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TO CONFIRM ATTENDANCE OR FOR

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION: For additional information, contact Brian Hunt—voice: 202-647-5832, fax: 202-647-5957, e-mail: huntbj@state.gov.

Dated: October 18, 2002.

Steven W. Lett,

Deputy U.S. Coordinator, International Communications and Information Policy, Department of State.

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DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Federal Highway Administration

Environmental Impact Statement: Utah, Wasatch, Carbon, and Emery Counties, UT

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 (EIS) will be prepared for a proposed highway improvement project in Utah, Wasatch, Carbon, and Emery Counties, Utah.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Sandra Garcia, Transportation and Environmental Engineer, Federal Highway Administration, 2520 West 4700 South, Suite 9A, Salt Lake City, UT 84118, Telephone: (801) 963-0182.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The FHWA, in cooperation with the Utah Department of Transportation, will prepare an EIS on a proposal to improve US Highway 6 (US 6) in Utah, Wasatch, Carbon, and Emery Counties, Utah. The proposed improvements would involve reconstruction of the existing US 6 between Interstate-15 (I-15) at Spanish Fork and I-70 at Green River, a distance of about 206 kilometers (128 miles).

Improvements to the corridor are considered necessary to maximize safety by designing the highway to meet current standards and to provide for existing and future travel demand. Also, included in the proposal is the relocation of the port of entry in Helper, Utah. Alternatives under consideration include (1) taking no-action (no-build); (2) using alternate travel modes; (3) widening the existing two-lane highway to four lanes; and (4) adding passing and climbing lanes. Incorporated into and studied with the various build alternatives will be design variations of grade and alignment to improve overall safety.

Letters describing the proposed action and soliciting comments will be sent to appropriate federal, state, and local agencies, and to private organizations and citizens who have previously expressed or are known to have interest in this proposal. A series of public meetings will be held in Green River, Price, and Spanish Fork in November 2002. In addition, a public hearing will be held after the draft EIS has been prepared. The draft EIS will be available for public and agency review and comment before the public hearing.

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

(Catalogue of Federal and 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: October 16, 2002.

William R. Gedris,

Structural/Environmental Engineer, Salt Lake City, Utah.

[FR Doc. 02-27081 Filed 10-23-02; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Federal Transit Administration

Preparation of Alternatives Analysis and Environmental Impact Statement for Commuter Corridor Between the Cities of Deland and Kissimmee, FL

AGENCY: Federal Transit Administration (FTA), Department of Transportation (DOT).

ACTION: Notice of intent to prepare an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS).

SUMMARY: The Federal Transit Administration (FTA); the Central Florida Regional Transportation Authority (locally known as LYNX); METROPLAN ORLANDO, the Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) for the Orlando and Kissimmee, Florida urbanized areas; the Volusia County Metropolitan Planning Organization (Volusia County MPO); and the Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) intend to conduct scoping meetings and prepare an Alternatives Analysis leading to an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) to evaluate commuter transportation

improvements in the CSX Transportation (CSXT) freight rail corridor between the cities of Deland and Kissimmee, Florida in accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (NEPA), as amended.

This Notice of Intent is being published at this time to notify interested parties and to invite participation in the study. The study area will generally follow the existing CSXT Corridor from Deland, Florida to Kissimmee, Florida through the City of Orlando. The corridor analysis is necessary to explore alternative modes of north-south travel to Interstate 4 (I-4), currently under reconstruction and limited by capacity constraints.

The following alternatives will be evaluated in the study: (1) A baseline alternative based on existing LYNX operations, the most recent LYNX Transportation Development Plan for the corridor including but not limited to transit preferential treatments and/or Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) and other relevant studies. (2) Commuter Rail with Light Rail Transit (LRT), and without LRT, consistent with the METROPLAN ORLANDO 2020 Cost Feasible Long Range Plan associated bus feeder and public transit circulator service and the joint operations of CSXT. [Note: The alternative without LRT is to provide information to local decision makers as a part of the Long Range Plan update process and is not intended to be an alternative for consideration unless local decision makers modify the 2020 Cost Feasible Plan.] (3) A No Action Alternative with LRT.

DATES: Comment Due Date: Written comments on the scope of alternatives and impacts to be considered should be sent to Ms. LaChant Barnett, Project Manager, LYNX, 445 West Amelia Street, Suite 800, Orlando, Florida, 32801 by December 19, 2002. **Scoping Meetings:** Scoping for the study will be developed during review of previous studies and consultation with affected agencies and interested persons through correspondence and at public meetings.

ADDRESSES: A series of four public scoping meetings will be held in the corridor to explain the purpose of the study, describe the process that will be followed, define the limits of the study area, to answer any questions that may exist and to receive comments, thoughts and/or opinions relevant to the study. Dates, times and locations of the scoping meetings are as follows:

Tuesday, October 29, 2002, 11:30 am—1:30 p.m., Orlando Public Library—Albertson Conference Room—3rd Floor, 101 East Central Boulevard, Orlando, Florida 32801.