



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

Executive Director

1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE
Washington, DC 20590

MAR 18 2019

The Honorable Larry Hogan
Governor of Maryland
Office of the Governor
100 State Circle
Annapolis, MD 21401

The Honorable Ralph Northam
Governor of Virginia
Office of the Governor
P.O. Box 1475
Richmond, VA 23218

The Honorable Muriel Bowser
Mayor of District of Columbia
John A. Wilson Building
1350 Pennsylvania Avenue NW #406
Washington, DC 20004

Dear Governor Hogan, Governor Northam, and Mayor Bowser:

This letter is to inform you that the Washington Metrorail Safety Commission's (WMSC) State Safety Oversight (SSO) Program has been approved and certified by the Federal Transit Administration (FTA) in accordance with the requirements of Federal public transportation safety law (49 U.S.C. § 5329(e)) and FTA's SSO regulation (49 C.F.R. Part 674).

Certification is an important achievement and promotes the safety of our nation's rail transit systems. The WMSC's and the supporting jurisdictions' diligence in fulfilling these requirements and devoting necessary resources will make public transportation safer for the passengers who ride Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority (WMATA) Metrorail.

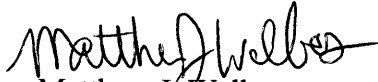
With this certification, FTA is officially relinquishing its direct safety oversight of WMATA Metrorail to the WMSC at the close of WMATA's regular service hours today. The FTA will continue working with the WMSC over the coming weeks to ensure a smooth transition.

In addition, FTA is releasing all withheld funds now. Accordingly, the five percent (\$48.5M) of FTA formula grant funds that has been withheld since February 2017 from the District of Columbia, Maryland, and Virginia is now available to be awarded for transit projects.

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If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me or Henrika Buchanan (202-366-1783/Henrika.Buchanan@dot.gov), FTA's Acting Associate Administrator for Transit Safety and Oversight.

Sincerely,



Matthew J. Welbes
Executive Director

cc: Mr. Pete Rahn, Secretary, Maryland Department of Transportation
Ms. Shannon Valentine, Secretary, Virginia Department of Transportation
Mr. Jeff Marootian, Director, District Department of Transportation
Mr. Christopher Hart, Chairman, Washington Metrorail Safety Commission
Dr. David Mayer, Chief Executive Officer, Washington Metrorail Safety Commission