DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration

[Docket No. FMCSA–2010–0070]

Agency Information Collection Activities; Revision of a Currently-Approved Information Collection Request: Transportation of Household Goods; Consumer Protection

AGENCY: Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration (FMCSA), DOT.

ACTION: Notice and request for comments.

SUMMARY: In accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, FMCSA announces its plans to submit the Information Collection Request (ICR) described below to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for its review and approval and invites public comment. The information collected will be used to help regulate motor carriers transporting household goods for individual shippers.

DATES: We must receive your comments on or before July 9, 2010.

ADDRESSES: You may submit comments bearing the Federal Docket Management System (FDMS) Docket Number FMCSA–2010–0070 using any of the following methods:

• Federal eRulemaking Portal: Go to http://www.regulations.gov. Follow the on-line instructions for submitting comments.

• Mail: Docket Management Facility; U.S. Department of Transportation, 1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE., West Building Ground Floor, Room W12–140, Washington, DC 20590–0001.

• Hand Delivery: West Building Ground Floor, Room W12–140, 1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE., