



U.S. Department  
of Transportation  
**Federal Transit  
Administration**

REGION I  
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Massachusetts,  
New Hampshire,  
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SEP 14 2001

Mr. Jerry Remillard  
Town Manager  
Town of Brattleboro  
Administrative Offices  
230 Main Street  
Brattleboro, VT 05301

Re: **Finding of No Significant Impact**  
**Multimodal Transit Facility**  
**Burlington, Vermont**  
*Brattleboro*

Dear Mr. Remillard:

Based upon a review of the environmental documentation, the Federal Transit Administration (FTA) has issued a Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) for the Multimodal Transit Facility project. The proposed project involves the construction of two transportation facilities, the Brattleboro Transportation Center and the Brattleboro Union Station, which are intended to promote the use of public transportation and reduce automobile dependency. These projects will provide seamless connectivity among several surface transportation modes: local bus service, pedestrian, passenger rail, paratransit service, taxi, and bicycles.

Please be advised that in accordance with 23 CFR 771.121, the Town of Brattleboro is required to transmit a copy of this FONSI to all affected Federal, state and local governmental entities.

Please let me know if you have any questions. The FTA looks forward to continuing to work with the Town on this important transit improvement.

Sincerely,

Richard H. Doyle  
Regional Administrator

Attachment

## FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT

Proposed Project: Brattleboro Multimodal Transit Facility

Project Location: Brattleboro, Vermont

Project Applicant: Town of Brattleboro

The Town of Brattleboro (Brattleboro) is proposing to construct a new Multimodal Transit facility in Brattleboro, Vermont. The multimodal facility consists of the Brattleboro Transportation Center and the Brattleboro Union Station. A description of each component follows:

- **The Brattleboro Transportation Center** will be located adjacent to the north side of Flat Street. It will include a multi-level short and long-term transit parking structure and a Bus Transit Center with four bus bays. The facility will serve as the focal point for local, regional and inter-regional bus transfers and will provide sheltered parking for transit users. Total parking is estimated to be 338 of which 56 are for transit use. Any non-transit related parking constructed at the site will be totally financed by the town. The final number of transit and non-transit parking spaces to be constructed will be determined during final design.
- **The Brattleboro Union Station** component will include a Train Transit Center (TTC) in the renovated lower level of the station and a short-term surface level parking area for transit users on the east side of the rail line which will provide fifteen spaces. The station will also provide two bus bays.

The purpose of this project is to promote the use of public transportation and reduce automobile dependency in the Town of Brattleboro and Windham County, Vermont by providing seamless connectivity among the various surface transportation modes: local transit services, rail, pedestrian, local paratransit services, taxi, and bicycles. The Facility will also improve the convenience and comfort of public transportation by providing passenger amenities and improved parking for users.

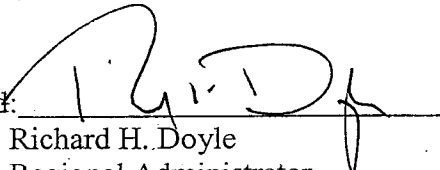
The Multimodal Transit Facility will require the acquisition of seven parcels, four for the Transportation Center and three for the Union Station. The facility is located at two separate sites because Brattleboro's unique topography, narrow, steep street patterns and densely built downtown with few open parcels of sufficient size preclude the possibility of bringing all public transportation modes together in one location. Bus and rail services at the two locations for the Multimodal Facility will be linked through coordinated bus schedules so that riders will have easy transfers between the two structures.

In accordance with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 as amended, the Vermont Division for Historic Preservation (DHP), State Historic

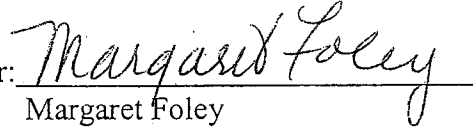
Preservation Officer, has determined that the project will have "no adverse effect" on historic resources, provided that the following conditions are met:

1. Final plans for the Brattleboro Union Station (Parcel #6, Union Station), the Brattleboro Gasworks (located adjacent to and north of Parcel #7, Railroad Parcel), and Archery & Outdoor Outfitters/First Railroad Station (Parcel #8, Wood Parcel), should be forwarded to the Division for Historic Preservation for review and approval. In general, the Recommendations for Avoiding Adverse Effect found in the historic resources report (attached to the EA) are to be used while finalizing the plans for the above structures.
2. Archival photographs should be taken of the Scale Building (Parcel #7, Railroad Parcel), as it was part of the historic gasworks complex. This documentation should follow the standards set by DHP and copies should be submitted to the Brattleboro Historical Society and Vermont Division for Historic Preservation.
3. Archival photographs should be taken of the Bushnell Block (Parcel #2, Bushnell Parcel), as it has occupied a significant location long throughout the history of Brattleboro. This documentation should follow the standards set by DHP and copies should be submitted to the Brattleboro Historical Society and Vermont Division for Historic Preservation.

Based on the June 22, 2001 Environmental Assessment and July 17, 2001 letter from DuBois & King, Inc. to the Federal Transit Administration (FTA) transmitting supplemental information on the project, it is the FTA's finding that there are no significant impacts on the environment associated with the construction of the Multimodal Transit Facility in Brattleboro, Vermont.

Approved:   
Richard H. Doyle  
Regional Administrator

Date: 9/14/01

Concur:   
Margaret Foley  
Regional Counsel

Date: 9-14-01