

TZB-162E

Dear Mr. Anderson:

My comments are as follows.

First, regarding the process, I am still concerned that the public is being asked for opinions during the Tier 1 stage about options that will really only become clear in their details and concrete impacts in Tier 2.

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Second, regarding the TZ corridor public transit options, it is clear that some form of mass transit is ESSENTIAL. In choosing which form is best, please include as a major factor the overwhelming importance of climate change:

a. In terms of the urgent need to dramatically reduce greenhouse gas emissions from transportation, AS QUICKLY AS POSSIBLE; therefore the mode of mass transit chosen should be that which will be USED by the greatest number of people or to replace the greatest number of VMTs.

b. In terms of the impacts of climate disruption, those already observed (greater flooding, precipitation events and storms of greater intensity, etc.) and those predicted with scientific data (see Union of Concerned Scientists' report on impacts in the Northeast, www.climatechoicesorg); the infrastructure we choose and build now must be RESILIENT in the face of the increased challenges of future impacts. This MUST be taken into account in, for example, planning of the route through low-lying levels, the ability of the mode of mass transit to withstand extreme weather events, etc.

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The choices we make now for this corridor will have critical implications for the ability of this region to adapt to these challenges.

Finally, in helping the public to visualize potential options, it would be helpful to research and show examples from the best, most efficient, most appealing public transportation systems in the world that are applicable to this situation. (Example: Curitiba, Brazil: <http://urbanhabitat.org/node/344> "Curitiba's Bus System Is Model for Rapid Transit" or http://www.solutions-site.org/artman/publish/article_62.shtml "Efficient Transportation for Successful Urban Planning", etc.)

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You want people to be inspired, to be able to visualize themselves happily and comfortably (not begrudgingly) using the mass transit mode proposed.

Thank you,

Nicola Coddington
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Village of Irvington
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