



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

**Research, Development, and Technology**  
Turner-Fairbank Highway Research Center

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In Reply Refer To:  
HRTM-10

JAN 03 2018

Mr. Frederick Wright  
Executive Director  
American Association of  
State Highway and Transportation Officials  
444 N Capitol Street, NW.  
Washington, DC 20001

Dear Mr. Wright:

This letter is in response to the waiver request letter from Jim McDonnell dated September 20, 2017, regarding the American Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials (AASHTO) Rail Resource Center (ARRC).

I understand that AASHTO has asked Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) for approval of a waiver of the non-Federal match for the use of State Planning and Research (SP&R) funds for the ARRC. Furthermore, I understand that with this approval, this program will be supported using funds voluntarily contributed by the AASHTO member agencies; and, AASHTO is seeking member agencies to participate in funding the project at \$5,000 each to raise sufficient funds to complete the project.

I have determined that the ARRC meets the criteria for use of SP&R funds used for Research, Development and Technology purposes without a non-Federal funding match. States are authorized to use 100 percent SP&R funding on the ARRC. Please keep in mind that if a State decides to use SP&R funds to participate in this project, it still must be included in the State's Research, Development and Technology work program that is approved by the respective FHWA Division Administrator. Furthermore, States must adhere to the provisions found in 23 U.S.C. 505 and 23 CFR 420 when contributing funds that are made available under the apportionment of Federal-aid highway funds for any fiscal year.

You may contact Sid Stecker ([sidney.stecker@dot.gov](mailto:sidney.stecker@dot.gov), 202-493-3044) if you have any questions about this waiver.

Please let us know if we can be of any further assistance in conducting this project.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Monique R. Evans". The signature is written in a cursive style with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Monique R. Evans  
Acting Associate Administrator