



**National Association of Regional Councils**

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August 20, 2014

Gregory G. Nadeau  
Acting Administrator, Federal Highway Administration  
U.S. Department of Transportation  
1200 New Jersey Avenue S.E.  
Washington, DC 20590

Re: Extension of Commenting Period for Docket No. FHWA-2013-0037

Dear Acting Administrator Nadeau:

The National Association of Regional Councils (NARC) requests an extension of the comment period for the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) and Federal Transit Administration (FTA) Notice of Proposed Rulemaking (NPRM) related to Statewide and Nonmetropolitan Transportation Planning; Metropolitan Transportation Planning (Docket Number FHWA-2013-0037).

Local elected officials – who comprise NARC’s policy board and the policy boards of Metropolitan Planning Organizations (MPOs) – are a crucial element of the planning process. Most cities and counties are not in session in August and are not holding formal meetings. This makes coordinating their feedback a particular challenge. Extending the comment period by a minimum of two weeks would assure that USDOT receives adequate feedback on the NPRM from the elected representatives that would be most affected by the proposed changes.

NARC – and the local elected officials we represent – appreciates your consideration of our request and are pleased to work with you on this important NPRM. If you need any further information, please contact Erich Zimmermann, NARC’s Director of Transportation Programs, at 202-618-5697.

Sincerely,

Joanna Turner  
Executive Director  
National Association of Regional Councils