

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION**Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration****Sunshine Act Meetings; Unified Carrier Registration Plan Board of Directors**

AGENCY: Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration (FMCSA), DOT.

ACTION: Notice of Unified Carrier Registration Plan Board of Directors Meeting.

TIME AND DATE: The meeting will be held on August 24, 2017, from 1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m., Pacific Daylight Time.

PLACE: The meetings will be open to the public at the Double Tree Suites Doheny Beach, 34402 Pacific Coast Highway, Dana Point, CA 92629, and via conference call. Those not attending the meeting in person may call 1-877-422-1931, passcode 2855443940, to listen and participate in the meeting.

STATUS: Open to the public.

MATTERS TO BE CONSIDERED: The Unified Carrier Registration Plan Board of Directors (the Board) will continue its work in developing and implementing the Unified Carrier Registration Plan and Agreement and to that end, may consider matters properly before the Board.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Mr. Avelino Gutierrez, Chair, Unified Carrier Registration Board of Directors at (505) 827-4565.

Issued on: August 18, 2017.

Larry W. Minor,

Associate Administrator for Policy, Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration.

[FR Doc. 2017-17903 Filed 8-21-17; 11:15 am]

BILLING CODE 4910-EX-P

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION**Federal Transit Administration****Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO): Solicitation of Project Proposals for the Passenger Ferry Grant Program**

AGENCY: Federal Transit Administration (FTA), DOT.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: The Federal Transit Administration (FTA) announces the opportunity to apply for \$30 million in Fiscal Year (FY) 2017 Section 5307 Urbanized Area Formula Program funds (Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance #20.507) authorized for competitively selected passenger ferry projects. As required by Federal transit law and subject to funding availability, funds will be awarded competitively to

designated recipients or eligible direct recipients of Section 5307 funds to assist in the financing of capital projects to support existing passenger ferry service, establish new ferry service, and to repair and modernize ferry boats, terminals, and related facilities and equipment. FTA may award additional funding made available to the program prior to the announcement of project selections.

DATES: Complete proposals must be submitted electronically through the *GRANTS.GOV* “APPLY” function by 11:59 p.m. EDT October 23, 2017. Prospective applicants should initiate the process by registering on the *GRANTS.GOV* Web site promptly to ensure completion of the application process before the submission deadline. Instructions for applying can be found on FTA’s Web site at <http://transit.dot.gov/howtoapply> and in the “FIND” module of *GRANTS.GOV*. The funding opportunity ID is FTA-2017-005-TPM-PF. Mail and fax submissions will not be accepted.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Vanessa Williams, FTA Office of Program Management, (202) 366-4818, or Vanessa.williams@dot.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**Table of Contents**

- A. Program Description
 - B. Federal Award Information
 - C. Eligibility
 - D. Application and Submission Information
 - E. Application Review
 - F. Federal Award Administration
 - G. Federal Awarding Agency Contact(s)
 - H. Technical Assistance and Other Program Information
- Appendix A: Frequently Asked Questions

A. Program Description

Section 5307(h) of Title 49, United States Code, as amended by the Fixing America’s Surface Transportation (FAST Act) (Pub. L. 114-94, Dec. 4, 2015), authorizes FTA to award funds through a competitive process, as described in this notice, for capital projects to improve the condition and quality of existing passenger ferry services, support the establishment of new passenger ferry services, and to repair and modernize ferry boats, terminals, and related facilities and equipment. FTA recognizes that passenger ferries provide critical and cost-effective transportation links in urban areas throughout the United States but face a critical backlog of state of good repair and safety investments.

B. Federal Award Information 5307(h) Passenger Ferry Grant Program

Federal transit law authorizes \$30 million in FY 2017 for passenger ferry grants under 49 U.S.C. 5307(h) (Ferry program). FTA may supplement the total available with future appropriations. FTA will grant pre-award authority to incur costs for selected projects beginning on the date that project selections are announced. Funds are only available for projects that have not already incurred costs and will be available for obligation until September 30, 2022. In FY 2015 and FY 2016, the program received 21 proposals from 10 states and the U.S. Virgin Islands requesting \$98.1 million in Federal funds. Eighteen projects were funded at a total of \$58.9 million.

