MEMORANDUM

TO: Metropolitan Planning Organization Committees

FROM: Kip Harrington, Planner III

DATE: August 6, 2018

RE: 18TP027 – Rapid City Railroad Quiet Zone – Final Report

Attached is the Final Report of the Rapid City Railroad Quiet Zone Study. The Study identifies options to improve safety and minimize the impacts of train horn noise at multiple railroad crossings in the downtown Rapid City area. Thirteen rail crossings were assessed through a field diagnostic review, and the Study details proposed crossing improvement scenarios with planning level layouts, construction cost estimates, and potential phasing options for quiet zone implementation.

The four crossing improvement scenarios included in the report are a baseline scenario that implements a quiet zone but requires an annual review, a high safety scenario that provides the greatest risk reduction at the highest cost, and two cost effective scenarios that involve prioritizing improvements for maximum return on improvement investments.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION: Staff recommends approval of the Rapid City Railroad Quiet Zone – Final Report.