

termini, the proposed project may be stage-constructed to include interim improvements over a portion of the entire project, including initial two-way traffic operations.

The proposed project is intended to increase safety by providing a modern facility with improved horizontal and vertical sight distances, wider roadway and shoulders, and other improved geometric elements to remove through traffic from the street systems of the aforementioned cities; to provide additional capacity for increasing traffic volumes; to reduce congestion in Beloit and South Beloit, with the resulting expected decreases in vehicular-generated air pollution, noise pollution and travel time delay; to better serve the transportation needs of the Beloit-Janesville (South Beloit) Urbanized Area; and to support the economic development of the region.

The scoping process undertaken as a part of this proposed project will include distribution of a scoping information packet, coordination with appropriate Federal, State and local agencies and review sessions as needed. A formal scoping meeting will be held November 14, 1995, at the South Beloit City Hall in South Beloit, Illinois, beginning at 10 a.m. Immediately upon completion of the scoping meeting, another meeting will be convened at the same location to discuss with relevant agencies listed in 23 CFR 450.318 the alternatives necessary for the Major Metropolitan Transportation Investment proposed for this project.

To ensure that the full range of issues related to the proposed project are addressed and all significant issues identified, a comprehensive public involvement program will be undertaken. Public meetings will be held in the study area prior to the public hearing. Public notice will be given of the time and place of the meetings and hearing. The draft EIS will be available for public agency review and comment prior to the public hearing. In addition, 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 or IDOT contact persons.

(Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance Program Number 20.205, Highway Planning and Construction.)

The regulations implementing Executive Order 12372 regarding intergovernmental consultation of Federal programs and activities apply to this program.

Issued on: October 18, 1995.

Walter Waidelich,

Design Engineer, Federal Highway Administration, Illinois Division, Springfield, Illinois.

[FR Doc. 95-26603 Filed 10-25-95; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4910-22-M

DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY

Fiscal Service

Treasury Current Value of Funds Rate

AGENCY: Financial Management Service, Fiscal Service, Treasury.

ACTION: Notice of rate for use in Federal debt collection and discount evaluation.

SUMMARY: Pursuant to Section 11 of the Debt Collection Act of 1982 (31 U.S.C. 3717), the Secretary of the Treasury is responsible for computing and publishing the percentage rate to be used in assessing interest charges for outstanding debts on claims owned the Government. Treasury's Cash Management Regulations (I TFM 6-8000) also prescribe use of this rate by agencies as a comparison point in evaluating the cost-effectiveness of a cash discount. Notice is hereby given that the applicable rate is 5 percent for calendar year 1996.

DATES: The rate will be in effect for the period beginning on January 1, 1996 and ending on December 31, 1996.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Inquiries should be directed to the Program Compliance & Evaluation Division, Financial Management Service, Department of the Treasury, 401 14th Street, S.W., Washington, D.C. 20227 (Telephone: (202) 874-6630).

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The rate reflects the current value of funds to the Treasury for use in connection with Federal Cash Management systems and is based on investment rates set for purposes of Pub. L. 95-147, 91 Stat. 1227. Computed each year by averaging investment rates for the 12-month period ending every September 30 for applicability effective January 1, the rate is subject to quarterly revisions if the annual average, on the moving basis, changes by 2 per centum. The rate in effect for calendar year 1996 reflects the average investment rates for the 12-month period ended September 30, 1995.

Dated: October 20, 1995.

Larry D. Stout,

Assistant Commissioner, Federal Finance.

[FR Doc. 95-26618 Filed 10-25-95; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4810-35-M

INFORMATION AGENCY

International Creative Arts Exchanges for Public and Private Non-Profit Organizations

NOTICE: New structure for proposal solicitation.

SUMMARY: The Office of Arts America Creative Arts Exchanges Division of the U.S. Information Agency's [USIA] Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs announces a new structure for the solicitation of proposals in its discretionary grant program. Under the new structure the Creative Arts Exchanges program will operate in two program categories: [A] Traditional and special projects program; [B] discretionary program. The discretionary program will operate in partnership with the six regional arts organizations encompassing the 50 states of the United States.

Traditional and Special Projects Program

This program will consist of a limited number of world multi-regional projects which now operate through recognized professional organizations in major museum and arts disciplines. It also will include from time-to-time major world multi-regional special projects. Because of their intrinsic complexity and the specialized knowledge needed to effect them, these projects will continue to be funded through sole-source solicitation of proposals.

Discretionary Program

The discretionary program will operate in partnership with the six regional arts organizations encompassing the 50 states of the United States. The Creative Arts Exchanges Division will request from the regional arts organizations lists of potential cooperating organizations within their regions to which it will address letters soliciting project concepts. Reorganizations of the Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs and funding realities will determine the number of solicitation letters to be sent. These projects will consist of residencies and/or exchange programs in which artists from the United States and other countries work and learn together. USIA concept review panels will choose a limited number of organizations from among those submitting concepts to receive from the Creative Arts Exchanges Division invitations to submit full proposals. These proposals then would be reviewed through the award competition process of the Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs. As in

the past the competition for assistance awards will be conducted among public and private non-profit organizations that demonstrate disciplinary expertise in the arts and meet the provisions described in IRS regulation 26 CFR 1.501(c)(3)-1.

