



U.S. Department
of Transportation

Memorandum

Federal Highway Administration

Subject: **ACTION:** Waiver of State Planning and Research funds Match for the *Extending and Sharing Benefits of Strategic Planning Models Pooled Fund Study*

Date:

From: Kenneth N. Petty II
Director, Office of Planning

In Reply
Refer to: HEPP-30

To: Emily Biondi
Associate Administrator for
Planning, Environment and Realty

The Office of Planning requests your approval to waive the matching requirement of State Planning and Research (SPR) Part A funds for the Transportation Pooled Fund solicitation entitled *Extending and Sharing Benefits of Strategic Planning Models* (Solicitation Number: [1602](#)).

The Federal Highway Administration (Office of Planning) will serve as the lead agency conducting a follow-on transportation pooled fund study (PFS) that builds off 2018-2023's *Collaborative Development of New Strategic Planning Models* (TPF 5(369)) effort. This solicitation will enable rapid and cost-effective development and deployment of innovative and responsive planning tools in support of effective performance-based planning and programming. It will support tools for evaluation of pricing and travel demand management strategies, integration of health metrics, regional accessibility analysis, shared mobility, micromobility modes, and improved equity analyses. The pooled fund will also explore simplifying scenario development and interfacing with other strategic decision support tools such as the Travel Model Improvement Program's Exploratory Modeling and Analysis Tool.

We estimate that approximately seven states, seven MPOs, and other planning agencies will participate in this study. The FHWA lead and technical liaison for this study is Jeremy Raw (jeremy.raw@dot.gov).

It is in the best interest of the Federal-aid Highway Program to allow the use of SPR Part A funds without matching to meet the following goals:

- Ensure access to strategic planning tools that address new technologies and policies, including greenhouse gas evaluation, electrical vehicle deployment and equity analysis.
- Provide cost-effective support to participating agencies in adapting existing and new strategic planning tools to their needs and applying those tools in their planning process.
- Further develop resources for the rapid development of new strategic tools so that agencies can continue to respond effectively to new challenges.

I Concur: Emily Biondi 02/21/2024
Signature Date

I DO NOT Concur: _____
Signature Date