

meeting page Web site within 30 days following the workshop.

**Registration:** Members of the public may attend this free workshop. Please note that the public workshop will be webcast. The details on this meeting, including the location, times, agenda items, and link to the webcast, will be available on the meeting page (<https://primis.phmsa.dot.gov/meetings/MtgHome.mtg?mtg=112>) as they become available. Attendees, both in person and by webcast, are strongly encouraged to register in advance at (<https://primis.phmsa.dot.gov/meetings/MtgHome.mtg?mtg=112>) to help ensure accommodations are adequate.

**Comments:** Members of the public may also submit written comments either before or after the workshop. Comments should reference Docket No. PHMSA-2016-0021. Comments may be submitted in the following ways:

- **E-Gov Web site:** <http://www.regulations.gov>. This site allows the public to enter comments on any **Federal Register** notice issued by any agency. Follow the instructions for submitting comments.

- **Fax:** 1-202-493-2251.

- **Mail:** Docket Management System, U.S. Department of Transportation (DOT), 1200 New Jersey Avenue SE., Room W12-140, Washington, DC 20590.

- **Hand Delivery:** DOT Docket Management System, Room W12-140, on the ground floor of the West Building, 1200 New Jersey Avenue SE., Washington, DC between 9:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m., Monday through Friday, except federal holidays.

**Instructions:** Identify the docket number at the beginning of your comments. If you submit your comments by mail, submit two copies. If you wish to receive confirmation that PHMSA has received your comments, include a self-addressed stamped postcard. Internet users may submit comments at <http://www.regulations.gov>.

**Note:** Comments will be posted without changes or edits to <http://www.regulations.gov> including any personal information provided. Please see the Privacy Act Statement heading below for additional information.

### Privacy Act Statement

Anyone may search the electronic form of all comments received for any of our dockets. You may review DOT's complete Privacy Act Statement in the **Federal Register** published April 11, 2000, (65 FR 19476).

### Information on Services for Individuals With Disabilities

For information on facilities or services for individuals with disabilities, or to request special assistance at the meeting, please contact Kristen Beer, Office of Pipeline Safety, at 202-366-8405 or by email at [kristen.beer@dot.gov](mailto:kristen.beer@dot.gov).

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** David Lehman, Director, Emergency Support and Security Division, at 202-366-4439 or [david.lehman@dot.gov](mailto:david.lehman@dot.gov), regarding the subject matter in this notice.

### Introduction

The federal pipeline oil spill response plan regulations (49 CFR 194) require operators to prepare and submit a response plan in order to minimize the harm caused to the environment due to the discharge of oil into or on any inland navigable waters of the United States or adjoining shorelines. This workshop will focus on multi-agency alignment, operator compliance, and participation in required drills and exercises. Additionally, attendees and commenters will be given the opportunity to provide suggestions and recommendations for possible changes to the oil spill response regulations.

### Background

PHMSA wishes to gather information about the efficacy of the oil spill response plan regulations. PHMSA is aware that regulated entities and members of the public have requested greater direction and regulatory interpretation. PHMSA is also aware that its oil spill response plan regulations do not fully align with the regulations of other federal agencies that have been delegated jurisdiction under 42 U.S.C. 1321(j)(5). PHMSA is exploring ways to reduce redundancy, clarify language and improve efficacy of its oil spill response plan regulations.

PHMSA believes improving the response plan preparation and submission process is important for improving response actions, ensuring response capabilities, and minimizing harm to the environment. In particular, PHMSA is interested in collaboration with other jurisdictional federal agencies, operators, and oil spill response organizations.

Issued in Washington, DC, on March 24, 2016, under authority delegated in 49 CFR 1.97.

**Alan K. Mayberry,**

*Deputy Associate Administrator for Policy and Programs.*

[FR Doc. 2016-07096 Filed 3-29-16; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 4910-60-P**

## DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

### Office of the Secretary

#### Transportation Research and Development Strategic Plan

**AGENCY:** Office of the Assistant Secretary for Research and Technology (OST-R), Department of Transportation (DOT).

**ACTION:** Request for Information (RFI).

**SUMMARY:** Section 6019 of the Fixing America's Surface Transportation Act (FAST Act; Pub. L. 114-94; December 4, 2015; codified at 49 U.S.C. 6503) requires that the Secretary develop a 5-year transportation research and development strategic plan to guide future Federal transportation research and development activities. The FAST Act states that the strategic plan shall "describe how the plan furthers the primary purpose of the transportation research and development program.

**DATES:** Comments must be received by April 29, 2016.

**ADDRESSES:** To ensure that you do not duplicate your docket submissions, please submit them by only one of the following means:

- **Federal eRulemaking Portal:** Go to <http://www.regulations.gov> and follow the online instructions for submitting comments.

- **Mail:** U.S. Department of Transportation, Dockets Management Facility, Room W12-140, 1200 New Jersey Ave. SE., Washington, DC 20590-0001.

- **Hand Delivery:** West Building Ground Floor, Room W12-140, 1200 New Jersey Ave. SE., between 9 a.m. 5 p.m., Monday through Friday, except Federal holidays. The telephone number is (202) 366-9329.

All comments must include the docket number DOT-OST-2016-0044 at the beginning of the submission. All comments received will be posted without change to <http://www.regulations.gov>, including any personal information provided.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Aaron Jette, Community Planner, U.S. DOT Volpe Center, Attn: Aaron Jette; Office 460; 55 Broadway, Cambridge, MA 02142. Telephone (617) 494-2335 or Email [RDTPlan@dot.gov](mailto:RDTPlan@dot.gov).