Overall grant making and funding authority for this program is contained in the Mutual Educational and Cultural Exchange Act of 1961, Public Law 87-256, as amended, also known as the Fulbright-Hays Act. The purpose of the Act is "to enable the Government of the United States to increase mutual understanding between the people of the United States and the people of other countries * * *, to strengthen the ties which unite us with other nations by demonstrating the educational and cultural interests, developments, and achievements of the people of the United States and other nations * * * and thus to assist in the development of friendly, sympathetic and peaceful relations between the United States and the other countries of the world."

USIA's ability to award grants under this program is contingent upon the availability of funds.

The regional arts organizations cooperating with the Creative Arts Exchanges Division in its Discretionary Program follow.

Regional Arts Organizations

Arts Midwest

Operates in states of Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Michigan, Minnesota, North Dakota, Ohio, South Dakota and Wisconsin.

Mid-America Arts Alliance

Operates in states of Arkansas, Kansas, Missouri, Nebraska, Oklahoma and Texas.

Mid-Atlantic Arts Foundation

Operates in states of Delaware, Maryland, New Jersey, New York, Pennsylvania, Virginia, West Virginia as well as the District of Columbia.

New England Foundation for the Arts

Operates in states of Connecticut, Maine, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, Rhode Island, Vermont.

Southern Arts Federation

Operates in states of Alabama, Florida, Georgia, Kentucky, Louisiana, Mississippi, North Carolina, South Carolina, Tennessee.

Western States Arts Federation

Operates in states of Alaska, Arizona, California, Colorado, Hawaii, Idaho, Montana, Nevada, New Mexico, Oregon, Utah, Washington, Wyoming.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION: Please contact the Office of Arts America, Creative Arts Exchanges Division, Room 568, U.S. Information Agency, 301 4th Street, SW., Washington, DC 20547 (Phone: 202-619-5338, Fax 202-619-6315, Internet: ARTS@USIA.gov.

Dated: October 19, 1995.

John P. Loiello,

Associate Director, Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs.

[FR Doc. 95-26617 Filed 10-25-95; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 8230-01-M

UNITED STATES INFORMATION AGENCY

Publication of a Quarterly Reference Journal and Provision of a Research Service for Overseas Educational Advisers

ACTION: Notice—Request for proposals.

SUMMARY: The Advising and Student Services Branch of the United States Information Agency's Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs announces an open competition for an assistance award. Public or private non-profit organizations meeting the provisions described in IRS regulation 26 CFR 1.501(c)(3)-1 may apply. In collaboration with the United States Information Agency (USIA), the organization will research, write, edit, and publish a quarterly reference journal to bring timely and in-depth information on issues and topics of importance to overseas educational advisers. Four issues of the publication are to be prepared during the period of the agreement, April 1, 1996 to March 31, 1997. Significant portions of the journal must also be made available on the internet. The organization will also answer reference inquiries from USIA-designated educational advising offices overseas, and compile a bibliography of recommended publications for overseas educational advisers. USIA anticipated awarding up to \$102,500 to one organization for these activities.

OVERVIEW: An ideal proposal should illustrate how the organization will produce a professional journal for overseas educational advisers who are responsible for providing accurate, unbiased information and advising foreign nationals about opportunities for studying in the United States. Each issue will be centered on an overall theme related to trends and developments in international student mobility, the practice of educational advising, or U.S. higher education which will enhance the guidance given by overseas educational advisers to

international students and others who inquire about opportunities for studying in the United States. In addition, each issue will contain current information on one or more of the following: academic news, university programs, new resources, short-term training opportunities, current testing announcements, academic accreditation, new degree programs, news briefs, and financial information considered useful to overseas educational advisers in the conduct of their duties.

To help expand the worldwide availability of information of interest to educational advisers and others involved in international education, the organization must provide electronic access to the major articles in each issue.

GUIDELINES: The organization will produce four issues of the journal: Summer 1996, Fall 1996, Winter 1996, and Spring 1997. Each issue will be at least 32 pages long. The first of the four issues should be published and available for distribution within 90 days of grant receipt, with subsequent issues scheduled to be released each ninety days. In-house desktop publishing facilities are required so that the journal issues will be produced quickly and efficiently in an attractive typeset quality format. In addition, funds will be awarded to enable the recipient to perform supplemental research to provide in-depth responses to inquiries from USIA-affiliated educational advisers overseas. The organization should track requests for information to gauge interest in the field and should use this information to determine themes of future journals. In addition, the research service must be designed to also respond to advisers who have questions that are too narrow or too geographically specific for publication in the aforementioned journal.

The Advising Branch supplies reference materials to overseas advising centers; the organization will be charged with monitoring new print resources related to educational advising and by December 1, 1996 should provide 550 copies of an annotated bibliography of recommended publications for advisers to the Advising Branch.

PROPOSED BUDGET: A comprehensive line item budget should be submitted together with the proposal. The budget should not exceed \$87,500 for publication of four issues of the advising journal and electronic access; \$10,000 for responding directly to research inquiries for USIA-affiliated overseas educational advisers; and no more than \$5,000 of production of the