

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Written comments on the scope of the EIS should be sent to Pat V. Phung, Transportation Engineer, Federal Highway Administration, Hawaii Division, Box 50206, 300 Ala Moana Blvd., Room 3–306, Honolulu, HI 96850, within 30 days of the publication of this notice.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The FHWA, in cooperation with the Hawaii Department of Transportation (HDOT), will be preparing an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for the improvement of the 11-mile segment of Honoapiilani Highway between Maalaea and Launiupoko in West Maui. The eastern limit of the project is the western terminus of the recent Honoapiilani Highway widening project near Maalaea. The western limit of the project will be southern terminus of the Lahaina Bypass Road, near Launiupoko Wayside Park. Highway improvements may involve improving portions of the existing highway and/or constructing a new highway along a different alignment.

Purposes and needs for the Honoapiilani Highway Realignment/Widening, Maalaea to Launiupoko will be finalized after the completion of the scoping process. Project goals may involve: (1) Alleviate existing congestion; (2) Accommodate future travel demand; (3) Protect road from shoreline erosion; (4) Complement land use and preservation plans; (5) Improve reliability of access to and from West Maui; (6) Enhance pedestrian and vehicular mauka/makai movements; (7) Provide consistent roadway system linkages; (8) Enhance modal interrelationships and non-vehicular modes of travel; (9) Improve public safety for emergencies; and (10) Improve substandard road elements. These project purposes may be modified through the planning process.

The NEPA scoping process being initiated by the publication of this NOI is intended to generate a full range of project alternatives for subsequent evaluation. The No Build alternative would leave Honoapiilani Highway in its current condition except for possible short-term and minor activities, such as safety upgrades and maintenance. A Transportation System Management (TSM) alternative may include elements such as restriping the roadway, enhancing transit service, establishing contra-flow lanes, widening the roadway in place and/or raising the roadbed in areas of high shoreline hazard. The TSM alternative could also include establishing and improving intersections along the existing roadway

through techniques such as channelization, roundabouts, or left turn lanes.

Other possible improvement alternatives include: (1) A new Kaanapali to Wailuku highway; (2) Aerial cable car; (3) Tunnel under the Pali; (4) Ocean causeway around the Pali; (5) Light Rail Transit from Lahaina to Wailuku; (6) Pave “Haul Cane Road” (Industrial Road, or Cane Haul Road); (7) Ferries from Maalaea to either Mala Wharf, Lahaina small boat harbor, or a new harbor to be constructed at Cut Mountain; (8) Enhanced bus system; (9) Realignment included in the County’s Pali to Puamana Plan (P2P Plan); (10) Alternative alignment proposed in a privately commissioned study; (11) Elevate and widen road within existing ROW; (12) Improve intersections along existing road; (13) Roadway Couplet (Westbound: 2 lanes in a mauka alignment and Eastbound: 2 lanes on existing road); (14) West Maui hotels provide enhanced shuttle service and car pools for workers; (15) Widen existing road to provide for contraflow operation; and (16) Widen existing road to provide for high occupancy vehicle (HOV) lanes.

The purpose of the EIS process is to explore in a public setting potentially significant effects of implementing the proposed action on the physical, human, and natural environment. Areas of investigation for this project will include but not be limited to cultural resources, archaeological resources, biological resources, social impact, engineering feasibility, schedule, cost-benefit analysis, land use pattern, shoreline access, residential displacements, impacts on existing businesses, air quality, noise and vibration, and ease of implementation. Measures to avoid, minimize, or mitigate any significant adverse impacts will be identified. The documents that will be produced include an Alternatives Analysis Report (AA), Draft and Final Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS and FEIS), and the Record of Decision (ROD).

Regulations implementing NEPA, as well as provisions of SAFETEA-LU, call for public involvement in the EIS process. Section 6002 of SAFETEA-LU requires that FHWA and HDOT do the following: (1) Extend an invitation to other government agencies and Native Hawaiian organizations that may have an interest in the proposed project to become “participating agencies,” (2) provide an opportunity for involvement by participating agencies and the public in helping to define the purpose and need for this proposed project, as well as the range of alternatives for

consideration in the impact statement, and (3) establish a plan for coordinating public and agency participation in and comment on the environmental review process.

To comply with these regulations, an invitation to become a participating agency, with a scoping information packet appended, will be extended to other government agencies and Native Hawaiian organizations that may have an interest in the proposed project.

Community meetings will provide public-friendly and accessible venues for comments to be accepted regarding alternatives, scope of the EI, and the purpose and needs to be addressed. Community meetings will be held on Maui at times and locations convenient to those that work and live in the corridor. Meeting locations will be accessible to people with disabilities. Input received will be collected and documented. In addition to community meetings and a DEIS public hearing, small group meetings will be held during the planning and DEIS preparatory stages.

A project Task Force will also be formed to help advise HDOT on key aspects of the project such as project goals, development and ranking of alternatives; construction phasing plan; and mitigation measures. Similar to all community meetings, the Task Force meetings will be open to the public, accessible to people with disabilities, and held on Maui at times and locations convenient to those that live and work in the corridor.

(Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance Program Number 20.205, Highway Planning and Construction. The regulations implementing Executive Order 12372 regarding intergovernmental consultation on Federal programs and activities apply to this program.)

Issued on: May 30, 2007.

Abraham Wong,

Federal Highway Administration, Hawaii Division, HOnolulu, Hawaii.

[FR Doc. 07–2814 Filed 6–6–07; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4910–22–M

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
Maritime Administration

[Docket No. MARAD–2007–28333]

Requested Administrative Waiver of the Coastwise Trade Laws

AGENCY: Maritime Administration, Department of Transportation.

