

actions relate to a proposed highway project, Farm-to-Market (FM) 1626, from Ranch-to-Market (RM) 967 to Brodie Lane in Hays and Travis Counties, Texas. Those actions grant licenses, permits, and approvals for the project.

**DATES:** By this notice, the FHWA is advising the public of final agency actions subject to 23 U.S.C. 139(l)(1). A claim seeking judicial review of the Federal agency actions on the highway project will be barred unless the claim is filed on or before May 5, 2012. If the Federal law that authorizes judicial review of a claim provides a time period of less than 180 days for filing such claim, then that shorter time period still applies.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Mr. Salvador Deocampo, District Engineer, Texas Division, Federal Highway Administration, 300 East 8th Street, Room 826 Austin, Texas 78701; telephone: (512) 536-5950; email: [Salvador.Deocampo@dot.gov](mailto:Salvador.Deocampo@dot.gov). The FHWA Texas Division Office's normal business hours are 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. (central time) Monday through Friday. You may also contact Mark A. Marek, P.E., Interim Director Environmental Affairs Division, Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT), 118 E. Riverside Drive, Austin, Texas 78704; telephone: (512) 416-2653; email: [mark.marek@txdot.gov](mailto:mark.marek@txdot.gov). The Texas Department of Transportation normal business hours are 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. (central time) Monday through Friday.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** Notice is hereby given that the FHWA and other Federal agencies have taken final agency actions by issuing licenses, permits, and approvals for the following highway project in the State of Texas: Farm-to-Market (FM) 1626 from Ranch-to-Market (RM) 967 to Brodie Lane in Hays and Travis Counties; Project Reference Number: TxDOT CSJ: 1539-01-005, 1539-02-018, and 1539-02-028. The proposed improvements would consist of upgrading FM 1626 by adding an additional travel lane in each direction, a continuous center turn lane, and 4-foot shoulders. The actions by the Federal agencies, and the laws under which such actions were taken, are described in the documented Environmental Assessment (EA), with a Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) issued October 19, 2011 and in other documents in the FHWA administrative record. The EA, FONSI, and other documents in the FHWA administrative record file are available by contacting the FHWA or the TxDOT at the addresses provided above.

This notice applies to all Federal agency decisions as of the issuance date

of this notice and all laws under which such actions were taken, including but not limited to:

1. *General:* National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) [42 U.S.C. 4321 *et seq.*]; Federal-Aid Highway Act [23 U.S.C. 109].
2. *Air:* Clean Air Act [42 U.S.C. 7401-7671(q)].
3. *Land:* Section 4(f) of the Department of Transportation Act of 1966 [23 U.S.C. 138 and 49 U.S.C. 303].
4. *Wildlife:* Endangered Species Act [16 U.S.C. 1531-1544]; Fish and Wildlife Coordination Act [16 U.S.C. 661-667(d)]; and, Migratory Bird Treaty Act [16 U.S.C. 703-712].
5. *Historic and Cultural Resources:* Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended [16 U.S.C. 470]; Archaeological Resources Protection Act of 1979 [16 U.S.C. 470]; Archaeological and Historical Preservation Act [16 U.S.C. 469].
6. *Social and Economic:* Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 [42 U.S.C. 2000(d) *et seq.*]; Farmland Protection Policy Act (FPPA) [7 U.S.C. 4201-4209].
7. *Wetlands and Water Resources:* Clean Water Act [33 U.S.C. 1251-1342]; Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF) [16 U.S.C. 4601-4604].
8. *Executive Orders:* E.O. 11990 Protection of Wetlands; E.O. 11988 Floodplain Management; E.O. 12898, Federal Actions to Address Environmental Justice in Minority Populations and Low Income Populations; E.O. 11514 Protection and Enhancement of Environmental Quality.

(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.)

**Authority:** 23 U.S.C. 139(l)(1).

Issued on: October 31, 2011.

**Achille Alonzi,**

*Assistant Division Administrator, Austin, Texas.*

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**BILLING CODE 4910-RY-P**

## DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

### Federal Transit Administration

[FTA Docket No. FRA-2011-0067]

### Notice of Request for the Revision of Currently Approved Information Collection

**AGENCY:** Federal Transit Administration, DOT.

**ACTION:** Notice of request for comments.

**SUMMARY:** In accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, this notice announces the intention of the Federal Transit Administration (FTA) to request the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) to approve the revision of the currently approved information collection: 49 U.S.C. 5335(a) and (b) National Transit Database (NTD).

**DATES:** Comments must be submitted before January 6, 2012.

**ADDRESSES:** To ensure that your comments are not entered more than once into the docket, submit comments identified by the docket number by only one of the following methods:

1. *Web site:* [www.regulations.gov](http://www.regulations.gov). Follow the instructions for submitting comments on the U.S. Government electronic docket site. (**Note:** The U.S. Department of Transportation's (DOT's) electronic docket is no longer accepting electronic comments.) All electronic submissions must be made to the U.S. Government electronic docket site at [www.regulations.gov](http://www.regulations.gov). Commenters should follow the directions below for mailed and hand-delivered comments.

2. *Fax:* 202-366-7951.

3. *Mail:* U.S. Department of Transportation, 1200 New Jersey Avenue SE., Docket Operations, M-30, West Building, Ground Floor, Room W12-140, Washington, DC 20590-0001.

4. *Hand Delivery:* U.S. Department of Transportation, 1200 New Jersey Avenue SE., Docket Operations, M-30, West Building, Ground Floor, Room W12-140, Washington, DC 20590-0001 between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m., Monday through Friday, except federal holidays.

**Instructions:** You must include the agency name and docket number for this notice at the beginning of your comments. Submit two copies of your comments if you submit them by mail. For confirmation that FTA has received your comments, include a self-addressed stamped postcard. Note that all comments received, including any personal information, will be posted and will be available to Internet users, without change, to [www.regulations.gov](http://www.regulations.gov). You may review DOT's complete Privacy Act Statement in the **Federal Register** published April 11, 2000, (65 FR 19477), or you may visit [www.regulations.gov](http://www.regulations.gov). Docket: For access to the docket to read background documents and comments received, go to [www.regulations.gov](http://www.regulations.gov) at any time. Background documents and comments received may also be viewed at the U.S. Department of Transportation, 1200 New Jersey Avenue SE., Docket Operations, M-30, West Building, Ground Floor, Room W12-140,

Washington, DC 20590-0001 between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m., Monday through Friday, except federal holidays.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** John D. Giorgis, National Transit Database Program Manager, FTA Office of Budget and Policy, (202) 366-5430, or email: [john.giorgis@dot.gov](mailto:john.giorgis@dot.gov).

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** Interested parties are invited to send comments regarding any aspect of this information collection, including: (1) The necessity and utility of the information collection for the proper performance of the functions of the FTA; (2) the accuracy of the estimated burden; (3) ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the collected information; and (4) ways to minimize the collection burden without reducing the quality of the collected information. Comments submitted in response to this notice will be summarized and/or included in the request for OMB approval of this information collection.

*Title:* 49 U.S.C. 5335(a) and (b) National Transit Database.

*(OMB Number: 2132-0008).*

*Background:* 49 U.S.C. 5335(a) and (b) requires the Secretary of Transportation to maintain a reporting system, using a uniform system of accounts, to collect financial and operating information from the nation's public transportation systems. Congress created the NTD to be the repository of transit data for the nation to support public transportation service planning. FTA has established the NTD to meet these requirements, and has collected data for over 30 years. FTA continues to seek ways to reduce the burden of NTD reporting, most recently introducing its new Sampling Manual in 2010 to reduce the burden of passenger mile sampling and introducing its new Small Systems Waiver in 2011 to reduce the reporting burden on small transit systems.

The NTD is comprised of four modules, Rural, Annual, Monthly, and Safety & Security.

*NTD Rural Module:* State DOTs and tribal governments participating in the Tribal Transit Program.

*Estimated Annual Burden:* Currently FTA receives reports from 54 State and Territorial DOTs, and from 56 Tribal Transit grant recipients. Combined, these States and Tribes report on behalf of approximately 1,450 subrecipients from FTA's Rural (Section 5311) Formula Program. For each subrecipient, the State or Tribe provides identifying information, sources of operating funds, sources of capital funds, vehicle revenue miles, vehicle revenue hours, and unlinked passenger trips. Additionally, a revenue vehicle

inventory is reported, as well as total fatalities, injuries, and safety incidents for the year. FTA estimates that it takes approximately 20 hours to report on behalf of each subrecipient, including the time needed for the subrecipient to gather the information and report it to its State DOT, the time for the State DOT to assemble the data and submit it to FTA, and the time to respond to validation questions from FTA about the data.

*Estimated Total Annual Burden:* 29,000 hours.

*Frequency:* Annual reports.

*NTD Annual Module—Small Systems Waiver:* FTA expects about 300 transit systems with 30 or fewer vehicles to claim a Small Systems Waiver.

