Re: Categorical Exclusion Request for Park and Ride Facility in Peoria, Arizona

Dear Mr. Forrest,

The Federal Transit Administration (FTA) has completed its review of your letter received on March 28, 2017 for an environmental determination for the proposed construction of a park and ride facility in Peoria, Arizona. The Project will construct an approximately 85-90 space park and ride facility to be accessed by Valley Metro customers in Peoria for transit trips within the Phoenix region. Based on the information presented in your request letter and the supporting documentation you submitted, we concur in your determination that the project qualifies as a categorical exclusion under 23 CFR Part 771.118(c)(9).

Your letter states that the project is consistent with the criteria associated with this categorical exclusion. We agree with your assessment that the project is consistent with the criteria under the requirements for this categorical exclusion. Please note that the second phase of this project for twenty additional parking spaces will require separate FTA review and approval. Additionally, given the presence of nearby EJ sensitive receptors, FTA’s recommendation is that Valley Metro cite to FTA noise criteria screening distances, in support of the no-adverse-effect conclusion, particularly for construction noise: “For parking facilities, the screening distance is 125 feet (unobstructed) and 75 feet (obstructed).”

This review, which is based on past experience with similar projects, finds that the project: does not induce significant environmental impacts to planned growth or land use for the area; does not require the relocation of significant numbers of people; does not have a significant impact on natural, cultural, recreational, historical or other resource; does not involve significant air, noise, or water quality impacts; does not have significant impacts on travel patterns; and does not otherwise, either individually or cumulatively, have any significant environmental impact.
If you have any questions about this review, please contact Dominique Paukowits, FTA Region IX Community Planner, at (415) 734-9469 or dominique.paukowits@dot.gov.

Sincerely,

Leslie T. Rogers
Regional Administrator