
(c) A congested hour is an hour during which demand exceeds average runway capacity resulting in volume-related delays, or is anticipated to do so.

6.1 Because charges provided in paragraphs 2.1.4, 2.5.3 and 2.5.4 to address congestion can result in higher fees for some or all operators, it is especially important for airport operators proposing such charges to provide carriers in advance the information listed in Appendix 1, with special emphasis on data, analysis and forecasts used to justify the charges.

6.2 The proprietor of a future congested airport may adopt measures to address congestion in accordance with paragraphs 2.1.4, 2.5.3 and 2.5.4 of this policy, if the measures will not take effect or have any effect on airfield charges until a time when the airport meets the definition of a congested airport in paragraph 6(a) or is anticipated to do so. This kind of measure would typically identify the specific condition, e.g., operating delays that regularly exceed a certain level at the airport that would trigger the implementation of the special charges to address congestion.

6.3 An airport proprietor may exempt flights subsidized under the Essential Air Service Program from charges imposed under paragraphs 2.5.3 and 2.5.4 of this policy.

Issued in Washington, DC, on August 23, 2013.

Susan L. Kurland,
Assistant Secretary for Aviation and International Affairs.

Christa Fornarotto,
Associate Administrator for Airports, Federal Aviation Administration.

Appendix 1—Information for Aeronautical User Charges Consultations

The Department of Transportation ordinarily expects the following information to be available to aeronautical users in connection with consultations over changes in airport rates and charges:

1. Historic Financial Information covering two fiscal years prior to the current year including, at minimum, a profit and loss statement, balance sheet and cash flow statement for the airport implementing the charges, and any financial reports prepared by the airport proprietor to satisfy the provisions of 49 U.S.C. 47107(a)(19) and 47107(k).

2. Justification. Economic, financial and/or legal justification for changes in the charging methodology or in the level of aeronautical rates and charges at the airport. Airports should provide information on the aeronautical costs they are including in the rate base.

3. Traffic Information. Annual numbers of terminal passengers and aircraft movements for each of the two preceding years.

4. Planning and Forecasting Information.

(a) To the extent applicable to current or proposed fees, the long-term airport strategy setting out long-term financial and traffic forecasts, major capital projects and capital expenditure, and particular areas requiring strategic action. This material should include any material provided for public or government reviews of major airport developments, including analyses of demand and capacity and expenditure estimates.

(b) Accurate, complete information specific to the airport for the current and the forecast year, including the current and proposed budgets, forecasts of airport charges revenue, the projected number of landings and passengers, expected operating and capital expenditures, debt service payments, contributions to restricted funds, or other required accounts or reserves.

(c) To the extent the airport uses a residual or hybrid charging methodology, a description of key factors expected to affect commercial or other nonaeronautical revenues and operating costs in the current and following years.

In accordance with the Act, the advisory group provides “advice, information, and recommendations to the Administrator and the Director—

(1) On the implementation of this title [the Act] and the amendments made by this title;

(2) On commonly accepted quiet aircraft technology for use in commercial air tour operations over a national park or tribal lands, which will receive preferential treatment in a given air tour management plan;

(3) On other measures that might be taken to accommodate the interests of visitors to national parks; and

(4) At the request of the Administrator and the Director, safety, environmental, and other issues related to commercial air tour operations over a national park or tribal lands.”

Membership

The current NPOAG ARC is made up of one member representing general aviation, three members representing the commercial air tour industry, four members representing environmental concerns, and two members representing Native American interests. Current members of the NPOAG ARC are as follows:

Heidi Williams representing general aviation; Alan Stephen and Mark Francis representing commercial air tour operators with one open seat; Greg Miller, Michael Sutton, and Dick Hingson representing environmental interests with one open seat; and Rory Majenty and Martin Begaye representing Native American tribes.
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Federal Highway Administration

Buy America Waiver Notification

AGENCY: Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), DOT.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: This notice provides information regarding the FHWA’s finding that a Buy America waiver is appropriate for re-use of historical bridge components for construction of Monon Trail Bridge over SR 25 in Indiana.

DATES: The effective date of the waiver is September 11, 2013.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: For questions about this notice, please contact Mr. Gerald Yakovenko, FHWA Office of Program Administration, (202) 366–1562, or via email at gerald.yakovenko@dot.gov. For legal questions, please contact Mr. Michael Harkins, FHWA Office of the Chief Counsel, (202) 366–4928, or via email at michael.harkins@dot.gov. Office hours for the FHWA are from 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., e.t., Monday through Friday, except Federal holidays.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Electronic Access


Background

The FHWA’s Buy America policy in 23 CFR 635.410 requires a domestic manufacturing process for any steel or iron products (including protective coatings) that are permanently incorporated in a Federal-aid construction project. The regulation also provides for a waiver of the Buy America requirements when the application would be inconsistent with the public interest or when satisfactory quality domestic steel and iron products are not sufficiently available. This notice provides information regarding the FHWA’s finding that a Buy America waiver is appropriate to re-use some historical bridge components for construction of Monon Trail Bridge over SR 25 in Indiana.

The Indiana Department of Transportation (INDOT) requested this waiver for an overpass to carry the Monon High Bridge Trail across the new Hoosier Heartland Highway (SR 25). Working with the local Context Sensitive Solution group, INDOT decided to span SR 25 with the historic Freedom Bridge, built in the 1890s in Freedom, Indiana, but replaced, disassembled, and preserved for relocation. This innovative solution brought together State and local officials, the Indiana State Historic Preservation Officer, and FHWA and is consistent with the reason why the Freedom Bridge was preserved under the National Historic Preservation Act. Although INDOT has traced 23 percent of the steel in the Freedom Bridge to Carnegie Steel, a United States manufacturer, State officials cannot verify that the remaining steel to be incorporated in the reassembled bridge is of domestic origin. Therefore, INDOT requested a Buy America waiver for the reuse of the incorporated steel.

In accordance with Division A, section 122 of the “Consolidated and Further Continuing Appropriations Act, 2012” (Pub. L. 112–55), the FHWA published a notice of intent to issue a public interest waiver on its Web site for re-use of original steel components to construct the trail bridge over SR 25 on May 21st (http://www.fhwa.dot.gov/construction/contracts/waivers.cfm?id=88). The FHWA received no comments in response to the publication. This Public Interest waiver of the Buy America requirements of 23 CFR 635.410 is to permit INDOT to re-use original structural steel components from the disassembled historic bridge owned by Owen County for re-establishment of a bike/pedestrian trail over SR 25. The basis for the public interest waiver is:

• It fulfills the intent of a 1991 Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act’s Memorandum of Understanding (NHPA MOA) that the historic Freedom Bridge be moved and preserved; and
• The proposed reassembly of the historic Freedom Bridge satisfies a critical need in providing the necessary connectivity for the Monon High Bridge Trail, but is also appropriate because the bridge was built in the 1890s, the peak period of the “Bicycle Craze” of the day.

In accordance with the provisions of section 117 of the SAFETEA–LU Technical Corrections Act of 2008 (Pub. L. 110–244, 122 Stat. 1572), the FHWA is providing this notice as its finding that a waiver of Buy America requirements is appropriate. The FHWA invites public comment on this finding for an additional 15 days following the effective date of the finding. Comments may be submitted to the FHWA’s Web site via the link provided to the Indiana waiver page noted above.


Issued on: August 28, 2013.

Victor M. Mendez,
FHWA Administrator.

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