



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

REGION VIII
Colorado, Montana,
North Dakota,
South Dakota,
Utah and Wyoming

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REGION 8 BULLETIN NO: 2016-13

Subject: Staffing changes and grantee assignments in Region 8

Date: 09/7/2016

Dear Grantees:

This is to notify you of several changes that have recently occurred at Region 8 and how they may affect you. Some of this information has been communicated previously.

Linda Gehrke is now the Regional Administrator for FTA Region 10 in Seattle, Washington. Deputy Regional Administrator David Beckhouse will lead Region 8 while the recruitment for the Regional Administrator position is conducted.

Donna Douville is now the Director of the Region 8 Office of Operations and Program Management. Darin Allan is now the Director of the Region 8 Office of Planning and Program Development. Donna and Darin were previously Team Leaders for these subject areas in Region 8. Region 8 has updated its structure to create formal offices for these areas with supervisory authority vested in the Office Directors. See the attached organization chart for the updated Region 8 structure.

Jenny Barket, Regional Counsel, has accepted and started in a position in the Office of the Secretary of Transportation in U.S. DOT Headquarters. She will continue to offer legal support remotely, and Region 8 will also receive legal support from the FTA Chief Counsel's Office until the new Regional Counsel reports in October. The new Regional Counsel will be Jennifer Allaire. Jennifer has practiced law for over fourteen Years as counsel to various Departments of the Federal Government. Since January 2008, she has been a Senior Trial Attorney with the United States Department of the Navy in the Naval Litigation Office located in Washington, D.C. Jennifer's litigation experience often requires her to coordinate with outside agencies, including the Department of Energy, the Federal Bureau of Investigation, and the United States Department of Justice, as well as state agencies. Prior to the Navy, Jennifer represented Federal agencies as a Trial Attorney with the United States Department of Justice, Environmental and Natural Resources Division. That litigation experience included law suits brought by Native American Tribes, multi-state water disputes, and cases arising under NEPA

Cheryl "CJ" Schlis has been promoted from the Administrative Officer position to a Financial Specialist position in the Office of Planning and Program Development. She will be responsible for reviewing grantee eligibility for and providing access to TrAMS, ECHO and NTD; tracking grantee funds balances, processing funds transfers, and reserving funds in grants; coordinating the Single Audit process; and reviewing indirect cost rates/proposals and cost allocation plans.

Terry Gonzales has been promoted from the Administrative Staff Assistant position to the Administrative Officer position for Region 8. The Staff Assistant position will not be refilled.

Larry Squires recently returned to FTA from a temporary detail at the Federal Railroad Administration. Please join me in thanking Kristin Kenyon and Ranae Tunison for their commitment to keeping the grant development process going in his absence while simultaneously learning a new grants development software process.

Tim Sullivan, General Engineer, has accepted a position outside of FTA. Donna Douville is assuming his duties for major capital project oversight. His grants management duties have been reassigned.

Region 8 has conducted an overall re-balancing of assignments that is reflected on the attached grantee assignments matrix. These assignments reflect the current availability of staff at Region 8 and may be adjusted again in a few months as workload demands (and as vacancies are filled).

Sincerely,

/David L. Beckhouse/

David L. Beckhouse
Deputy Regional Administrator

Attachments: [Region 8 Staff Assignments – Excel Doc](#)