



**METROWEST REGIONAL TRANSIT AUTHORITY**  
*Public Transportation System*

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December 29, 2023

Dear Boston MPO & CTPS Staff,

Hello, my name is Jim Nee, Administrator for the MetroWest Regional Transit Authority (MWRTA), and I am writing to you today in support of Newton in Motion's (NewMo) scope change via Amendment 3 to the 2024-2028 TIP. As a fellow member of the Boston MPO region, and a provider of MicroTransit services, I think that the MWRTA is uniquely positioned to comment on the requested change, and the need for flexibility in program scopes.

As we all know, MicroTransit exists as a new mode type in response to changing technology and changing transportation preferences in less dense urban areas. With the advent of Transportation Network Companies (TNC) such as Uber and Lyft, the expectations for public and municipal transportation options have changed dramatically over the last decade. While not every community is well suited for MicroTransit, some being too dense, and others being too rural, there are those who fit the Goldilocks scenarios where MicroTransit does serve people well. I believe that the NewMo program is such a program.

The proposed scope change is in response to the changing nature of funding, demand, and operational concerns that are a feature of all MicroTransit projects, especially the more successful ones. When grants are applied for, and scopes are established, they have limited real world data that is so critical to promoting the long term health of such a program. As that data is collected, responsible programs undertake a system of continuous improvement and evaluate to refine how the program is delivered to maximize the effectiveness and longevity of the service. By accepting the scope change, the Boston MPO will allow NewMo the flexibility required to promote the long term health of their system.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Jim Nee  
Administrator  
MetroWest Regional Transit Authority