C. Eligibility Information*1. Eligible Applicants*

Eligible applicants under this program must be designated recipients or eligible direct recipients of Section 5307 funds, which include public entities engaged in providing a public transportation passenger ferry service in urbanized areas. If the recipient is eligible to receive 5307 funds, but does not currently have an active grant with FTA, upon selection, the recipient will be required to work with the FTA regional office to establish its organization as an active grantee. This process may require additional documentation to support the organization’s technical, financial, and legal capacity to receive and administer Federal funds under this program.

2. Cost Sharing or Matching

Projects funded under the Section 5307(h) program are eligible for a maximum 80 percent Federal share, unless they qualify for one of the following exceptions:

The Federal share is 85 percent for net project costs for acquiring vehicles (including Clean-fuel or alternative fuel) that are compliant with the Clean Air Act (CAA) or compliant with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) of 1990.

The Federal share is 90 percent for net project costs for vehicle-related equipment or facilities (including clean-fuel or alternative-fuel vehicle-related equipment or facilities) required by the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) of 1990, or for purposes of complying with or maintaining compliance with the Clean Air Act.

The FTA considers vehicle-related equipment to be equipment on or attached to the vehicle. The award recipient may itemize the cost of specific, discrete, vehicle-related

equipment being purchased to be in compliance with ADA or CAA.

After the appropriate Federal share is established, the applicant must provide the local share of the net project cost and must document in its grant application the source of the local match. The local match may include:

- i. Cash from non-governmental sources other than revenues from providing public transportation services;
- ii. Non-farebox revenues from the operation of public transportation service, such as the sale of advertising and concession revenues. A voluntary or mandatory fee that a college, university, or similar institution imposes on all its students for free or discounted transit service that is not farebox revenue;
- iii. Monies received under a service agreement with a State or local social service agency or private social service organization;
- iv. Undistributed cash surpluses, replacement or depreciation cash funds, reserves available in cash, or new capital;
- v. Amounts appropriated or otherwise made available to a department or agency of the Government (other than the U.S. Department of Transportation);
- vi. In-kind contribution such as the market value of in-kind contributions integral to the project may be counted as a contribution toward local share;
- vii. Revenue bond proceeds for a capital project, with prior FTA approval; and
- viii. Transportation Development Credits (TDC) (formerly referred to as Toll Revenue Credits). Please refer to FTA Circular 9030 for more information regarding the use of TDCs.

Note: FTA will not retroactively approve TDCs as match if they are not included in the proposal submitted under this competition.

3. Eligible Projects

Eligible projects are capital projects for the purchase, replacement, or rehabilitation of ferries, terminals, related infrastructure, related equipment (including fare equipment and communication devices) and expansion. Projects are required to support a passenger ferry service that operates within an urbanized area, as defined under Federal transit law, but may include services that operate between an urbanized area and non-urbanized areas. Ferry systems that accommodate cars must also accommodate walk-on passengers in order to be eligible for funding.

Recipients are permitted to use up to 0.5 percent of their requested grant

award for workforce development activities eligible under 49 U.S.C. 5314(b) and an additional 0.5 percent for costs associated with training at the National Transit Institute. Applicants must identify the proposed use of funds for these activities in the project proposal and identify them separately in the project budget.

C. Application and Submission Information

1. Address To Request Application Package

Applications must be submitted electronically through *GRANTS.GOV*. General information for submitting applications through *GRANTS.GOV* can be found at www.fta.dot.gov/howtoapply along with specific instructions for the forms and attachments required for submission. Mail and fax submissions will not be accepted. A complete proposal submission consists of *at least* two forms: The SF424 Mandatory Form (downloaded from *GRANTS.GOV*) and the supplemental form for the FY 2017 Passenger Ferry Grant Program (downloaded from *GRANTS.GOV* or the FTA Web site at <https://www.transit.dot.gov/funding/grants/passenger-ferry-grant-program-section-5307>). Failure to submit the information as requested can delay review or disqualify the application.

