DEPARTMENT OF STATE

[Public Notice 6437]

Announcement of a Meeting of the International Telecommunication Advisory Committee

SUMMARY: This notice announces a meeting of the International Telecommunication Advisory Committee (ITAC) to prepare for an April 19–30 meeting of International Telecommunication Union (ITU) Telecommunication Standardization Sector (ITU–T) Study Group 13 (Future networks including mobile and Next Generation Networks).

The ITAC will meet by conference call to prepare advice for the U.S. government for the meeting of ITU–T Study Group 13 (Future networks including mobile and Next Generation Networks) on March 26, 10 a.m.—noon Eastern Time. Access to the conference bridge may be obtained on request to the ITAC Secretariat, minardje@state.gov or at (202) 647–3234. This meeting is open to the public and the public will have an opportunity to provide comments at this meeting. Any requests for reasonable accommodation should be made at least seven days before the meeting. All such requests will be considered; however, requests made after that date might not be possible to fulfill. Those desiring further information on this meeting may contact the Secretariat at minardje@state.gov or at (202) 647–3234.


James G. Ennis, International Communications & Information Policy, U.S. Department of State.

BILLING CODE 4710–07–P

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Federal Transit Administration

Preparation of an Alternatives Analysis and Environmental Impact Statement for High Capacity Transit Improvements for the Indianapolis Northeast Corridor in the Indiana Counties of Marion and Hamilton

AGENCY: Federal Transit Administration, U.S. Department of Transportation.

ACTION: Notice of Intent to prepare an Alternatives Analysis/Environmental Impact Statement.

SUMMARY: The Federal Transit Administration (FTA), the Central Indiana Regional Transportation Authority (CIRTA), the Indianapolis Metropolitan Planning Organization (Indianapolis MPO) and Indianapolis Public Transportation Corporation (IndyGo) intend to prepare an Alternatives Analysis/Environmental Impact Statement (AA/EIS) relating to proposed high capacity transit improvements in the Northeast Corridor located in the Indiana counties of Marion and Hamilton. The study area is an approximately 23-mile long travel corridor extending from downtown Indianapolis to the northern parts of Noblesville and includes the communities of Carmel and Fishers. Options to be considered include No-Build, Transportation System Management (TSM), Bus Rapid Transit (BRT), and Commuter Rail. The AA/EIS will be prepared in accordance with the requirements of the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) and its implementing regulations. The AA/EIS process provides opportunities for the public to comment on the scope of the EIS, including the project’s purpose and need, the alternatives to be considered, and the impacts to be evaluated. The southern terminal of all alternatives will be Union Station or an adjacent transit center in downtown Indianapolis.

The purpose of this notice is to alert interested parties regarding the intent to prepare the AA/EIS, to provide information on the nature of the proposed project and possible alternatives, to invite public participation in the AA/EIS process, including comments on the scope of the EIS as proposed in this notice, to announce that public scoping meetings will be conducted, and to identify participating agency contacts. This input will be used to assist decisionmakers in determining a locally preferred alternative (LPA) and Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS) for the Northeast Corridor. Upon selection of an LPA, the project sponsors will request permission from FTA to enter into preliminary engineering per requirements of New Starts regulations 49 CFR Part 611. The Final Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) will be issued after FTA approves entrance into preliminary engineering.

Dates, Times, and Locations: Comment Due Date: Written comments on the purpose and need for the proposed improvements, and the scope of alternatives and impacts to be considered should be sent to the Indianapolis MPO by April 30, 2010. Public scoping meetings to accept comments on the scope of the study will be held on the following dates:

• Wednesday, March 17 from 7 p.m. until 8:30 p.m. in the Julia Carson Government Center located at 300 E Fall
The public scoping meetings will be informal meetings in an open house format. Interested persons may ask questions about the proposal and the FTA's environmental review process. The project’s purpose and need and the initial set of alternatives proposed for study will be presented at these meetings. CIRTA, MPO and IndyGo project team members will be available to answer questions and receive comments. Writing stations will be available to those who wish to submit written comments at the public scoping meetings. Project team members will be available to listen and make notes of residents’ comments.

The public scoping meeting locations comply with the Americans with Disabilities Act. Persons needing special accommodations should contact Anna M. Tyskiewicz, Project Manager, at (317) 327–5487 or atyszkie@indygov.org at least 48 hours prior to the meeting. Subsequent to the public scoping meetings, an interagency scoping meeting for Federal, State, regional and local resource and regulatory agencies will be held in April 2010. All appropriate agencies that may have an interest in this project, or have a potential interest in becoming a participating agency, will be notified of the meeting through separate direct correspondence.

**Submitting Comments on the Scope of the Study:** Scoping materials will be available at the meetings and through the project’s Web site at [http://www.indyconnect.org](http://www.indyconnect.org). FTA, CIRTA, the Indianapolis MPO and IndyGo encourage broad participation in the AA/EIS process. All interested agencies, organizations, communities, and members of the public are invited to participate in the scoping process by reviewing and commenting on the scope of the AA/EIS.

