

NP&EDC

NANTUCKET PLANNING AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION



July 18, 2022

U.S. Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE
Washington, DC 20590

Attention: Paul D. Teicher, Grantor

RE: Nantucket Planning and Economic Development Commission (NP&EDC) Endorsement of Rural Massachusetts TPO's Safe Streets and Roads for All Grant Application

Mr. Teicher:

On behalf of the NP&EDC, I am pleased to provide this letter of support for our Comprehensive Action Plan grant application, made jointly with the Martha's Vineyard Commission (MVC) and the Franklin Regional Council of Governments (FRCOG).

All three of Massachusetts' recognized rural Transportation Planning Organizations acknowledge shared challenges and opportunities related to roadway safety. We understand that reducing serious injuries and fatalities will require commitment, collaboration, and transparent measurement. As joint applicants, we will leverage federal aid, common resources, and shared insight to:

- develop a high-injury network methodology tailored for our shared rural settings;
- develop rural and island focused design standards, strategies, and policies to inform priority project solutions; and
- develop a common municipal vision-zero toolkit to support our regions' systems approach at the local level.

Each of these three products will be included in—and inform the development of—our regions' three distinct Comprehensive Safety Action Plans, which will include prioritized project lists, policy considerations and actions, and statements of commitment and oversight.

Nantucket's roadways are cherished; however, centuries-old road layouts do not easily accommodate safety for vulnerable users. As tourism increases and the desire for active recreation flourishes, we are committed to ensuring safe travel for residents and visitors alike. We appreciate the collaboration of MVC and FRCOG on rural roadway safety and invite FHWA to join our efforts.

Sincerely,

Nathaniel Lowell
Chair, Nantucket Planning and Economic Commission

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