2. Content and Form of Application Submission

i. Proposal Submission

A complete proposal submission consists of *at least* two forms: (1) The SF424 Mandatory Form; and (2) the supplemental form for the FY 2017 Passenger Ferry Grant Program. The application must include responses to all sections of the SF424 Mandatory Form and the supplemental form, unless indicated as optional. The information on the supplemental form will be used to determine applicant and project eligibility for the program, and to evaluate the proposal against the selection criteria described in part E of this notice.

An applicant may submit multiple project proposals in a single submission, but must include all project proposals on a single supplemental form. To add additional projects, select the "add project" button and complete a separate "project detail" section for each project. FTA will only accept one supplemental form per submission.

The supplemental form must be submitted as an attachment to the SF424 Mandatory Form. All project proposals will be evaluated separately, regardless

of whether they are submitted as a single submission.

An applicant may submit additional supporting documentation for each project proposal as attachments. Any supporting documentation must be described and referenced by file name in the appropriate response section of the supplemental form, or it may not be reviewed.

Information such as proposer name, Federal amount requested, local match amount, description of areas served, etc. may be requested in varying degrees of detail on both the SF424 form and Supplemental Form. Proposers must fill in all fields unless stated otherwise on the forms. If information is copied into the supplemental form from another source, applicants should verify that pasted text is fully captured on the supplemental form and has not been truncated by the character limits built into the form. Proposers should use both the "Check Package for Errors" and the "Validate Form" validation buttons on both forms to check all required fields on the forms, and ensure that the Federal and local amounts specified are consistent.

ii. Application Content

The SF424 Mandatory Form and the Supplemental Form will prompt applicants for the required information, including:

- a. Applicant Name
- b. Dun and Bradstreet (D&B) Data Universal Numbering System (DUNS) number
- c. Key contact information (including contact name, address, email address, and phone)
- d. Congressional district(s) where project will take place
- e. Project Information (including title, an executive summary, and type)
- f. A detailed description of the need for the project
- g. A detailed description on how the project will support the Ferry program objectives
- h. Evidence that the project is consistent with local and regional planning documents
- i. Evidence that the applicant can provide the local cost share
- j. A description of the technical, legal, and financial capacity of the applicant
- k. A detailed project budget
- l. An explanation of the scalability of the project
- m. Details on the local matching funds
- n. A detailed project timeline

3. Unique Entity Identifier and System for Award Management (SAM)

Each applicant is required to: (1) Be registered in SAM before submitting an

application; (2) provide a valid unique entity identifier in its application; and (3) continue to maintain an active SAM registration with current information at all times during which the applicant has an active Federal award or an application or plan under consideration by FTA. These requirements do not apply if the applicant: (1) is an individual; (2) is excepted from the requirements under 2 CFR 25.110(b) or (c); or (3) has an exception approved by FTA under 2 CFR 25.110(d). FTA may not make an award until the applicant has complied with all applicable unique entity identifier and SAM requirements. If an applicant has not fully complied with the requirements by the time FTA is ready to make an award, FTA may determine that the applicant is not qualified to receive an award and use that determination as a basis for making a Federal award to another applicant. All applicants must provide a unique entity identifier provided by SAM. Registration in SAM may take as little as 3–5 business days, but since there could be unexpected steps or delays (for example, if you need to obtain an Employer Identification Number), FTA recommends allowing ample time, up to several weeks, for completion of all steps. For additional information on obtaining a unique entity identifier, please visit www.sam.gov.

4. Submission Dates and Times

Project proposals must be submitted electronically through *GRANTS.GOV* by 11:59 p.m. EDT on October 23, 2017. *GRANTS.GOV* attaches a time stamp to each application at the time of submission. Proposals submitted after the deadline will only be considered under extraordinary circumstances not under the applicant's control. Mail and fax submissions will not be accepted.