**ADRESSES:** Written comments on the scope of the AA/EIS may be submitted to the attention of Anna M. Tyskiewicz, Project Manager, Indianapolis Metropolitan Planning Organization, City County Building, Suite 1922, 200 E. Washington Street, Indianapolis, Indiana 46204, Phone: (317) 327–5487, Fax (317) 327–9950, E-mail: atyszkie@indygov.org.

**Additional Information:** Contact Reginald Arkell, Federal Transit Administration, Region 5, 200 W. Adams Street, Suite 320, Chicago, Illinois 60606, Phone: 312–886–3704, E-mail: reginald.arkell@dot.gov.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**

**I. Scoping**

The FTA, the Indianapolis MPO and CIRTA invite all interested individuals, organizations, businesses, and Federal, State, and local agencies to participate in establishing the purpose and need, project alternatives, and methodologies of the environmental analysis approach for the AA/EIS, as well as participate in an active public involvement program. During the scoping process, the public is invited to comment on (a) the purpose and need; (b) the alternatives to be addressed; (c) the transit technologies to be evaluated; (d) the alignments and station locations to be considered; (e) the environmental, social, and economic impacts to be analyzed; and (f) the evaluation approach to be used to select the LPA.

NEPA “scoping” (40 CFR 1501.7) is intended to identify the significant issues associated with alternatives that will be examined in detail and to limit consideration of issues that are not truly significant. It is in the NEPA scoping process that potentially significant environmental impacts should be identified. Environmental benefits will also be highlighted.

Once the scope of the environmental study is defined, an annotated outline of the draft AA/EIS will be prepared and shared with interested agencies and the public. The outline will serve to: (1) Document the results of the scoping process; (2) contribute to the transparency of the process; and (3) provide a clear roadmap for concise development of the environmental document.

Following the public scoping process, public outreach activities will continue with interested residents, stakeholders and groups throughout the AA/EIS process. The Web site, [http://www.indyconnect.org](http://www.indyconnect.org), will be updated periodically to reflect the status of the project. Additional opportunities for public participation will be announced through mailings, notices, and press releases.

**II. Description of Study Area and Project Need**

The Study Area includes the main travel corridors between downtown Indianapolis and the rapidly growing areas of Hamilton County, Indiana, including the communities of Carmel, Fishers, and Noblesville, as well as the interurban high-density residential and commercial areas of northeastern and central Marion County. This is referred to as the Northeast Corridor. The length of this corridor, from downtown Indianapolis to the northern part of Noblesville, is approximately 23 miles.

This part of Indianapolis contains the region’s most severe travel congestion and mobility challenges. Previous studies have shown that the Northeast Corridor, and particularly I–69 north of I–465, continues to face the worst traffic congestion in the region. Given growing mobility challenges, forecasted populations and employment growth coupled by a strong urban center near downtown Indianapolis, a potential promising alternative is investment in transit to supplement and enhance existing Indianapolis bus systems (IndyGo) and to extend services to new markets throughout this regional corridor.

**III. Alternatives**

The proposed alternatives to be evaluated in the AA/EIS will include the following:

- **No-Build Alternative:** The No-Build Alternative is defined as the existing transportation system, plus any committed transportation improvements. Committed transportation improvements include projects that are already in the Indianapolis MPO and Indiana Department of Transportation (INDOT) financially constrained Transportation Improvement Program (TIP), which includes added travel lanes and interchange improvements on I–69 and I–465.
- **Transportation System Management (TSM) Alternative:** A TSM Alternative, which reflects the best that can be done for mobility without constructing a new transit guideway, is required as part of the New Starts evaluation process. Bus service would operate in mixed traffic along I–69, Binford Boulevard, Fall Creek Parkway, and the Capitol Avenue/ Illinois Street one-way pair between Noblesville and South Street in Indianapolis.
- **Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) Alternative:** A dedicated busway with on-line stations and other related capital improvements would be constructed in the HHPA Railroad right-of-way between Noblesville and approximately 10th Street in Indianapolis, then operations would occur on-street in mixed traffic via the Capitol Avenue/ Illinois Street one-way pair to South Street.
- **Commuter Rail Transit (CRT) Alternative:** In the commuter rail transit alternative, two different train technologies will be considered—FRA compliant vehicles (suitable for mixed traffic with freight trains) and non-FRA...
compliant light rail vehicles. FRA
compliant vehicles, which would
include passenger coaches powered by
diesel locomotives or diesel multiple
units (DMUs), would operate on
improved tracks in the HHPA Railroad
right-of-way between Noblesville and
approximately 10th Street in
Indianapolis, then in the CSX Railroad
right-of-way to Union Station. Non-
FRA-compliant DMU light rail vehicles
would operate on improved tracks in the
HHPA Railroad right-of-way
between Noblesville and approximately
10th Street in Indianapolis, then in the
CSX Railroad right-of-way to Union
Station. As an option for reaching a
downtown transit center at or adjacent
to Union Station, an alignment through
the street network of downtown
Indianapolis will be analyzed to avoid
potential freight conflicts and to allow
opportunities for additional stops in the
core downtown employment district.
Based on public and agency input
received during scoping, variations of
the above alternatives will be
considered for the Northeast Corridor.

