

**DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION****Federal Railroad Administration****[Docket Number FRA–2023–0043]****Petition for Waiver of Compliance**

Under part 211 of title 49 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR), this document provides the public notice that on May 23, 2023, Cedar Rapids and Iowa City Railway (CIC), jointly with SMART–TD, BMWED, and International Association of Machinists Harmony Lodge No. 381, and CIC Yard Managers and Clerks (unaffiliated) (Petitioners), 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 240 (Qualification and Certification of Locomotive Engineers) and part 242 (Qualification and Certification of Conductors). FRA assigned the petition Docket Number FRA–2023–0043.

Specifically, Petitioners request relief required to participate in FRA's Confidential Close Call Reporting System (C<sup>3</sup>RS) Program. Petitioners seek to shield reporting employees and CIC from mandatory punitive sanctions that would otherwise arise as provided in §§ 240.117(e)(1)–(4); 240.305(a)(1)–(4) and (a)(6); 240.307; 242.403(b), (c), (e)(1)–(4), (e)(6)–(11), (f)(1)–(2); and 242.407. The C<sup>3</sup>RS Program encourages certified operating crew members to report close calls and protects the employees and the railroad from discipline or sanctions arising from the incidents reported per the C<sup>3</sup>RS Implementing Memorandum of Understanding.

A copy of the petition, as well as any written communications concerning the petition, is available for review online at [www.regulations.gov](https://www.regulations.gov).

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 parties desire an opportunity for oral comment and a public hearing, 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 at <http://www.regulations.gov>. Follow the online instructions for submitting comments.

Communications received by August 15, 2023 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.). Under 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](https://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 <https://www.regulations.gov/privacy-notice> for the privacy notice of [www.regulations.gov](https://www.regulations.gov).

Issued in Washington, DC.

**John Karl Alexy,**

*Associate Administrator for Railroad Safety,  
Chief Safety Officer.*

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**BILLING CODE 4910–06–P****DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION****Federal Transit Administration****[Docket No. FTA–2023–0013]****Bus Compartment Redesign and Bus of the Future Initiatives; Meeting**

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

**ACTION:** Notice of public meeting.

**SUMMARY:** The Federal Transit Administration (FTA) will hold a virtual listening session concerning FTA's Bus Compartment Redesign and Bus of the Future initiatives. This meeting will be a forum for stakeholders to give feedback on key issues, including operator safety, passenger safety, accessibility, bus component safety, reduction of bus customization, and emerging technologies related to transit vehicles. This online meeting is open to the public.

**DATES:** The webinar will be held on June 22, 2023, from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m., Eastern Daylight Time (EDT). Comments must be submitted by July 24, 2023. Late comments will be considered to the extent practicable.

**ADDRESSES:** The session will be held virtually. Interested parties should register in advance at [https://usdot.zoomgov.com/webinar/register/WN\\_ZPYvheyuQMizlgL2Vs7kvq](https://usdot.zoomgov.com/webinar/register/WN_ZPYvheyuQMizlgL2Vs7kvq).

Members of the public may submit written comments on the questions provided by FTA on its website prior to the meeting, which also will be provided during the meeting, no later than July 24, 2023, using any of the following methods:

- **Federal eRulemaking Portal:** Go to <https://www.regulations.gov>. Follow the online instructions for submitting comments to Docket Number FTA–2023–0013.

- **Fax:** 202–493–2251.

- **Mail:** Docket Management Facility; U.S. Department of Transportation, 1200 New Jersey Avenue SE, West Building, Room W12–140, Washington, DC 20590.

- **Hand Delivery:** U.S. Department of Transportation, 1200 New Jersey Avenue SE, Room W12–140, Washington, DC, between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m., E.T. Monday through Friday, except Federal holidays.

Each submission must include the Agency name and Docket Number FTA 2023–0013. Note that DOT posts all comments received without change to <https://www.regulations.gov>, including any personal information included in a comment.

**Docket:** For access to the docket, visit <https://www.regulations.gov> at any time or visit Room W12–140 on the ground level of the West Building, 1200 New Jersey Avenue SE, Washington, DC, between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m., EDT, Monday through Friday, except Federal holidays. The on-line Federal document management system is available 24 hours each day, 365 days each year.

**Privacy Act:** Anyone may view the electronic docket. The docket may include the name of the individual submitting the comment (or of the person signing the comment, if submitted on behalf of an association, business, labor union, etc.). You may review DOT's Privacy Act Statement for the Federal Docket Management System published in the **Federal Register** (73 FR 3316) or visit <https://edocket.access.gpo.gov/2008/pdf/E8-785.pdf>.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Maria Roell, Transportation Program Analyst, Office of Research, Demonstration, and Innovation (TRI) via email: [maria.roell@dot.gov](mailto:maria.roell@dot.gov), or phone (202) 366–9214. Individuals with disabilities requesting reasonable accommodations or special assistance to participate in the virtual meeting should contact Maria Roell no later than June 21, 2023.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:****I. Background**

In October 2020, the FTA awarded two Bus Operator Compartment (BCP)