ACTION: Invitation for public comments on a requested administrative waiver of

the Coastwise Trade Laws for the vessel FLYING CARPET.

SUMMARY: As authorized by Public Law 105-383 and Public Law 107-295, the Secretary of Transportation, as represented by the Maritime Administration (MARAD), is authorized to grant waivers of the U.S.-build requirement of the coastwise laws under certain circumstances. A request for such a waiver has been received by MARAD. The vessel, and a brief description of the proposed service, is listed below. The complete application is given in DOT docket MARAD-2007-28333 at <http://dms.dot.gov>. Interested parties may comment on the effect this action may have on U.S. vessel builders or businesses in the U.S. that use U.S.-flag vessels. If MARAD determines, in accordance with Pub. L. 105-383 and MARAD's regulations at 46 CFR Part 388 (68 FR 23084; April 30, 2003), that the issuance of the waiver will have an unduly adverse effect on a U.S.-vessel builder or a business that uses U.S.-flag vessels in that business, a waiver will not be granted. Comments should refer to the docket number of this notice and the vessel name in order for MARAD to properly consider the comments. Comments should also state the commenter's interest in the waiver application, and address the waiver criteria given in § 388.4 of MARAD's regulations at 46 CFR Part 388.

DATES: Submit comments on or before July 9, 2007.

ADDRESSES: Comments should refer to docket number MARAD-2007-28333. Written comments may be submitted by hand or by mail to the U.S. Department of Transportation, Docket Operations, M-30, West Building Ground Floor, Room W12-140, 1200 New Jersey Ave SE., Washington, DC 20590. You may also send comments electronically via the Internet at <http://dmses.dot.gov/submit/>. All comments will become part of this docket and will be available for inspection and copying at the above address between 10 a.m. and 5 p.m., E.T., Monday through Friday, except Federal holidays. An electronic version of this document and all documents entered into this docket is available on the World Wide Web at <http://dms.dot.gov>.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Joann Spittle, U.S. Department of Transportation, Maritime Administration, 1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE., Room W21-203, Washington, DC 20590. Telephone 202-366-5979.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: As described by the applicant the intended

service of the vessel FLYING CARPET is:

Intended Use: "Non-Bareboat Charters, Whale Watching, Offshore Sailing Training, Onboard Maritime Electronics and Communications Training."

Geographic Region: "Columbia River and Pacific Coastwise out no more than 75 miles."

Privacy Act

Anyone is able to search the electronic form of all comments received into any of our dockets by the name of the individual submitting the comment (or signing the comment, if submitted on behalf of an association, business, labor union, etc.). You may review DOT's complete Privacy Act Statement in the **Federal Register** published on April 11, 2000 (Volume 65, Number 70; Pages 19477-78) or you may visit <http://dms.dot.gov>.

Dated: May 30, 2007.

By order of the Maritime Administrator.

Daron T. Threet,

Secretary, Maritime Administration.

[FR Doc. E7-11055 Filed 6-6-07; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4910-81-P

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Maritime Administration

[Docket No. MARAD-2007-28335]

Requested Administrative Waiver of the Coastwise Trade Laws

AGENCY: Maritime Administration, Department of Transportation.

ACTION: Invitation for public comments on a requested administrative waiver of the Coastwise Trade Laws for the vessel MISTRESS.

SUMMARY: As authorized by Public Law 105-383 and Public Law 107-295, the Secretary of Transportation, as represented by the Maritime Administration (MARAD), is authorized to grant waivers of the U.S.-build requirement of the coastwise laws under certain circumstances. A request for such a waiver has been received by MARAD. The vessel, and a brief description of the proposed service, is listed below. The complete application is given in DOT docket MARAD-2007-28335 at <http://dms.dot.gov>. Interested parties may comment on the effect this action may have on U.S. vessel builders or businesses in the U.S. that use U.S.-flag vessels. If MARAD determines, in accordance with Public Law 105-383 and MARAD's regulations at 46 CFR Part 388 (68 FR 23084; April 30, 2003),

that the issuance of the waiver will have an unduly adverse effect on a U.S.-vessel builder or a business that uses U.S.-flag vessels in that business, a waiver will not be granted. Comments should refer to the docket number of this notice and the vessel name in order for MARAD to properly consider the comments. Comments should also state the commenter's interest in the waiver application, and address the waiver criteria given in § 388.4 of MARAD's regulations at 46 CFR Part 388.

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ADDRESSES: Comments should refer to docket number MARAD-2007-28335. Written comments may be submitted by hand or by mail to the U.S. Department of Transportation, Docket Operations, M-30, West Building Ground Floor, Room W12-140, 1200 New Jersey Ave., SE., Washington, DC 20590. You may also send comments electronically via the Internet at <http://dmses.dot.gov/submit/>. All comments will become part of this docket and will be available for inspection and copying at the above address between 10 a.m. and 5 p.m., E.T., Monday through Friday, except Federal holidays. An electronic version of this document and all documents entered into this docket is available on the World Wide Web at <http://dms.dot.gov>.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Joann Spittle, U.S. Department of Transportation, Maritime Administration, 1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE., Room W21-203, Washington, DC 20590. Telephone 202-366-5979.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: As described by the applicant the intended service of the vessel MISTRESS is:

Intended Use: "Day sailing charters, 6 passengers or less."

Geographic Region: "Florida Keys and Key West."

Privacy Act

Anyone is able to search the electronic form of all comments received into any of our dockets by the name of the individual submitting the comment (or signing the comment, if submitted on behalf of an association, business, labor union, etc.). You may review DOT's complete Privacy Act Statement in the **Federal Register** published on April 11, 2000 (Volume 65, Number 70; Pages 19477-78) or you may visit <http://dms.dot.gov>.

Dated: May 30, 2007.