

I. Public Participation and Request for Comments

FMCSA encourages you to participate by submitting comments and related materials.

Submitting Comments

If you submit a comment, please include the docket number for this notice (FMCSA–2018–0182), indicate the specific section of this document to which the comment applies, and provide a reason for suggestions or recommendations. You may submit your comments and material online or by fax, mail, or hand delivery, but please use only one of these means. FMCSA recommends that you include your name and a mailing address, an email address, or a phone number in the body of your document so the Agency can contact you if it has questions regarding your submission.

To submit your comment online, go to www.regulations.gov and put the docket number, “FMCSA–2018–0182” in the “Keyword” box, and click “Search.” When the new screen appears, click on “Comment Now!” button and type your comment into the text box in the following screen. Choose whether you are submitting your comment as an individual or on behalf of a third party and then submit. If you submit your comments by mail or hand delivery, submit them in an unbound format, no larger than 8½ by 11 inches, suitable for copying and electronic filing. If you submit comments by mail and would like to know that they reached the facility, please enclose a stamped, self-addressed postcard or envelope. FMCSA will consider all comments and material received during the comment period and may grant or not grant this application based on your comments.

II. Legal Basis

FMCSA has authority under 49 U.S.C. 31136(e) and 31315 to grant exemptions from certain Federal Motor Carrier Safety Regulations (FMCSRs). FMCSA must publish a notice of each exemption request in the **Federal Register** (49 CFR 381.315(a)). The Agency must provide the public an opportunity to inspect the information relevant to the application, including any safety analyses that have been conducted. The Agency must also provide an opportunity for public comment on the request.

The Agency reviews safety analyses and public comments submitted, and determines whether granting the exemption would likely achieve a level of safety equivalent to, or greater than, the level that would be achieved by the current regulation (49 CFR 381.305).

The decision of the Agency must be published in the **Federal Register** (49 CFR 381.315(b)) with the reasons for denying or granting the application and, if granted, the name of the person or class of persons receiving the exemption, and the regulatory provision from which the exemption is granted. The notice must also specify the effective period and explain the terms and conditions of the exemption. The exemption may be renewed (49 CFR 381.300(b)).

III. Request for Exemption

Allied seeks an exemption from the restriction of the record of duty status (RODS) exception for short-haul operations to drivers who return to their normal work reporting location within 12 hours [49 CFR 395.1(e)(1)(ii)(A)]. Specifically, Allied requests that their beverage truck delivery drivers be treated the same as drivers operating ready-mixed concrete delivery vehicles as provided in 49 CFR 395.1(e)(1)(ii)(B). Section 395.1(e)(1)(ii)(B) states that the driver of a ready-mixed concrete delivery vehicle may return to the work-reporting location and be released from work within 14 consecutive hours without losing the short-haul exception. The requested exemption would apply to all of Allied’s beverage trucks and drivers.

Allied is an interstate private carrier headquartered in New Jersey consisting of 186 vehicles and 198 drivers. The exemption is requested to simplify and eliminate the need for paper RODS or the cost of installing electronic logging devices needed for the recording of duty status between the 12th and 14th hour of duty when utilizing the short-haul exception for operations within a 100 air-mile radius. Their drivers work on a 4-day work week and on occasion and at times during peak holiday seasons work past the 12th hour of duty. They are in the same town doing multiple stops often crossing town lines only to return to complete a stop that was not open or required a specific time delivery. To log every event change is a difficult if not impossible task. At times the CMV is in a particular area for at most several minutes. Employee’s total driving time for the day is minimal, with 25–35 stops—the majority of their time—spent hand unloading their products. Allied operates two warehouses in New Jersey, dispatching so as to avoid traveling long distances.

Allied asserts that this exemption would have no impact on the safety of its fleet or of the general public, as this is primarily about a recording requirement. Its drivers’ hours are recorded and retained by an automated

data processing system and in addition all of their vehicles are under a global positioning system tracking system provided by Fleetmatics and Roadnet dispatching. Allied continues to strive for a safer fleet and the increased safety of the general public. Allied is also exploring the possibility of installing an onboard event camera system to help the company better monitor its vehicles.

A copy of the Allied’s application for exemption is available for review in the docket for this notice.

Issued on: July 27, 2018.

Larry W. Minor,

Associate Administrator for Policy.

[FR Doc. 2018–16762 Filed 8–3–18; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Federal Railroad Administration

[Docket Number FRA–2018–0050]

Petition for Waiver of Compliance

Under part 211 of Title 49 of the Code of Federal Regulations (CFR), this provides the public notice that by a letter dated May 1, 2018, the County of Sonoma (County), California, has petitioned the Federal Railroad Administration (FRA) for a waiver of compliance from certain provisions of the Federal railroad safety regulations contained at 49 CFR part 222. FRA assigned the petition docket number FRA–2018–0050.

The County seeks a waiver from 49 CFR 222.9, definition of “quiet zone,” meaning “a segment of rail line, within which is situated one or a number of consecutive public highway-rail crossings at which locomotive horns are not routinely sounded.” The County wishes to establish a quiet zone consisting of ten *private* highway-rail grade crossings, without a *public* highway-rail grade crossing in the quiet zone. The County states it believes “safety will not be negatively impacted since [Sonoma Marin Area Rapid Transit (SMART)] provided input on concerns and safety measures during the diagnostic review.” The County explains the private crossings are either in remote areas, are rarely used, and monitored by SMART, or are equipped with active warning devices.