Within 48 hours after submitting an electronic application, the applicant should receive three email messages from *GRANTS.GOV*: (1) Confirmation of successful transmission to *GRANTS.GOV*, (2) confirmation of successful validation by *GRANTS.GOV*, and (3) confirmation of successful validation by FTA. If confirmations of successful validation are not received or a notice of failed validation or incomplete materials is received, the applicant must address the reason for the failed validation, as described in the email notice, and resubmit before the submission deadline. If making a resubmission for any reason, include all original attachments regardless of which attachments were updated and check the box on the supplemental form indicating this is a resubmission.

FTA urges proposers to submit applications at least 72 hours prior to the due date to allow time to receive the validation messages and to correct any problems that may have caused a rejection notification. *GRANTS.GOV* scheduled maintenance and outage times are announced on the *GRANTS.GOV* Web site. Deadlines will not be extended due to scheduled Web site maintenance.

Proposers are encouraged to begin the process of registration on the *GRANTS.GOV* site well in advance of the submission deadline. Registration is a multi-step process, which may take several weeks to complete before an application can be submitted. Registered proposers may still be required to take steps to keep their registration up to date before submissions can be made successfully: (1) Registration in the System for Award Management (SAM) is renewed annually; and, (2) persons making submissions on behalf of the Authorized Organization Representative (AOR) must be authorized in *GRANTS.GOV* by the AOR to make submissions.

5. Funding Restrictions

Funds made available under the Ferry program may not be used to fund operating expenses, planning, or preventive maintenance.

6. Other Submission Requirements

Applicants are encouraged to identify scaled funding options in case insufficient funding is available to fund a project at the full requested amount. If an applicant indicates that a project is scalable, the applicant must provide an appropriate minimum funding amount that will fund an eligible project that achieves the objectives of the program and meets all relevant program requirements. The applicant must provide a clear explanation of how the project budget would be affected by a reduced award. FTA may award a lesser amount whether or not a scalable option is provided.

E. Application Review Information

i. Criteria: Projects will be evaluated primarily on the responses provided in the supplemental form. Additional information may be provided to support the responses; however, any additional documentation must be directly referenced on the supplemental form, including the file name where the additional information can be found. FTA will evaluate project proposals for competitive passenger ferry grants based on the criteria described in this notice.

1. Demonstration of Need

Applications will be evaluated based on the quality and extent to which they demonstrate how the proposed project will address an unmet need for capital investment in passenger ferry vehicles, equipment, and/or facilities. FTA will also evaluate the project's impact on service delivery and whether the project represents a one-time or periodic need that cannot reasonably be funded from FTA formula program allocations or State and/or local resources. In evaluating applications, FTA will consider, among other factors, certain project-specific criteria as outlined below:

i. For vessel replacement or rehabilitation projects:

- The age of the asset to be replaced or rehabilitated by the proposed project, relative to its useful life.
- Condition and performance of the asset to be replaced by the proposed project, as ascertained through inspections or otherwise, if available.

ii. For infrastructure (facility) improvements or related-equipment acquisitions:

- The age of the facility or equipment to be rehabilitated or replaced relative to its useful life.
- The degree to which the proposed project will enable the agency to improve the maintenance and condition of the agency's fleet and/or other related ferry assets.

iii. For expansion or new service requests (vessel or facility-related):

- The degree to which the proposed project addresses a current capacity constraint that is limiting the ability of the agency to provide reliable service, meet ridership demands, or maintain vessels and related-equipment.
- The degree the proposed new service is supported by ridership demand.

iv. Additional consideration will be given to projects in which the beneficiary of the award contributes a greater share of the total project costs.

2. Demonstration of Benefits

Applications will be evaluated based on how the ferry project will improve the safety and state of good repair of the system or provide additional transportation options to potential riders within the service area. FTA will consider potential benefits such as increased reliability of service, improved operations or maintenance capabilities, or expanded mobility options, intermodal connections, and economic benefits to the community.

3. Planning and Local/Regional Prioritization

Applications will be evaluated based on whether the proposed project is consistent with local and regional planning documents and identified priorities. In particular, FTA will evaluate applications based on the quality and extent to which they assess whether the project is consistent with the transit priorities identified in the long-range transportation plan and/or the State and Metropolitan Transportation Improvement Program (STIP/TIP). Proposers should note if the project could not be included in the financially constrained STIP or TIP due to lack of funding; however, if selected, the project must be in the federally approved STIP before grant award.