*Estimated Annual Burden:* FTA provides reduced reporting requirements to urbanized area transit systems with 30 or fewer vehicles. These systems are exempt from sampling for passenger miles and report only summary financial and operating statistics compared to full reporters in urbanized areas, similar to what is required of the rural subrecipients. Additionally, they also report contact information, funding allocation information, a revenue vehicle inventory, the number of stations and maintenance facilities, and total injuries, fatalities, and safety incidents. The reports are also required to be reviewed by an auditor and certified by the CEO. Systems with this waiver are also exempt from the Monthly and Safety & Security Modules. FTA estimates that completing a report for a Small Systems Waiver requires approximately 27 hours, including time to assemble the information and respond to validation questions from FTA about the report.

*Estimated Total Annual Urban Burden:* 8,100 hours.

*Frequency:* Annually.

*NTD Annual Module—Full Reports:* FTA expects about 400 transit systems to file complete reports, including 10 reports that represent a consolidated report from numerous small systems.

*Estimated Annual Burden:* The Full Report to the Annual Module is comprehensive. Basic contact information, as well as information on subrecipients and purchased transportation contracts must be provided. Sources of funds for operating expenses and capital expenses must be provided, as well as detailed operating and capital expenses for each mode by function and object class. Key service data collected includes vehicle revenue miles, vehicle revenue hours, unlinked passenger trips, and passenger miles traveled; these must be provided by

average weekday, average Saturday, average Sunday, and as an annual total. Most systems that do not inherently collect passenger mile information (such as a ferryboat or commuter rail) must conduct random sampling for passenger mile information. Large systems with more than 100 vehicles are required to sample for passenger miles every year, whereas smaller systems are only required to sample every third year. A comprehensive revenue vehicle inventory is collected, as well as information on fixed guideway mileage, passenger stations, maintenance facilities, fuel consumption, employee hours, and maintenance breakdowns. Reports are also required to be reviewed by an auditor and certified by the system CEO. Approximately 100 large systems are required to sample for passenger miles each year, while approximately 300 small systems are able to sample every three years. FTA estimates that it takes approximately 340 hours per year to sample for passenger miles, which is amortized over three years for small systems. FTA estimates that completing the remaining financial, operating, resource, and capital asset information requires approximately 200 hours per year per transit system, including gathering the information, completing the forms, and responding to validation questions.

*Estimated Total Burden:* 210,000 hours.

*Frequency:* Annually.

*NTD Monthly Module:* FTA expects about 450 transit systems to report to the Monthly Module.

*Estimated Annual Burden:* Each month, vehicle revenue miles, vehicle revenue hours, unlinked passenger trips, and vehicles operated in maximum service are submitted to the Monthly Module. FTA estimates that it takes approximately 4 hours each month for each system to report the data, including collecting and assembling the data for each mode, filling out the form, and responding to any validation questions in regards to the data.

*Estimated Total Annual Urban Burden:* 19,200 hours.

*Frequency:* Monthly.

*NTD Safety & Security Module:* FTA expects about 450 transit systems to report to the Safety & Security Module.

*Estimated Annual Burden:* Each system provides an annual report on the total number of security personnel, and an annual CEO certification of the safety data. Each month, systems provide a summary report of all minor fires and all incidents resulting in single-person injuries due to slips, falls, or electrical shocks. Additionally, systems must provide a detailed report within 30 days

of any incident involving one or more fatalities, one or more injuries, or total property damage in excess of \$25,000. FTA currently receives about 5,000 major incident reports per year, and estimates that it takes on average about 2 hours to collect data for each incident, enter it into the NTD, and respond to any validation question. Additionally, FTA estimates that each of the 450 full reporters spend on average one hour each month completing the minor incident summary reports.

*Estimated Total Annual Urban*

*Burden:* 14,800 hours.

*Frequency:* Monthly.

*Total Annual NTD Burden:* 281,100 hours.

Issued: November 2, 2011.

**Ann M. Linnertz,**

*Associate Administrator for Administration.*

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## DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

### Federal Transit Administration

#### **FY 2011 Discretionary Livability Funding Opportunity; Section 5309 Bus and Bus Facilities Livability Initiative Program Grants and Section 5339 Alternatives Analysis Program**

