

and will be updated appropriately as statewide and MPO plans are updated.

Inclusion in the TIPs: The bicycle and pedestrian element of the transportation plan should be implemented by including identified projects in the TIP in accordance with priorities established by MPO's, States, and transit operators, and in accordance with 23 CFR Part 450, sections 216 and 324.

5. *Evaluation of progress:* Using the performance measures developed previously, regularly determine progress in reaching the identified vision and goals. Appropriate changes to either the vision and goals or to the strategies and proposed projects should be made.

6. *Public Involvement:* As required by the ISTEA and the FHWA/FTA joint planning regulations published on October 28, 1993, *public involvement is essential* in the development of transportation plans and programs including the bicycle and pedestrian components. Public involvement should include, to the extent possible, input from individuals who will be affected by the transportation plan and programs. This involvement must meet the requirements for statewide planning spelled out in the regulations in 23 CFR 450.212, and those for MPO planning spelled out in 23 CFR 450.316(b). Any subsequent policy statements and guidance provided by the FHWA and FTA also needs to be considered.

The regulations require that State departments of transportation and MPO's have public involvement processes which are followed in preparing transportation plans and programs. Bicycle and pedestrian groups should be aware of the opportunity to participate in the development of these public involvement processes and to comment on them before they are adopted. This is in addition to the opportunity to participate according to the public involvement processes in the development of transportation plans and programs. Public involvement will occur at key decision points as described in the public involvement procedures for the planning process.

7. *Transportation Conformity Requirements for Air Quality:* Per 40 CFR Parts 51 and 93, bicycle and pedestrian facilities are exempt from transportation conformity requirements. Their inclusion as part of a larger project that does not meet the conformity requirements could result in delay while the requirements for the larger project are satisfied.

Trails funded through the National Recreational Trails Fund Act (NRTFA) that may have an air quality impact in air quality nonattainment areas must be

analyzed to determine if they conform with the State Implementation Plan (SIP). Such projects must be included in the transportation plan and TIP. To be eligible for Federal funding or approval, such projects must come from a conforming plan and TIP and may not cause or contribute to a new or existing violation of the air quality standards. In air quality nonattainment areas only projects from a conforming TIP shall be included on the STIP. The following kinds of projects are determined to have no significant air quality impact:

Projects funded under the following paragraphs of Section 1302(e)(1) of the ISTEA: (A), (B), and (E); (F) except for facilities that may cause air quality impacts such as parking facilities; and (C), (D), and (G-K) for nonmotorized trails.

The following kinds of projects must be analyzed for air quality impact: All motorized recreational trail projects in nonattainment areas; and provision of parking facilities.

Authority: 23 U.S.C. 315; Sec. 1024, 1025, 1033, 1302 of Pub. L. 102-240, 105 Stat. 1914, 1955, 1962, 1975, 2064; 49 CFR 1.48.

Issued on: January 6, 1995.

Rodney E. Slater

Federal Highway Administrator.

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Environmental Impact Statement; City of Houghton, Houghton County, Michigan

AGENCY: Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), DOT.

ACTION: Notice of Intent.

SUMMARY: The FHWA is issuing this notice to advise the public that an Environmental Impact Statement will be prepared for the proposed improvements to US-41 (College Avenue) from Vivian Street westerly to Franklin Square in the City of Houghton, Houghton County, Michigan.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Mr. Norman Stoner, District Engineer, Federal Highway Administration, 315 W. Allegan Street, Room 207, Lansing, Michigan 48933, Telephone (517) 377-1880 or Mr. Ronald Kinney, Manager, Environmental Section, Bureau of Transportation Planning, Michigan Department of Transportation, P.O. Box 30050, Lansing, Michigan 48909, Telephone (517) 335-2621.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The FHWA, in cooperation with the Michigan Department of Transportation, (MDOT), is preparing an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for the proposed

reconstruction of US-41 from Vivian Street westerly to Franklin Square, City of Houghton, Houghton County, Michigan. The proposed project is approximately 0.8 kilometers (0.5 miles) in length, and is needed to accommodate current and future traffic volumes and to improve the operating conditions and safety of the traveling public. The present facility consists of two 4.6 meter (15 foot) lanes with curb and gutter through a mostly residential area. The speed limit along College Avenue is 55 kph (35 mph).

The alternatives under consideration include (1) No Action, (2) Three Lane Alternative, (3) Four Lane Alternative, (4) Five Lane Alternative, (5) South Boulevard, and (6) One-way Pair Alternative, which requires construction of a new westbound roadway along the side of the bluff north of College Avenue.

Letters describing the proposed action and soliciting comments have been sent to appropriate Federal, State, and local agencies with scoping information attached. Letters have also been sent to organizations and citizens who have previously expressed interest or are known to have interest in this proposal to provide them the opportunity to comment. A public information meeting was held on August 13, 1992, to provide the public an opportunity to discuss the proposed action. A public hearing will also be held. Public notice will be given of the time and place of the hearing. The Draft EIS will be available for public and agency review and comment prior to the public hearing. No formal agency scoping meeting is planned at this time.

To ensure that the full range of issues related to this proposed action are addressed and all significant issues identified, comments, and suggestions are invited from all interested parties. Comments or questions concerning this proposed action and the EIS should be directed to the FHWA at the address provided above.

(Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance Program Number 20.205, Highway Research, Planning and Construction. The regulations implementing Executive Order 12372 regarding intergovernmental consultation on Federal programs and activities apply to this program.)

A. George Ostensen,

Division Administrator, Lansing, Michigan.

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