FTA encourages applicants to demonstrate local support by including letters of support from State Departments of Transportation, local transit agencies and other relevant stakeholders. In an area with both ferry and other public transit operators, FTA will evaluate whether project proposals demonstrate coordination with and support of other related projects within the proposer's Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) or the geographic region within which the proposed project will operate.

4. Project Readiness

FTA will evaluate the extent to which the project is ready to be implemented. This will involve assessing whether the project is a Categorical Exclusion (CE) or if required environmental work has been initiated or completed for construction projects requiring an Environmental Assessment (EA) or Environmental Impact Statement (EIS).

FTA will consider whether project implementation plans are ready, including initial design of facility projects, the TIP/STIP can be amended (evidenced by MPO/State endorsement), whether local match is available, whether the project funds can be obligated within 12 months from time of selection, and whether the project will require a Buy America waiver.

5. Technical, Legal, and Financial Capacity

Applicants must demonstrate that they have the technical, legal and financial capacity to undertake the project. FTA will review relevant oversight assessments and records to determine whether there are any outstanding legal, technical, or financial issues with the applicant that would affect the outcome of the proposed project.

6. Connectivity to Other Modes of Transportation

FTA will evaluate the degree to which the ferry service to be supported by the proposed project provides service that is integrated with other regional modes of transportation, including but not limited to: Rail, bus, intercity bus, and private transportation providers. Supporting documentation should include data that demonstrates the number of trips (passengers and vehicles), the number of walk-on passengers, and the frequency of transfers to other modes (if applicable).

ii. Review and Selection Process

In addition to other FTA staff that may review the proposals, a technical evaluation committee will evaluate proposals based on the published evaluation criteria. Members of the technical evaluation committee and other FTA staff may request additional information from applicants, if necessary. Based on the findings of the technical evaluation committee, the FTA Administrator will determine the final selection of projects for program funding. FTA may consider geographic diversity, diversity in the size of the transit systems receiving funding, and/or the applicant's receipt of other competitive awards in determining the allocation of program funds. FTA may give additional consideration to projects in which the beneficiary of the award contributes a greater share of the total project costs. FTA may consider capping the amount a single applicant may receive.

F. Federal Award Administration

1. Federal Award Notices

Subsequent to an announcement by the FTA Administrator of the final project selections, which will be posted on the FTA Web site, FTA will publish a list of the selected projects, Federal award amounts, and recipients in the **Federal Register**. Project recipients should contact their FTA Regional Offices for additional information regarding allocations for projects under the Ferry program.

At the time the project selections are announced, FTA will extend pre-award authority for the selected projects. There is no blanket pre-award authority for these projects before announcement.

2. Award Administration

Funds under the Ferry program are available to designated recipients or eligible direct recipients of Section 5307 funds. There is no minimum or maximum grant award amount; however, FTA intends to fund as many

meritorious projects as possible. Only proposals from eligible recipients for eligible activities will be considered for funding. Due to funding limitations, proposers that are selected for funding may receive less than the amount originally requested. In those cases, applicants must be able to demonstrate that the proposed projects are still viable and can be completed with the amount awarded.

3. Administrative and National Policy Requirements

i. Pre-Award Authority

FTA will issue specific guidance to recipients regarding pre-award authority at the time of selection. FTA does not provide pre-award authority for competitive funds until projects are selected and even then there are Federal requirements that must be met before costs are incurred. For more information about FTA's policy on pre-award authority, please see the FY 2017 Apportionment Notice published on January 19, 2017. <https://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/FR-2017-01-19/pdf/2017-01194.pdf>.

ii. Grant Requirements

If selected, awardees will apply for a grant through FTA's Transit Award Management System (TrAMS). All Ferry recipients are subject to the grant requirements of Section 5307 Urbanized Area Formula Grant program, including those of FTA Circular 9030.1. All recipients must follow the Award Management Requirements Circular 5010.1E, and the labor protections of 49 U.S.C. 5333(b). All competitive grants, regardless of award amount, will be subject to the congressional notification and release process. Technical assistance regarding these requirements is available from each FTA regional office.

iii. Buy America

FTA requires that all capital procurements meet FTA's Buy America requirements that require all iron, steel, or manufactured products be produced in the U.S., to help create and protect manufacturing jobs in the U.S. The Ferry program will have a significant economic impact toward meeting the objectives of the Buy America law. The FAST Act amended the Buy America requirements, 49 U.S.C. 5323(j), to provide for a phased increase in the domestic content for rolling stock. For FY 2016 and FY 2017, the cost of components and subcomponents produced in the United States must be more than 60 percent of the cost of all components. For FY 2018 and FY 2019,

the cost of components and subcomponents produced in the United States must be more than 65 percent of the cost of all components. For FY 2020 and beyond, the cost of components and subcomponents produced in the United States must be more than 70 percent of the cost of all components. There is no change to the requirement that final assembly of rolling stock must occur in the United States. The Buy America requirements can be found in 49 CFR part 661 and additional guidance on the implementation of the phased increase in domestic content can be found at 81 FR 60278 (Sept. 1, 2016). Any proposal that will require a waiver must identify the items for which a waiver will be sought in the application. Applicants should not proceed with the expectation that waivers will be granted.

iv. Disadvantaged Business Enterprise

Projects that include ferry acquisitions are subject to the Disadvantaged Business Enterprise (DBE) program regulations at 49 CFR part 26 and ferry manufacturers must be certified Transit Vehicle Manufacturers (TVMs) to be eligible to bid on an FTA-assisted ferry procurement. The rule requires that, prior to bidding on any FTA-assisted vehicle procurement, entities that manufacture ferries must submit a DBE Program plan and annual goal methodology to FTA. The FTA will then issue a TVM concurrence/certification letter. Grant recipients must verify each entity's compliance before accepting its bid. A list of certified TVMs is posted on FTA's Web page at <http://www.fta.dot.gov/civilrights/12891.html>. Recipients should contact FTA before accepting bids from entities not listed on this Web-posting. In lieu of using a certified TVM, recipients may also establish project specific DBE goals for ferry purchases. The FTA will provide additional guidance as grants are awarded. For more information on DBE requirements, please contact Janelle Hinton, Office of Civil Rights, 202-366-9259, email: janelle.hinton@dot.gov.

v. Planning

FTA encourages proposers to notify the appropriate State Departments of Transportation and MPOs in areas likely to be served by the project funds made available under these initiatives and programs. Selected projects must be incorporated into the long-range plans and transportation improvement programs of States and metropolitan areas before they are eligible for FTA funding.

vi. Standard Assurances

The applicant assures that it will comply with all applicable Federal statutes, regulations, executive orders, directives, FTA circulars, and other Federal administrative requirements in carrying out any project supported by the FTA grant. The applicant acknowledges that it is under a continuing obligation to comply with the terms and conditions of the grant agreement issued for its project with FTA. The applicant understands that Federal laws, regulations, policies, and administrative practices might be modified from time to time and may affect the implementation of the project. The applicant agrees that the most recent Federal requirements will apply to the project, unless FTA issues a written determination otherwise. The applicant must submit the Certifications and Assurances before receiving a grant if it does not have current certifications on file.

4. Reporting

Post-award reporting requirements include the electronic submission of Federal Financial Reports and Milestone Progress Reports in FTA's electronic grants management system.

G. Federal Awarding Agency Contacts

For further information concerning this notice, please contact the Ferry program manager Vanessa Williams by phone at 202-366-4818, or by email at vanessa.williams@dot.gov. A TDD is available for individuals who are deaf or hard of hearing at 800-877-8339. In addition, FTA will post answers to questions and requests for clarifications on FTA's Web site at <https://www.transit.dot.gov/funding/grants/passenger-ferry-grant-program-section-5307>. To ensure applicants receive accurate information about eligibility or the program, the applicant is encouraged to contact FTA directly, rather than through intermediaries or third parties. FTA staff may also conduct briefings on the FY 2017 competitive grants selection and award process upon request.

