Priority question for written answer P-002009/2020
to the Commission
Rule 138
Laura Ferrara

Subject: Reprogramming of resources for the major Metrotranvia project, linking Cosenza, Rende and the University of Calabria

The major project for an overground light railway link between Cosenza, Rende and the University of Calabria, as mentioned in the answer to question E-002756-19, is a source of great concern for the Commission.

The failure to approve the final project plan, the unresolved issues regarding the route, and the protracted timeframe for the building of the infrastructure mean that it will be extremely difficult to build the entire light railway by the closure of the 2014-20 programming period.

That said, in view of the emergency situation caused by the spread of the Covid-19 epidemic, given the Commission’s recent legislative proposal aimed at releasing and spending swiftly any remaining uncommitted EU funds and in view of the repeated calls to the Managing Authority (MA) to prepare alternative plans to the major Metrotranvia project, can the Commission answer the following questions:

1. What is the total sum of the resources, under the 2014-2020 regional operational programme (ROP) for Calabria, which have not yet been committed to the above-mentioned major project?

2. Will the Commission call on the Managing Authority for the Calabria ROP to redirect those resources to projects in support of the Covid-19 emergency, in accordance with the provisions of Article 30 of Regulation (EU) No 1303/2013 or with the recent simplified procedure proposed by the Commission?

3. Will it promote the use of the (uncommitted) resources of all the 2014-2020 ROP for any action which could help to tackle the emergency, while maintaining the local spending constraints inherent in the regional operational programmes?