



February 22, 2023

CMC 2023-04

Mr. Colby McFarland  
Federal Transit Administration  
Office of Planning and Environment  
1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE  
Washington, DC 20590

Subject: Application of the County of Volusia d/b/a Votran for the Areas of Persistent Poverty Program (Federal Assistance Listing: 20.505)

Dear Mr. McFarland:

The River to Sea Transportation Planning Organization (TPO) is the duly designated and constituted body responsible for carrying out the urban transportation planning and programming process, including transportation disadvantaged planning, as authorized by Section 427.0159, Florida Statutes and Rule 41-2, Florida Administrative Code.

It is our understanding that the County of Volusia d/b/a Votran is applying to the Federal Transit Administration's Areas of Persistent Poverty (AoPP) Program for FY 2023 funding to improve bus transit service in specific areas of the county. The areas of focus for the proposed application have been designated by the U.S. Census as Areas of Persistent Poverty (AoPP) and Historically Disadvantaged Communities.

The proposed project will improve transit coverage by establishing new transportation service through Mobility on Demand (MOD) in the areas of focus within Volusia County. The River to Sea TPO works closely with Votran in the provision of public transportation service throughout the county and Mobility on Demand service is recommended by both the Votran Transit Development Plan Major Update for 2022-2031 and the River to Sea TPO 2021 Paratransit Service Analysis.

The River to Sea TPO is supportive of this project and believes it will have a dramatic impact by increasing access to public transportation service in areas of persistent poverty and historically underserved areas of the county.

Sincerely,

City of DeLand Mayor Chris Cloudman  
Chairperson, River to Sea TPO