H. Technical Assistance and Other Program Information

This program is not subject to Executive Order 12372, "Intergovernmental Review of Federal Programs." FTA will consider applications for funding only from eligible recipients for eligible projects listed in Section C. Complete applications must be submitted through GRANTS.GOV by 11:59 p.m. EDT on October 23, 2017. For issues with GRANTS.GOV please contact

GRANTS.GOV by phone at 1-800-518-4726 or by email at support@grants.gov.

Contact information for FTA's regional offices can be found on FTA's Web site at www.fta.dot.gov.

Matthew J. Welbes,
Executive Director.

Appendix A

Ferry Program

Frequently Asked Questions

1. What is a designated recipient?
Answer: A designated recipient is an entity designated by the governor of a state, responsible local official, and publicly owned operators of public transportation to receive and apportion amounts under Section 5336 to urbanized areas of 200,000 or more in population, or a state or regional authority, if the authority is responsible under the laws of a state for a capital project and for financing and directly providing public transportation.
2. What is a direct recipient?
Answer: A direct recipient is an eligible entity authorized by a designated recipient or state to receive Urbanized Area Formula Program funds directly from FTA.
3. Is there a list of designated recipients under Section 5307?
Answer: Contact the FTA regional office for help with identifying the 5307 designated recipient in your area. The regional office contact information can be found at www.fta.dot.gov.
4. How can an entity determine whether it operates within the area of a Census-designated urbanized area?
Answer: Contact the FTA regional office to determine the designated urbanized area. The regional contact information can be found at www.fta.dot.gov.
5. Can I apply if I am not currently a direct recipient?
Answer: Yes, FTA will accept applications from entities in urbanized areas that are eligible to be direct recipients, even if they are currently not a direct recipient.
6. How can I apply if I am not an eligible direct recipient or designated recipient?
Answer: Coordinate the project with the designated or eligible direct recipient for that entity to apply on your behalf. However, if your project is selected for an award, the designated or eligible direct recipient would obligate the funds.
7. Can State DOTs apply on behalf of public agencies within the state in which they administer FTA funds?
Answer: Yes, as long as the service is within an urbanized area.
8. If an agency previously received 5307 funds but now receives 5311 funds, can they still apply?
Answer: No, Section 5311 rural providers are not eligible to apply for the Passenger Ferry Grant Program. Applicants must be eligible designated or direct recipients of Section 5307.
9. Is a new start eligible under the Ferry program?
Answer: Capital for new systems is eligible if the project is not in the planning phase.

Planning activities are not eligible under this competition.

10. Are public car-ferries eligible?

Answer: Ferry systems that accommodate cars must also accommodate walk-on passengers in order to be eligible.

11. Is the construction of a ferry maintenance facility an eligible capital project?

Answer: Yes.

12. Is a new vessel construction funded by FTA grants considered a public work or rolling stock and therefore subject to Davis Bacon?

Answer: Yes, a new vessel construction is rolling stock. Davis Bacon applies to construction, alteration, or repairs of public buildings or public works, but it does not apply to rolling stock.

13. Does the term "terminals & related infrastructure" projects include the floating docks and access ramps where the passengers board?

Answer: Yes.

14. Is there a difference between the FTA's Passenger Ferry Grant Program and FHWA's Ferry Boat Formula Grant Funding Program?

Answer: There may be subtle differences between FTA's and FHWA's programs. However, FHWA no longer has a competitive program. It is now a formula program. Please refer to FHWA's page for more information: <http://www.fhwa.dot.gov/>.

15. What is the grant process after an entity is selected?

Answer: An agency would work with the FTA regional office to apply for the funds in FTA's electronic management system. The **Federal Register** announcing selection will also provide grant-making instructions.

[FR Doc. 2017-17814 Filed 8-22-17; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4910-57-P

DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY

Bureau of the Fiscal Service

Proposed Collection of Information: U.S. Treasury Auction Submitter Agreement

ACTION: Notice and request for comments.

