

COUNTY ATTORNEY

Fort Bend County, Texas

BRIDGETTE SMITH-LAWSON County Attorney

(281) 341-4555 Fax (281) 341-4557

Honorable KP George Fort Bend County Judge 301 Jackson Street Richmond, Texas 77469

RE: Federal Transit Administration – Opinion of Counsel

Dear County Judge George:

This communication will serve as the requisite opinion of counsel to be filed with the Federal Transit Administration, United States Department of Transportation, in connection with the application of the County of Fort Bend, Texas, for federal transportation assistance authorized by 49 U.S.C. Chapter 53; title 23, United States Code; and other federal statutes authorizing activities administered by the Federal Transit Administration.

The Applicant, Fort Bend County, Texas, has received authority from the designated recipient to apply for and receive Urbanized Area Formula Program assistance. The citation to the laws and regulations establishing the legal authority of Fort Bend County, Texas to carry out transportation projects for which federal assistance is sought is set forth below:

 Fort Bend County, Texas, is authorized by Texas Transportation Code Chapter 460, Section 460.051 to provide and assist public transportation in the County for the purposes of community and economic development.

The authority of Fort Bend County, Texas to provide funds for the local share of the project is set forth in the above cited statute and will be further authorized in the proposed Commissioners' Court Order authorizing funding for the local share attached hereto.

I have reviewed the pertinent federal, state, and local laws, and I have concluded that there is no legal impediment to your filing an application for the project for which Fort Bend County, Texas seeks assistance. Furthermore, as a result of my examination, I find that there is no pending or threatened litigation or other action which might in any way adversely affect the proposed project or the capability of Fort Bend County, Texas to carry out the project.

Regards,

BRIDGETTE SMITH-LAWSON FORT BEND COUNTY ATTORNEY