



U.S. Department
of Transportation

**Federal Transit
Administration**

Headquarters

1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE
Washington, DC 20590

October 23, 2024

Mr. James M. Van Nostrand
Massachusetts Department of Public Utilities
1 South Station, 3rd floor
Boston, MA 02110

Subject: Approval of Massachusetts Department of Public Utilities Development of Risk-Based Inspection Program

Dear Mr. Van Nostrand:

In response to the Federal Transit Administration's (FTA) [Special Directive 22-34](#), *Required Actions to Implement a Risk-Based Inspection (RBI) Program*, Massachusetts Department of Public Utilities (MDPU) submitted its RBI Program development plan on February 28, 2024.

Each State Safety Oversight Agency (SSOA) is required to develop and submit documentation that demonstrates the SSOA has developed an RBI Program in accordance with the criteria set forth in the Special Directive. FTA evaluated documentation based on the six categories described below.

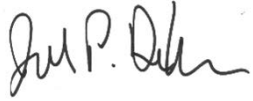
- **Category 1:** Authority to Perform Risk-Based Inspections
- **Category 2:** RBI Policies and Procedures
- **Category 3:** Data Sources and Collection
- **Category 4:** Inspection Prioritization
- **Category 5:** RBI Programs are Commensurate with Number, Size, and Complexity of the Rail Fixed Guideway Public Transportation Systems
- **Category 6:** State Safety Oversight Staffing, Qualifications, and Training

Based on FTA's review of your submissions, we find the response to the required actions satisfies the RBI Program development requirements of Special Directive 22-34.

MDPU should begin implementing its RBI Program upon receipt of this letter. Within one year of FTA's approval of MDPU's] RBI Program development plan, which is October 23, 2025, MDPU must submit documentation to FTA demonstrating MDPU has implemented its approved RBI Program for at least six months. FTA will review and verify MDPU's implementation of the RBI Program based on the documentation submitted.

We look forward to working with you and your team as the MDPU continues to address Special Directive 22-34. Please contact FTA-RBI@dot.gov or the RBI Coordinator, Cyrell R. McLemore, by phone at 771-200-8022 or by email at Cyrell.McLemore@dot.gov with any questions.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Joe P. DeLorenzo".

Joe DeLorenzo
Associate Administrator and Chief Safety Officer
Office of Transit Safety and Oversight

cc:

Teona Edwards, Deputy Associate Administrator, FTA Office of Safety Oversight

Dr. Melonie Barrington, Director, FTA Office of Safety Oversight and Compliance

Dana Nifosi, Acting Chief Counsel, FTA Office of Chief Counsel

Jamie Pfister, Associate Administer, FTA Office of Regional Services

Christine Apicella, Regional Administrator, FTA Region 1

Rob Hanson, SSO Program Manager, Massachusetts Department of Public Utilities