California 95814–2724, Telephone: (916) 498–5020.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The FHWA, in cooperation with the California Department of Transportation (Caltrans), conducted studies of the potential environmental impacts associated with the proposed highway project to bypass Sutter Creek and Amador Cities on SR 49 in Amador County, California. During the course of conducting these studies and coordinating with regulatory and resource agencies, it was found that many of the potential environmental issues that led to issuing the Notice of Intent were not significant. In addition, changes to avoid to minimize potential impacts identified in early scoping have been made to the designs. The FHWA has determined that the proposed project is not likely to result in significant impacts to the environment; that an EA would be an appropriate environmental document for the project; and that the Notice of Intent (issued on October 22, 1998, and available on the **Federal Register** of November 2, 1998) should be withdrawn.

The EA will be available for public inspection prior to the public hearing. Comments or questions concerning this proposed action and the determination an EA is the proper environmental document 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.)

Issued on; August 9, 2000.

**Glenn Clinton,**

*Team Leader, Project Delivery Team—North Sacramento, California.*

[FR Doc. 00–21537 Filed 8–22–00; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 4910–13–M**

## DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

### Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), and Federal Railroad Administration (FRA), DOT

### Rescission of Notice of Intent

**SUMMARY:** This notice rescinds the previous notice of intent issued on January 19, 1996, to prepare an environmental impact statement for a proposed high speed rail improvement program between Portland, Oregon and Vancouver, British Columbia.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Gary S. Hughes, Federal Highway Administration, Evergreen Plaza Building, 711 South Capitol Way, Suite 501, Olympia, Washington 98501, Telephone: (360) 753–9025; David Valenstein, Federal Railroad Administration, 1120 Vermont Avenue NW., MS 20, Wahsington, DC 20590, Telephone: (202) 493–6368; Mr. James Slakey, Washington State Department of Transportation, 310 Maple Park East Olympia, Washington 98504, Telephone: (360) 705–7920.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The notice of intent to prepare an environmental impact statement for the multi-phase program plan to develop high-speed intercity passenger service on the 366-mile segment of the rail corridor between Portland, Oregon and Vancouver, British Columbia, was published January 19, 1996. The purpose of that EIS was to provide background for the decision whether or not to implement a comprehensive high-speed passenger rail program in the corridor, and to analyze the impacts of proposed improvements needed to implement Phase 1 of the program.

Since that date, the decision whether or not to implement a comprehensive high-speed rail program in the corridor has been deferred. An Intercity Passenger Rail Plan was developed for Washington State 1998–2018, which included an overview and analysis of environmental resources and impacts. That plan was deferred while several of the improvements originally proposed as Phase 1 of the rail plan have been incorporated into the improvement programs of other entities providing rail service on the corridor. Further analysis of the remaining four improvements proposed as part of Phase 1 has demonstrated that they have both logical termini and independent utility as stand-alone projects to improve existing services. Therefore, each will be developed independently with appropriate environmental processes to comply with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA).

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

Issued on: July 27, 2000.

**Gary S. Hughes,**

*Operations Team Leader, Federal Highway Administration, Washington Division.*

**Mark E. Yachmetz,**

*Associate Administrator for Railroad Development, Federal Railroad Administration.*

[FR Doc. 00–21428 Filed 8–22–00; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 4910–22–M**

## DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

### Federal Highway Administration

**[FHWA Docket No. FHWA–2000–7646]**

### Implementation Guidance for the National Historic Covered Bridge Preservation Program

**AGENCY:** Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), DOT.

**ACTION:** Notice; request for comments on selection criteria for fiscal year (FY) 2001 and beyond.

**SUMMARY:** This document describes the National Historic Covered Bridge Preservation program (NHCBP) for FY 2000, and seeks comments from all interested parties on the application and selection criteria to be used by the FHWA in future years in evaluating candidates for historic covered bridge preservation. A memorandum soliciting candidate projects for preservation work from State transportation agencies was issued to FHWA division offices on June 5, 2000, and is attached to the end of this notice.

**DATES:** Comments on the selection criteria for NHCBPP funding for FY 2001 and beyond must be received on or before October 10, 2000.

**ADDRESSES:** Your signed, written comments on the bridge project selection criteria for the NHCBP program funding for FY 2001 and beyond must refer to the docket number appearing at the top of this document and you must submit the comments to the Docket Clerk, U.S. DOT Dockets, Room PL–401, Seventh Street, SW., Washington D.C. 20590-0001 or submit electronically at *http://dmses.dot.gov/submit.* All comments received will be available for examination at the above address between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m., e.t., Monday through Friday, except Federal holidays. Those desiring notification of receipt of comments should include a self addressed, stamped envelope or postcard or print the acknowledgement page that appears after submitting comments electronically.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Ms. Sheila Rimal Duwadi, Office of Bridge