



COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

April 30, 2024

The Honorable Pete Buttigieg
Secretary of Transportation
U.S. Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Avenue, S.E.
Washington, D.C. 20590

Re: - US DOT FY25-26 Multimodal Project Discretionary Grant (MPDG) Opportunity- **Letter of Administration**- Gateway 228 – Mars RR Bridge Extension, Butler County, Pennsylvania

Dear Secretary Buttigieg:

The Pennsylvania Department of Transportation (PennDOT) is submitting this letter related to the proposed Gateway 228 – Mars RR Bridge Extension application being submitted under the FY 2025-26 Multimodal Project Discretionary (MPDG) Grant Opportunity. If the project is awarded Federal Discretionary funding under this program, PennDOT would agree to the role of administering the federal funds associated with the project. PennDOT routinely receives and expends federal transportation funds and administers projects utilizing Federal funding. PennDOT is the administer of Federal highway/bridge funding for the State of Pennsylvania and works closely with local project sponsors and FHWA to adhere to Federal requirements, including 23 CFR and the FIRE (Financial Integrity Review and Evaluation) program.

The Gateway 228 project, spanning 26.4 miles and encompassing the State Route 228 (SR 228) corridor, including SR 228 and State Route 3020 (Freedom Road), is paramount for the region's economic vitality. Since its inception in 2018, Gateway 228 has made significant strides, bolstered by substantial investments such as a 2018 BUILD grant of \$20 million and a 2020 BUILD grant of \$25 million. PennDOT has been Butler County's partner on Gateway 228, assisting with funding, designing and constructing all of the segments. As of January 2024, ten out of the eleven roadway segments within Gateway 228 have been completed or are actively under construction, representing a noteworthy investment of over \$184 million. Continued investing in Route 228 will yield far-reaching benefits, including job creation, economic growth, and improved accessibility for previously underserved regions.

Please accept this letter from PennDOT agreeing to administer, as appropriate, if Federal funding is awarded. Thank you for your consideration of the above proposed Multimodal Project Discretionary Grant opportunity.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Larry S. Shifflet".

Larry S. Shifflet
Executive Deputy Secretary