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The FAST Act states that the strategic plan shall "describe how the plan furthers the primary purpose of the transportation research and development program, which shall include—

- (A) Improving mobility of people and goods;
- (B) Reducing congestion;

(C) Promoting safety;  
 (D) Improving the durability and extending the life of transportation infrastructure;

(E) Preserving the environment;  
 (F) Preserving the existing transportation system.”

The FAST Act also requires that the strategic plan take into account research and development by other Federal, State, local, private sector and non-profit institutions.

The Office of the Assistant Secretary for Research and Technology invites the public to provide comments to inform the development of the 5-year strategic plan for transportation Research, Development and Technology (RD&T). Comments should regard appropriate RD&T activities to meet the purposes and considerations listed in the FAST Act and/or emerging RD&T challenges, opportunities, and priorities that U.S. DOT RD&T should address over the next five years. In particular, comments may respond to any or all of the following questions:

1. What research strategies and priorities should the U.S. DOT adopt to achieve the primary purposes cited in the FAST Act?

2. How can the issues raised in the U.S. DOT document “*Beyond Traffic 2045: Trends and Choices*” be strategically addressed by RD&T activities over the next five years?

3. What emerging challenges or opportunities in transportation warrant additional Federal RD&T activities or investments?

4. What current and planned RD&T activities sponsored by the federal government should be continued or revised in the future?

5. What strategies could improve the cost-effectiveness of U.S. DOT research investments?

6. How can U.S. DOT best coordinate its RD&T activities with Federal, State, local, private sector, non-profit institutions, and international partners?

7. What knowledge gaps merit additional exploration by the USDOT?

For information about current U.S. DOT RD&T activities please visit the Department’s Web site at: <https://www.transportation.gov/research-and-statistics>.

The U.S. DOT RD&T Strategic Plan will present the Department’s strategy for responding to the trends and opportunities identified in *Beyond Traffic 2045: Trends and Choices* ([www.transportation.gov/BeyondTraffic](http://www.transportation.gov/BeyondTraffic)). *Beyond Traffic* examines the long-term and emerging trends affecting our Nation’s transportation system and the implications of those trends. It describes

how demographic and economic trends, as well as changes in technology, governance, and our climate are affecting how people and goods travel today, and how they could affect travel in the future. *Beyond Traffic* provides a framework for identifying U.S. DOT RD&T priorities that will advance technologies and inform decisions regarding how we move, how we move things, how we move better, how we adapt, and how we align decisions and dollars.

Issued in Washington, DC, on March 23, 2016.

**Gregory D. Winfree,**

*Assistant Secretary for Research and Technology.*

[FR Doc. 2016–07139 Filed 3–29–16; 8:45 am]

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## DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

### Office of the Secretary of Transportation

[Docket No. DOT–OST–2016–0037]

#### Notice of order soliciting community proposals

**AGENCY:** Department of Transportation, Office of the Secretary.

**ACTION:** Notice of order soliciting community proposals (Order 2016–3–32).

**SUMMARY:** The Department of Transportation is soliciting proposals from communities or consortia of communities interested in receiving grants under the Small Community Air Service Development Program. The full text of the Department’s order, including Appendices, is included in this Notice. As noted in the order, an application for a grant under this program must include a Grant Proposal of no more than 20 pages (one-sided only), a completed Application for Federal Domestic Assistance (SF424), a Summary Information Schedule, and any letters from the applicant community showing support.

**DATES:** Applications must be submitted no later than May 2, 2016.

**ADDRESSES:** Communities must submit applications electronically through <http://www.grants.gov>.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Brooke Chapman, Associate Director, Small Community Air Service Development Program, Office of Aviation Analysis, 1200 New Jersey Avenue SE., W86–307, Washington, DC 20590, (202) 366 0577.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** By this order, the U.S. Department of

Transportation (the Department or DOT) invites proposals from communities and/or consortia of communities interested in obtaining a federal grant under the Small Community Air Service Development Program (“Small Community Program” or “SCASDP”) to address air service and airfare issues in their communities. Subject to the availability of funding, the Department has up to \$5 million available for FY 2016 grant awards to carry out this program. There is no other limitation on the amount of individual awards, and the amounts awarded will vary depending upon the features and merits of the selected proposals. In past years, the Department’s individual grant sizes have ranged from \$20,000 to nearly \$1.6 million. Funding amounts made available for reimbursement may be impacted by future limitations placed on the spending authority and appropriations enacted for the Department. *OST cannot award grants until the enactment of authorizing legislation, an appropriations act, budget authority, and apportionment from the Office of Management and Budget (OMB).* OST may, at its discretion, issue partial funding awards up to the level authorized and provided that the above conditions are met. Additional information on the budget process may be found in OMB A–11: [http://www.whitehouse.gov/omb/circulars\\_default/](http://www.whitehouse.gov/omb/circulars_default/).

*Applications of no more than 20 one-sided pages each (excluding the completed Application for Federal Domestic Assistance (SF424), Summary Information schedule, and any letters from the community or an air carrier showing support for the application), including all required information, must be submitted to [www.grants.gov](http://www.grants.gov) no later than 5:00 p.m. EDT on May 2, 2016.* Applicants are strongly encouraged to submit applications in advance of the deadline. Please be aware that applicants must complete the grants.gov registration process before submitting an application, and that this process usually takes two to four weeks to complete.<sup>1</sup> The Department will not accept late-filed applications except under limited circumstances related to technical difficulties. Additional information on applying through grants.gov is in Appendix A, including a notice regarding late-filed applications.

<sup>1</sup> If an applicant experiences difficulties at any point during the registration or application process, it should contact the grants.gov support center by email ([support@grants.gov](mailto:support@grants.gov)) or by telephone (1–800–518–4726, available 24/7 except Federal holidays). See [www.grants.gov/web/grants/support.html](http://www.grants.gov/web/grants/support.html).