IV. Potential Impacts for Analysis

The scoping process will identify
which of the following environmental
impact areas are most relevant to the
project, and merit further exploration in
the AA/EIS. The impact areas include:
land use, zoning, potential
displacements, parkland, economic
development, community disruptions,
environmental justice, aesthetics, air
quality, noise and vibration, wildlife,
vegetation, threatened and endangered
species, farmland, water quality,
wetlands, waterways, floodplains,
hazardous materials, and cultural,
historic and archaeological resources.

The AA/EIS will take into account
both positive and negative impacts,
direct and indirect impacts, short-term
and long-term impacts and site specific
and corridor wide impacts. Evaluation
criteria will be consistent with all
Federal, State, and local criteria,
regulations and policies. The AA/EIS
will identify measures to avoid or
mitigate significant adverse
environmental impacts.

To ensure that all significant issues
related to this proposed action are
identified and addressed, scoping
comments and suggestions are invited
from all interested parties.

The Public Involvement Program will
include a full range of involvement
activities. Activities will include
outreach to local and regional officials
and community and civic groups; a
public scoping process to define the
issues of concern among all parties
interested in the project; organizing
periodic meetings with various local
agencies, organizations and committees;
a public hearing on release of the DEIS;
and development and distribution of
project newsletters. There will be
additional opportunities to participate
in the scoping process in addition to the
public meetings announced in this
notice. Specific mechanisms for
involvement will be detailed in the
Public Involvement Program.

V. Evaluation Criteria

The Indianapolis MPO may seek New
Starts funding for the proposed project
under 49 U.S.C. 5309 and will therefore
be subject to New Starts regulations (49
CFR Part 611). The New Starts
regulations require a planning
Alternatives Analysis that leads to the
selection of a locally preferred
alternative and inclusion of the locally
preferred alternative as part of the long-
range transportation plan adopted by
the Indianapolis MPO. The New Starts
regulations also require the submission
of certain project-justification
information in support of a request to
initiate preliminary engineering, which
is normally developed in conjunction
with the NEPA process. Pertinent New
Starts evaluation criteria will be
included in an appendix of the EIS.

VI. The EIS Process and the Role of
Participating Agencies and the Public

The regulations implementing NEPA,
as well as provisions of the Safe,
Accountable, Flexible, Efficient
Transportation Equity Act: A Legacy for
Users (SAFETEA–LU), call for public
involvement in the AA/EIS process.
Section 6002 of SAFETEA–LU requires
the following: (1) Extend an invitation
to other Federal and non-Federal
agencies and Native American tribes
that may have an interest in the
proposed project, as well as the range of
alternatives for consideration in the AA/
EIS; and (3) establish a plan for
coordinating public and agency
participation in, and comment on, the
environmental review process.

The AA/EIS will be prepared in
accordance with NEPA and its
implementing regulations issued by the
Council on Environmental Quality (40
CFR Parts 1500–1508) and with the
FTA/Federal Highway Administration
regulations “Environmental Impact and
Related Procedures” (23 CFR Part 771).
In accordance with 23 CFR 771.105(a)
and 771.133, FTA will comply with all
Federal environmental laws,
regulations, and executive orders
applicable to the proposed project
during the environmental review
process to the maximum extent
practicable. These requirements
include, but are not limited to, the
environmental and public hearing
provisions of Federal transit laws (49
U.S.C. 5301(e), 5323(b), and 5324), the
project-level air quality conformity
regulation of the U.S. Environmental
Protection Agency (EPA) (40 CFR part
93), the section 404(b)(1) guidelines of
EPA (40 CFR part 230), the regulation
implementing section 106 of the
National Historic Preservation Act (36
CFR part 800), the regulation
implementing section 7 of the
Endangered Species Act (50 CFR part
402), section 4(f) of the Department of
Transportation Act (23 CFR 771.135),
and Executive Orders 12898 on
environmental justice, 11988 on
floodplain management.


Marisol Simón,
Regional Administrator.

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DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY
Office of Thrift Supervision

34 Disclosures

AGENCY: Office of Thrift Supervision
(OTS), Treasury.

ACTION: Notice and request for comment.

SUMMARY: The Department of the
Treasury, as part of its continuing effort
to reduce paperwork and respondent
burden, invites the general public and
other Federal agencies to comment on
proposed and continuing information
collections, as required by the
Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, 44
U.S.C. 3507. The Office of Thrift
Supervision within the Department of
the Treasury will submit the proposed
information collection requirement
described below to the Office of
Management and Budget (OMB) for
review, as required by the Paperwork
Reduction Act. Today, OTS is soliciting
public comments on its proposal to
extend this information collection.

DATES: Submit written comments on or
before May 10, 2010.

ADDRESSES: Send comments, referring to
the collection by title of the proposal or
by OMB approval number, to
Information Collection Comments, Chief
Counsel's Office, Office of Thrift
Supervision, 1700 G Street, NW.,
Washington, DC 20552; send a facsimile