



**RAPID CITY AREA
METROPOLITAN
PLANNING ORGANIZATION**

*300 Sixth Street
Rapid City, SD 57702
605-394-4120*

October 13, 2016

Jerry Ortbahn
South Dakota Department of Transportation
700 Broadway Avenue
Pierre, SD 57501

Re: Piedmont's Transportation Alternatives Program Grant Application

Dear Jerry:

At its October 2016 meeting, the Executive Policy Committee of the Rapid City Area Metropolitan Planning Organization approved a motion to support the City of Piedmont's Transportation Alternatives Program Grant Application.

The MPO has consistently encouraged efforts to provide a multi-modal transportation system especially as it relates to safety for pedestrians and persons with disabilities. The City of Piedmont is proposing to construct ADA compatible sidewalks along portions of two city blocks. These new sidewalks will allow the elementary school students and city residents a safe opportunity to get from school to the library and park without walking in the middle of the street.

The Executive Policy Committee, with a recommendation from the Technical Coordinating Committee and the Citizens Advisory Committee, encouraged support of this application. This support is driven by the goal of continuing to expand opportunities for MPO member agencies the chance to provide a safe and accessible non-motorized transportation system within the Rapid City Area Metropolitan Planning Organization.

Sincerely,

Robert Heidgerken, Chairperson
Executive Policy Committee