**AGENCY:** Federal Transit Administration (FTA), DOT.

**ACTION:** FTA Livability Initiative Program Funds: Announcement of Project Selections.

**SUMMARY:** The U.S. Department of Transportation's (DOT) Federal Transit Administration (FTA) announces the selection of projects funded under two discretionary programs: Bus and Bus Facilities and Alternatives Analysis, in support of DOT's Livability Initiative, which was announced in the Discretionary Livability Funding Opportunity notice of funding availability on June 27, 2011. The Bus Livability program makes funds available to public transit providers to finance capital projects to replace, rehabilitate, and purchase buses and related equipment and to construct bus-related facilities, including programs of bus and bus-related projects for assistance to subrecipients that are public agencies, private companies engaged in public transportation, or private non-profit organizations. The Alternatives Analysis program makes funds available to States, authorities of States, metropolitan planning organizations, and local governmental authorities to develop alternatives analyses. The Alternatives Analysis Program assists potential sponsors of

major transit capital investments ("New Starts" and "Small Starts" projects) in the evaluation of all reasonable modal and multimodal alternatives and general alignment options to address transportation needs in a defined travel corridor. Through these funding awards, FTA will support a limited number of alternatives analyses, or technical work conducted as part of proposed or ongoing alternatives analyses, that seek to advance major transit investments that foster the six livability principles of the DOT-HUD-EPA Partnership for Sustainable Communities.

#### **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:**

Successful and unsuccessful applicants should contact the appropriate FTA Regional office (Appendix) for specific information regarding applying for the funds or proposal specific questions. For general program information on the Bus and Bus Facilities Program, contact Samuel Snead, Office of Program Management, at (202) 366-2053, email: [samuel.snead@dot.gov](mailto:samuel.snead@dot.gov), or Kimberly Sledge, Office of Program Management, at (202) 366-2053, email: [kimberly.sledge@dot.gov](mailto:kimberly.sledge@dot.gov). For questions about the Alternatives Analysis program, contact Kenneth Cervenka, Office of Planning and Environment, at (202) 493-0512, email: [kenneth.cervenka@dot.gov](mailto:kenneth.cervenka@dot.gov). A TDD is available at 1 (800) 877-8339 (TDD/FIRS).

#### **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**

*Bus Livability Program:* A total of at least \$150 million was available for FTA's Bus Livability Program. A total of 241 applicants requested \$1.2 billion, indicating significant demand for funds. Project proposals were evaluated based on the criteria detailed in the June 27, 2011 Notice of Funding Availability. The projects selected and shown in Table 1 will provide mobility choices, improve economic competitiveness, support existing communities, create partnerships and enhance the value of communities and neighborhoods. Funds must be used for the eligible purposes defined under 49 U.S.C. 5309(b)(3) and consistent with the competitive proposal. In selecting projects for funding using Bus Program funds, FTA ensured that at least 5.5 percent of the FY 2011 Section 5309 funds, or \$53.5 million, is being allocated to projects that are not in urbanized areas. Additionally, at least \$35 million is being allocated for intermodal terminal projects.

*Alternatives Analysis:* A total of \$25 million was available for FTA's Alternatives Analysis Program. A total of \$60.8 million was requested for 71 projects, indicating significant demand for funds. Project proposals were

evaluated based on the criteria detailed in the June 27, 2011 Notice of Funding Availability. The proposals selected and shown in Table 2 will advance proposed transit investments that would provide more transportation choices, improve economic competitiveness, support existing communities, create partnerships and enhance the value of communities and neighborhoods. Funds must be used for the eligible purposes defined under 49 U.S.C. 5309(a)(1) and consistent with the competitive proposal.

*Project Implementation:* Grantees selected for competitive discretionary funding should work with their FTA regional office to finalize the grant application FTA's Transportation Electronic Award Management system (TEAM) for the projects identified in the attached table and so that funds can be obligated expeditiously. In cases where the allocation amount is less than the proposer's requested amount, grantees should work with the regional office to reduce scope or scale the project such that a complete phase or project is accomplished. A discretionary project identification number has been assigned to each project for tracking purposes and must be used in the TEAM application. Selected projects have pre-award authority as of October 17, 2011. Additionally, for the Bus Livability projects, although several projects contained related housing or livable communities' initiatives, FTA funds may only be used for eligible purposes defined under 49 U.S.C. 5309(b)(3) and described in FTAC.9030.1C. For any Bus Livability projects that will be implemented as a joint-development project, please also refer to the agency's joint-development guidance found in 72 FR 5788 (Feb. 7, 2007) for more information. Post-award reporting requirements include submission of the Financial Federal Report and Milestone reports in TEAM as appropriate (see FTA.C.5010.1D).

The grantee must comply with all applicable Federal statutes, regulations, executive orders, FTA circulars, and other Federal administrative requirements in carrying out the project supported by the FTA grant. FTA emphasizes that grantees must follow all third-party procurement guidance, as described in FTA.C.4220.1F. Funds allocated in this announcement must be obligated in a grant by September 30, 2014.

Issued in Washington, DC, this 2nd day of November 2011.

**Peter Rogoff,**  
*Administrator.*

**Appendix**