

City of Newton, Massachusetts

Office of the Mayor

Telephone (617) 796-1100 Fax (617) 796-1113 TDD/TTY (617) 796-1089 Email rfuller@newtonma.gov

January 12, 2024

Ethan Lapointe Program Manager, TIP Central Transportation Planning Staff Boston Region Metropolitan Planning Organization 10 Park Plaza, Room 2150 Boston, MA 02116

Dear Members of the Boston MPO:

Please support **Amendment Three** of the FFYs 2024-28 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP), which includes a **FFY 2024 and 2025 scope change for the City of Newton's microtransit service, Newton In Motion (NewMo)**, which is supported in part by a Community Connections grant. (There are no requested changes in the amount of funding.)

The City of Newton is grateful to the MPO for its support of NewMo, and for the thoughtful engagement by CTPS, MassDOT and FHWA staff.

NewMo is essential public transportation for the Newton community, delivering over 3000 rides per month. The change in scope stems from the necessity in September 2023 to re-focus NewMo on seniors, low-income riders, and people with disabilities. NewMo is serving a transit-dependent population. Previously, it was available to all Newton residents and our workforce.

NewMo is an operational success, but, like other microtransit programs, is still working on financial stability. Through our current reprocurement, our ongoing collaboration with the MPO and other communities, and the changing landscape for transportation, we are committed to a successful operational and financial service model.

Thank you for your consideration of this amendment.

Sincerely,

Mayor Ruthanne Fuller

cc: Mignonne Murray, Director of Senior Services
Barney Heath, Director of Planning and Development
Josh Ostroff, Director of Transportation Planning