

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION**Federal Highway Administration****Intelligent Transportation Society of America; Public Meeting**

AGENCY: Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), DOT.

ACTION: Notice of public meeting.

SUMMARY: The Intelligent Transportation Society of America (ITS AMERICA) will hold a meeting of its Coordinating Council on Tuesday, January 13, 1998. The following designations are made for each item: (A) is an "action" item; (I) is an "information item;" and (D) is a "discussion" item. The agenda includes the following: (1) Call to Order and Introductions (I); (2) Statements of Anti-Trust Compliance and Conflict of Interest (A); (3) Approval of Last Meeting's Minutes (A); (4) Federal Report (I&D); (5) President's Report; (6) Report of the Planning Committee: Strategic Plan Update/National Research Agenda (A); (7) ITS America's IVI Report (A); (8) International Border Crossing Activities Report (I/D); (9) Professional Capacity Building Update (I); (10) FCC Frequency Petition Update (I); (11) Report of the ITS World Congresses and Other International ITS Activities (I/D); (12) ITS America 8th Annual Meeting Update (I/D); (13) Roundtable Discussion of Committee and Task Force Activities—Committee and Task Force Chairs (I/D); (14) Other Business. *Additional Information:* DSRC Status Report, Standards Needs Timeline and Coordinating Council Meeting Dates.

ITS AMERICA provides a forum for national discussion and recommendations on ITS activities including programs, research needs, strategic planning, standards, international liaison, and priorities. The charter for the utilization of ITS AMERICA establishes this organization as an advisory committee under the Federal Advisory Committee Act (FACA), 5 U.S.C. app. 2, when it provides advice or recommendations to DOT officials on ITS policies and programs. (56 FR 9400, March 6, 1991).

DATES: The Coordinating Council of ITS AMERICA will meet on Tuesday, January 13, 1998, from 8:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon (Eastern Standard time).

ADDRESSES: Omni Shoreham Hotel, 2500 Calvert Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20008. Phone: (202) 234-0700. Fax: (202) 234-5333.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Materials associated with this meeting may be examined at the offices of ITS AMERICA, 400 Virginia Avenue, SW.,

Suite 800, Washington, D.C. 20024. Persons needing further information or to request to speak at this meeting should contact Kenneth Faunteroy at ITS AMERICA by telephone at (202) 484-4130, or by FAX at (202) 484-3483.

The DOT contact is Mary Pigott, FHWA, HVH-1, Washington, D.C. 20590, (202) 366-9230. Office hours are from 8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., e.t., Monday through Friday, except for legal holidays.

(23 U.S.C. 315; 49 CFR 1.48)

Issued: December 10, 1997.

Jeffrey F. Paniati,

Deputy Director, ITS Joint Program Office.

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DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION**Surface Transportation Board**

[STB Docket No. AB-439 (Sub-No. 3X)]

Dallas Rapid Transit—Abandonment Exemption—in Dallas, TX

Dallas Rapid Transit (DART) a political subdivision of the State of Texas, has filed a notice of exemption under 49 CFR 1152 subpart F—*Exempt Abandonments* to abandon a 6.99-mile line of railroad between milepost D-762.26 in the vicinity of Mockingbird Lane and milepost D-755.27 in the vicinity of the Kansas City Southern Railway Company bridge overpass, in Dallas County, TX.¹ The line traverses United States Postal Service Zip Codes 75205, 75214, 75231 and 75238.

DART has certified that: (1) No local traffic has moved over the line for at least 2 years; (2) there is no overhead traffic moving over the line; (3) no formal complaint filed by a user of rail service on the line (or by a state or local government entity acting on behalf of such user) regarding cessation of service over the line either is pending with the Surface Transportation Board (Board) or with any U.S. District Court or has been decided in favor of complainant within the 2-year period; and (4) the requirements at 49 CFR 1105.7 (environmental reports), 49 CFR 1105.8

¹ DART acquired this line of railroad from the Missouri Pacific Railroad Company (MP) in 1990 with MP retaining trackage rights. See *Dallas Area Rapid Transit—Acquisition and Operation Exemption—Rail Line of Missouri Pacific Railroad Company and Missouri Pacific Railroad Company*, Finance Docket No. 31690 (ICC served July 17, 1990).

MP discontinued its trackage rights over the line as part of a joint relocation project. See *Missouri Pacific Railroad Company and The Atchison, Topeka and Santa Fe Railway Company—Joint Relocation Project Exemption*, Finance Docket No. 32060 (ICC served Apr. 27, 1992).

(historic reports), 49 CFR 1105.11 (transmittal letter), 49 CFR 1105.12 (newspaper publication), and 49 CFR 1152.50(d)(1) (notice to governmental agencies) have been met.

As a condition to this exemption, any employee adversely affected by the abandonment shall be protected under *Oregon Short Line R. Co.—Abandonment—Goshen*, 360 I.C.C. 91 (1979). To address whether this condition adequately protects affected employees, a petition for partial revocation under 49 U.S.C. 10502(d) must be filed. Provided no formal expression of intent to file an offer of financial assistance (OFA) has been received, this exemption will be effective on January 14, 1998, unless stayed pending reconsideration. Petitions to stay that do not involve environmental issues,² formal expressions of intent to file an OFA under 49 CFR 1152.27(c)(2),³ and trail use/rail banking requests under 49 CFR 1152.29 must be filed by December 29, 1997. Petitions to reopen or requests for public use conditions under 49 CFR 1152.28 must be filed by January 5, 1998, with: Surface Transportation Board, Office of the Secretary, Case Control Unit, 1925 K Street, N.W., Washington, DC 20423.

A copy of any petition filed with the Board should be sent to applicant's representative: Kevin M. Sheys, Oppenheimer Wolff & Donnelly, 1020 Nineteenth Street, N.W., Suite 400, Washington, DC 20036.

If the verified notice contains false or misleading information, the exemption is void *ab initio*.

DART has filed an environmental report which addresses the abandonment's effects, if any, on the environment and historic resources. The Section of Environmental Analysis (SEA) will issue an environmental assessment (EA) by December 19, 1997. Interested persons may obtain a copy of the EA by writing to SEA (Room 500, Surface Transportation Board, Washington, DC 20423) or by calling SEA, at (202) 565-1545. Comments on environmental and historic preservation matters must be filed within 15 days

² The Board will grant a stay if an informed decision on environmental issues (whether raised by a party or by the Board's Section of Environmental Analysis in its independent investigation) cannot be made before the exemption's effective date. See *Exemption of Out-of-Service Rail Lines*, 5 I.C.C.2d 377 (1989). Any request for a stay should be filed as soon as possible so that the Board may take appropriate action before the exemption's effective date.

³ Each offer of financial assistance must be accompanied by the filing fee, which is currently set at \$900. See 49 CFR 1002.2(f)(25).