



September 23, 2013

Secretary Anthony Foxx
U.S. Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Ave SE
Washington, DC 20590

Dear Secretary Foxx

Enterprise Community Partners (Enterprise) appreciates the opportunity to comment on the Department of Transportation's (DOT) [Draft Strategic Plan for Fiscal Years 2014-2018](#). Enterprise is a national nonprofit organization that creates opportunity for low- and moderate-income people through affordable housing in diverse, thriving communities. Since 1982, Enterprise has raised and invested nearly \$14 billion in equity, grants and loans to help build or preserve nearly 300,000 affordable rental and for-sale homes to create vital communities and more than half-a-million jobs nationwide. Through our [Transit-Oriented Development \(TOD\) Initiative](#), we work to provide financing and technical assistance specifically for the preservation and development of affordable housing near transit. We commend the DOT for its ongoing efforts to promote more holistic transportation investments that serve the needs of people of all incomes, and encourage continued engagement with the affordable housing sector to advance this work.

In the chapter on Livable Communities, the Draft Strategic Plan states that the DOT intends to "continue to encourage States and MPOs to consider the impact of transportation investments on local land use, affordable housing, and additional infrastructure needs." This commitment follows recent changes to the New Starts Final Rule and Policy Guidance that encourage the coordination of transit and affordable housing investments. These actions are crucial steps to building an equitable transportation system that serves people of all incomes and connects them to jobs and other essential destinations.

Once again, we comment the DOT on the important steps it has taken to promote livable and inclusive communities and for acknowledging the importance of affordable TOD in its strategic plan. We stand ready and willing to collaborate as you continue to work toward these goals. Please contact Michael A. Spotts, Senior Policy Analyst (mspotts@enterprisecommunity.org) for any questions.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Melinda Pollack".

Melinda Pollack
Vice President, Transit-Oriented Development
Enterprise Community Partners

CC: Peter Rogoff, Administrator; Federal Transit Administration