1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE Washington, DC 20590



U.S. Department Of Transportation

Federal Railroad Administration

Mr. Steve Welch Denton County Transit Authority General Manager 640 State Highway 121 Lewisville, TX 75057

October 19, 2020

Dear Mr. Welch:

This letter responds to the Denton County Transit Authority's (DCTA) submission dated October 31, 2020, to the Federal Railroad Administration (FRA) seeking approval of its material modifications to the DCTA Engineer Certification Program received by FRA on October 7, 2020. FRA's procedures for submission and approval of programs is described in appendix B to 49 CFR part 240.

FRA reviewed the railroad's program modification and determined that the railroad's program modification conforms with the requirements of 49 CFR part 240 for the reasons discussed below.

Your submission states that on October 7, 2020, the railroad does not have a labor organization representing the railroad's employees. Therefore the FRA received no comments on the program modification from any labor organizations.

The program modifications are consistent with the model of the previously approved commuter railroad programs. FRA understands the program's modifications are intended to enhance training with qualified instructors and recognize training efficiencies. Modifications include increased classroom training time by 32 hours and setting clear benchmarks for training. Additional modifications to the submission also addressed deficiencies with the standard requirements of 49 CFR part 240, appendix B. FRA last conducted an engineer certification audit on August 3, 2020, and found substantial compliance with FRA's requirements and the part 240 certification program.

Please contact me with any questions regarding this submission at (202) 393-0978 or <u>FRAOPCERTPROG@dot.gov</u>.

Sincerely,

Christian Holt Operating Practices Staff Director