



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20460

OCT 27 2014

OFFICE OF
POLICY

October 27, 2014

Karen L. Massey, Chair
Environmental Finance Advisory Board
Office of the Chief Financial Officer
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
1200 Pennsylvania Avenue 2710A
Washington, DC 20460

Dear Ms. Massey,

I would like to thank you for the July 2014 report *Transit-Oriented Development for Sustainable Communities*. Our office has found the expertise and advice offered by the Environmental Finance Advisory Board helpful in our work with communities seeking to finance transit-oriented development, which can achieve improved environmental and public health outcomes along with other community benefits such as economic development.

For example, EPA's work with the Utah Transit Authority and Sandy City, Utah, to develop a funding strategy for a parking structure and other needed infrastructure to support transit-oriented development at the city's Civic Center light rail station was described in a January 2014 article in *Public Works* magazine.¹ Joint development with both the public and private sector proved to be instrumental to the city's efforts to secure the necessary \$8 million in funding for the project.

We appreciate the detailed record of the advice and recommendations that came out of the two meetings held by the Environmental Finance Advisory Board to discuss strategies and tools for financing transit-oriented development. The additional information about public-private partnerships will also prove useful in our continued work with communities, and the HUD-DOT-EPA Partnership for Sustainable Communities.

¹ Matichich, Mike. "Making Transit-Oriented Development Possible." *Public Works*. January 2014.
http://www.pwmag.com/grants/paying-for-transit-oriented-development_o_1.aspx.

We recognize the significant investment of time required from each of the board members who participated in these meetings and helped prepare this report, and we are grateful for your effort.

Thank you,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Joel Beauvais", with a stylized flourish at the end.

Joel Beauvais
Associate Administrator

cc: David A. Bloom, Acting Chief Financial Officer
Michael Shapiro, EFAB Designated Federal Officer
Matthew Dalbey, Director, Office of Sustainable Communities