SUMMARY: The Department of the Treasury, as part of its continuing effort to reduce paperwork and respondent burden, invites the general public and other Federal agencies to take this opportunity to comment on proposed and/or continuing information collections, as required by the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995. Currently the Bureau of the Fiscal Service within the Department of the Treasury is soliciting comments concerning Automatic Enrollment Individual Retirement Accounts (Auto-IRAs).

DATES: Written comments should be received on or before October 23, 2017 to be assured of consideration.

ADDRESSES: Direct all written comments and requests for additional information to Bureau of the Fiscal Service, Bruce A. Sharp, 200 Third Street A4-A, Parkersburg, WV 26106-1328, or bruce.sharp@fiscal.treasury.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Title: Resolution for Transactions Involving Treasury Securities.

OMB Number: 1530-0056.

Transfer of OMB Control Number: The Bureau of Public Debt (BPD) and Financial Management Service (FMS) have consolidated to become the Bureau of the Fiscal Service (Fiscal Service). Information collection requests previously held separately by BPD and FMS will now be identified by a 1530 prefix, designating Fiscal Service.

Form Number: FS Form 5441.

Abstract: The information is requested from entities wishing to participate in U.S. Treasury Securities auctions via TAAPSLink.

Current Actions: Extension of a currently approved collection.

Type of Review: Regular.

Affected Public: Depository Institutions, Brokers/Dealers, Assessment Management Companies, Pension Funds, and other Institutional Investors.

Estimated Number of Respondents: 1000.

Estimated Time Per Respondent: 5 minutes.

Estimated Total Annual Burden Hours: 80.

Request for Comments: Comments submitted in response to this notice will be summarized and/or included in the request for OMB approval. All comments will become a matter of public record. Comments are invited on: 1. Whether the collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the agency, including whether the information shall have practical utility; 2. the accuracy of the agency's estimate of the burden of the collection of information; 3. ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; 4. ways to minimize the burden of the collection of information on respondents, including through the use of automated collection techniques or other forms of information technology; and 5. estimates of capital or start-up costs and costs of operation, maintenance, and purchase of services to provide information.

Dated: August 18, 2017.

Bruce A. Sharp,

Bureau Clearance Officer.

[FR Doc. 2017-17815 Filed 8-22-17; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4810-AS-P

DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS

[OMB Control No. 2900-0670]

Agency Information Collection Activity Under OMB Review: Fiduciary Statement in Support of Appointment

AGENCY: Veterans Benefits Administration, Department of Veterans Affairs.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: In compliance with the Paperwork Reduction Act (PRA) of 1995, this notice announces that the Veterans Benefits Administration (VBA), Department of Veterans Affairs, will submit the collection of information abstracted below to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for review and comment. The PRA submission describes the nature of the information collection and its expected cost and burden and it includes the actual data collection instrument.

DATES: Written comments and recommendations on the proposed collection of information should be received on or before September 22, 2017.

ADDRESSES: Submit written comments on the collection of information through www.Regulations.gov, or to Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs, Office of Management and Budget, Attn: VA Desk Officer; 725 17th St. NW., Washington, DC 20503 or sent through electronic mail to oir_submission@omb.eop.gov. Please refer to "OMB Control No. 2900-0670" in any correspondence. During the comment period, comments may be viewed online through the FDMS.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Cynthia Harvey-Pryor, Enterprise Records Service (005R1B), Department of Veterans Affairs, 810 Vermont Avenue NW., Washington, DC 20420, (202) 461-5870 or email cynthia.harvey-pryor@va.gov. Please refer to "OMB Control No. 2900-0670" in any correspondence.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Authority: Public Law 104-13; 44 U.S.C. 3501-3521.

Title: Fiduciary Statement in Support of Appointment (VA Form 21P-0792).

OMB Control Number: 2900-0670.

Type of Review: Revision of a currently approved collection.

Abstract: VA Form 21P-0792 will be completed by individuals who are seeking to be appointed as fiduciaries of VA beneficiaries. The information will be used by VA field examiners to