP 2000.

I Concur: C J Burbank — Signature; 7/26/06 — Date

I Do NOT Concur: _____ Signature; _____ Date