

SUMMARY: The Coast Guard jointly with the State of Louisiana, Louisiana Department of Transportation and Development (LDOTD) will hold a public hearing to receive comments on an application by LDOTD for Coast Guard approval of location and plans for a proposed bridge. The proposed location of the bridge is across Calcasieu Pass, mile 2.2, on SR 1141 between Cameron and Monkey Island, Cameron Parish, Louisiana. The hearing will allow interested persons to present comments and information concerning the impact of the proposed bridge project on navigation and the human environment.

DATES: This hearing will be held on September 28, 2000, commencing at 6 p.m. Comments must be received by October 13, 2000. Requests to speak and requests for services must be received by September 21, 2000.

ADDRESSES: The hearing will be held at the Cameron Court House, 119 Smith Circle, Cameron, Louisiana 70631. Written comments may be submitted to, and will be available for examination between 6:30 a.m. and 3 p.m., Monday through Friday, except Federal holidays at the office of the Eighth Coast Guard District, Bridge Administration Branch, Commander (ob), 501 Magazine Street, New Orleans, Louisiana 70130-3396. Please submit all comments in an unbound format, no larger than 8 x 11 inches, suitable for copying and electronic filing. Persons wanting acknowledgement of receipt of comments should enclose a stamped, self-addressed postcard or envelope.

Requests to speak at the hearing may be submitted to Mr. David Frank at the phone number listed under **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT**.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Mr. David Frank, Project Officer, Bridge Administration Branch, telephone (504) 589-2965.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Background

The proposed project is to construct a new bridge to replace the existing ferry crossing from Cameron to Monkey Island. The bridge will be constructed on the same alignment as the ferry crossing. The proposed bridge will be a two-lane fixed bridge, approximately 30 feet (9.14 m) wide and 990 feet (301.75 m) long. The bridge would be constructed so as to allow for 14 feet (4.27 m) of vertical clearance above mean high water, elevation 1.5 feet (0.46 m) and a horizontal clearance of 80 feet (24.38 m). The bridge will be skewed to the channel at an angle of 60°. The distance between the piers is 110 feet

(33.53 m), but the horizontal clearance perpendicular to the channel will be 80 feet. The center span of the bridge will be constructed as a removable steel girder span that can be removed in case of emergencies.

The proposed bridge will replace the existing costly ferry operation and provide a safer, more efficient transportation facility for motorists traveling between Cameron and Monkey Island. LDOTD's objective in providing roads and bridges on the state maintained highway system is to assure an unrestricted and safe flow of commerce via that system. Although the ferry is operating on a 24-hour schedule year-round, motorists are delayed by the ferry schedule. Replacing the ferry with a bridge will eliminate delays due to the ferry and severe weather conditions. This is important in evacuating residents on the island during storms or hurricanes.

Consideration of approval of the location and plans for the proposed vehicular bridge is the action precipitating the Coast Guard's involvement in this project. The Coast Guard, as lead Federal agency for the proposed project, has reviewed the applicant-prepared Environmental Assessment (EA). Based upon the EA, the Coast Guard has tentatively determined that the proposed action will not have a significant impact on the environment for purposes of the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA). A Coast Guard Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) will be prepared as the final environmental document for the proposed project unless significant impacts are identified as a result of this public notification process to warrant the preparation of an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS).

Only two alternatives are currently being considered for this project. These alternatives are defined as the 'build' and 'no-build' alternatives.

Potential impacts addressed in the EA include economic, social and community, construction, wetland, fish and wildlife, navigation, water quality, floodplain, noise, air and cultural resources, hazardous waste, and secondary and cumulative impacts. Information concerning availability of the EA may be obtained from Mr. David Frank at the phone number listed under **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT**.

Procedural

Individuals and representatives of organizations that wish to present testimony at the Hearing or who want to be placed on the project mailing list, may submit a request to Mr. David Frank at the telephone number listed

under **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT**. Requests to speak should be received no later than September 21, 2000 in order to ensure proper schedule of the hearing. Attendees at the hearing who wish to present testimony and have not previously made a request to do so, will follow those on the previously established list. Depending upon the number of scheduled statements, the Coast Guard may limit the amount of time required. Written statements and other exhibits in lieu of or in addition to oral statements at the Hearing may be submitted to Mr. David Frank at the address listed under **ADDRESSES** until September 21, 2000, in order to be included in the Public Hearing transcript.

Information on Services for Individuals With Disabilities

For information about facilities or services for individuals with disabilities or to request special assistance at the meetings, contact the Commander, Eighth Coast Guard District (obc). Please request these services from Mr. David Frank, at the phone number under **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT** or in writing at the address listed under **ADDRESSES**. Any requests for an oral or sign language interpreter must be received by September 21, 2000.

Authority: 33 U.S.C. 513, 49 CFR 1.46.

Dated: August 23, 2000.

Paul J. Pluta,

Rear Admiral, U.S. Coast Guard, Commander, Eighth Coast Guard District.

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DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Federal Aviation Administration

Notice of Intent To Conduct Environmental Scoping for an Environmental Assessment To Be Prepared by the City of Chicago for Its Proposed O'Hare World Gateway Program at O'Hare International Airport in Chicago, Illinois

AGENCY: Federal Aviation Administration, DOT.

ACTION: Notice to hold a public scoping meeting.