A copy of the petition, as well as any written communications concerning the petition, is available for review online at www.regulations.gov and in person at the Department of Transportation’s Docket Operations Facility, 1200 New Jersey Ave. SE, W12–140, Washington, DC 20590. The Docket Operations

Facility is open from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday through Friday, except Federal Holidays.

Interested parties are invited to participate in these proceedings by submitting written views, data, or comments. FRA does not anticipate scheduling a public hearing in connection with these proceedings since the facts do not appear to warrant a hearing. If any interested party desires an opportunity for oral comment, they should notify FRA, in writing, before the end of the comment period and specify the basis for their request.

All communications concerning these proceedings should identify the appropriate docket number and may be submitted by any of the following methods:

- *Website:* <http://www.regulations.gov>. Follow the online instructions for submitting comments.
- *Fax:* 202-493-2251.
- *Mail:* Docket Operations Facility, U.S. Department of Transportation, 1200 New Jersey Avenue SE, W12-140, Washington, DC 20590.
- *Hand Delivery:* 1200 New Jersey Avenue SE, Room W12-140, Washington, DC 20590, between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m., Monday through Friday, except Federal Holidays.

Communications received by September 20, 2018 will be considered by FRA before final action is taken. Comments received after that date will be considered if practicable.

Anyone can search the electronic form of any written communications and comments received into any of our dockets by the name of the individual submitting the comment (or signing the document, if submitted on behalf of an association, business, labor union, etc.). In accordance with 5 U.S.C. 553(c), DOT solicits comments from the public to better inform its processes. DOT posts these comments, without edit, including any personal information the commenter provides, to www.regulations.gov, as described in the system of records notice (DOT/ALL-14 FDMS), which can be reviewed at <https://www.transportation.gov/privacy>. See also <http://www.regulations.gov/#!privacyNotice> for the privacy notice of www.regulations.gov.

Robert C. Lauby,

Associate Administrator for Railroad Safety, Chief Safety Officer.

[FR Doc. 2018-16755 Filed 8-3-18; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4910-06-P

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Federal Transit Administration

Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO): Solicitation of Project Proposals for the National Center for Mobility Management

AGENCY: Federal Transit Administration (FTA), DOT.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: The Federal Transit Administration (FTA) is soliciting proposals under FTA's Technical Assistance and Workforce Development Program to select an entity to administer the National Center for Mobility Management (NCMM) and provide funding for the entity's activities through the NCMM. The NCMM will carry out activities to improve and enhance the coordination of Federal resources for human service transportation, especially transportation for people with disabilities, older adults, and people with low incomes. Primary activities will include supporting partners in adopting proven, sustainable, replicable, customer-centered mobility strategies that promote good health, economic vitality, self-sufficiency, and community unity.

The FTA intends to fund the NCMM at up to \$1,900,000 for the first year. The FTA may extend funding for this center for up to five (5) years; however, subsequent funding will depend upon: (1) Future authorization and appropriations; (2) decisions and program priorities established by the Secretary of Transportation related to the implementation of provisions set forth in 49 U.S.C. 5314; and (3) annual performance reviews.

DATES: Complete proposals for funding opportunity FTA-2018-005-TPM-NCMM must be submitted electronically through GRANTS.GOV. All applications must be received by 11:59 p.m. Eastern time on October 5, 2018.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Carl Ringgold, FTA Office of Program Management, (202) 366-6508 or Carl.Ringgold@dot.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

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A. Program Description

Federal Transit Administration funding for the NCMM is authorized by

49 U.S.C. 5314, Technical Assistance and Workforce Development. Subsequent funding from FTA will depend upon program priorities established by the Secretary of Transportation, future appropriations, and annual performance reviews. In recognition of the fundamental importance of human service transportation and the continuing need to enhance coordination, Executive Order 13330 (February 24, 2004) on Human Service Transportation Coordination, establishing the Coordinating Council on Access and Mobility (CCAM), directed multiple federal departments and agencies to work together to ensure that transportation services are seamless, comprehensive, and accessible. The members of the CCAM are: The Secretaries from the Departments of Transportation (DOT), Health and Human Services, Labor, Education, Interior, Housing and Urban Development, Agriculture, and Veterans Affairs; the Commissioner of the Social Security Administration; the Attorney General; and the Chairperson of the National Council on Disability.

The CCAM is tasked with seeking ways to simplify access to transportation services for persons with disabilities, persons with lower incomes, older adults, and other transportation disadvantaged populations.

Federal transit law as amended by the Safe, Accountable, Flexible, Efficient Transportation Equity Act: A Legacy for Users (SAFETEA-LU) first authorized funding for the management of a program to improve and enhance the coordination of Federal resources for human services transportation with those of the Department of Transportation. The major goal of the program was to assist states and local communities in the provision and expansion of coordinated human service transportation for older adults, people with disabilities, and individuals with lower incomes.

Federal transit law as amended by the Fixing America's Surface Transportation (FAST) Act continues to authorize funding for technical assistance under 49 U.S.C 5314(a)(2)(B) to help providers of public transportation comply with human services transportation coordination requirements and to enhance the coordination of Federal resources for human services transportation with those of the Department of Transportation through technical assistance, training, and support services related to complying with such requirements.