SUMMARY: The Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) is issuing this notice to advise Federal, State and local agencies, and the general public, that an opportunity will be given to provide input as to the scope of an Environmental Assessment to be prepared by the City of Chicago for its proposed O'Hare World Gateway

Program (WGP) for Chicago O'Hare International Airport in Chicago, Illinois. The WGP is a comprehensive effort by the city of Chicago to provide improved terminal space, additional parking, taxiway improvements, cargo support facilities, and Airport roadway access improvements. The City of Chicago Department of Aviation has made a decision to initiate the preparation of an Environmental Assessment. The FAA has offered to facilitate the environmental review process by soliciting scoping comments from Federal, State and local agencies. If during the environmental review process the FAA finds that no significant adverse environmental impacts are associated with the proposed actions, then a Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) would be issued. If the FAA finds that significant adverse impacts would be associated with the proposed actions, an Environmental Impact Statement will be prepared.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

City of Chicago Department of Aviation—Carol Wilinski, City of Chicago Department of Aviation, Chicago O'Hare International Airport, P.O. Box 66142, Chicago, Illinois, 60666. Ms. Wilinski can be contacted at (773) 894-6900 (voice), (773) 686-3743 (facsimile), or by e-mail at WGP_ENVIRONMENT@OHARE.COM.

Federal Aviation Administration (for informational purposes)—Prescott C. Snyder, Airports Environmental Program Manager, Federal Aviation Administration, Chicago Airports District Office, Room 320, 2300 East Devon Avenue, Des Plaines, Illinois 60018. Mr. Snyder can be contacted at (847) 294-7538 (voice), (847) 294-7046 (facsimile) or by e-mail at 9-AGL-ORD-WGP-ENV@FAA.GOV.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: At the request of the City of Chicago, the FAA will be reviewing an Environmental Assessment to be prepared by the City of Chicago that will evaluate the environmental impact of the City of Chicago's O'Hare World Gateway Program (WGP). The WGP will address the operational pressures posed by changing airline industry conditions and efforts by the City of Chicago to address these pressures and improve convenience and amenities for the flying public at O'Hare International Airport.

The major physical elements of the overall WGP include proposals for the following terminal development, airside improvements, and landside improvements:

- Terminal development components include two new terminals (TD/T6), the reconstruction of an existing concourse facility (T2, Concourse E/F), extension of Concourse K, utility systems/Heating & Refrigeration plant modifications, and replacement cargo facilities.

- Airside improvements include construction and reconfiguration of taxiways, aprons, and taxilanes in conjunction with new and reconfigured terminal facilities. This would include construction of an extension to Taxiway B and partial reconstruction of Taxiways A and B.

- Key landside components include improvements to terminal access roads and curbsfronts, extension of the O'Hare airport transit system (ATS), additional parking, and consolidated rental car facilities.

In addition to the planned improvements in the WGP, the City of Chicago will review for purposes of assessing cumulative impacts any other clearly defined projects for the years 1997 through 2012. Included are renewal and replacement projects, rehabilitation needs and on-going capital reinvestment. Also, the Airport is marketing undeveloped or underutilized parcels of the northeast portion of the airport to attract private commercial development. Some of the projects have already been evaluated from the environmental perspective and work has begun or is about to begin. Others are awaiting environmental evaluation.

To ensure that all significant issues related to the proposed actions are identified, two scoping meetings will be held as part of an ongoing comprehensive public outreach effort by the City of Chicago. Copies of a scoping document with additional detail can be obtained by contacting the City of Chicago Department of Aviation informational contact person identified above. Federal, State and local agencies and other interested parties are invited to make comments and suggestions to ensure that the full range of issues related to these proposed actions are addressed and all significant issues identified. All reasonable alternatives will be considered including the no-action option. Additional public outreach opportunities will be provided in the future for the public to review and comment on the draft Environmental Assessment.

Comments and suggestions should be received by the City of Chicago Department of Aviation contact person, identified above, by close of business Friday, October 20, 2000. Informational copies of comments may also be sent to the FAA Contact identified above.

Public Scoping Meetings

To facilitate receipt of comments, two public scoping meetings will be held on Thursday, October 5, 2000. An Agency Scoping Meeting will be held for Federal, State and local agencies from 10:00 a.m.–12:00 p.m. in the Michigan Conference Room at the Federal Aviation Administration's Great Lakes Region Office, 2300 East Devon Avenue, Des Plaines, Illinois. All persons planning to attend the agency scoping meeting which is during office hours should bring picture identification and if possible call ahead to acknowledge their expected attendance. This will facilitate issuance of a building security pass.

A Public Scoping Workshop will be held for members of the public and other interested parties between 5:00 p.m.–8:00 p.m. on the same day, Thursday, October 5, 2000. This meeting will be held at the Fountain Blue Banquets, 2300 S. Mannheim Road, Des Plaines, Illinois 60018.

Issued in Des Plaines, Illinois on August 24, 2000.

Philip M. Smithmeyer,

Manager, Chicago Airports District Office, FAA, Great Lakes Region.

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DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Federal Aviation Administration

[Summary Notice No. PE-2000-39]

Petitions for Exemption; Summary of Petitions Received; Dispositions of Petitions Issued

AGENCY: Federal Aviation Administration (FAA), DOT.

ACTION: Notice of petitions for exemption received and of dispositions of prior petitions.

SUMMARY: Pursuant to FAA's rulemaking provisions governing the application, processing, and disposition of petitions for exemption (14 CFR Part 11), this notice contains a summary of certain petitions seeking relief from specified requirements of the Federal Aviation Regulations (14 CFR Chapter I), dispositions of certain petitions previously received, and corrections. The purpose of this notice is to improve the public's awareness of, and participation in, this aspect of FAA's regulatory activities. Neither publication of this notice nor the inclusion or omission of information in the summary is intended to affect the legal status of any petition or its final disposition.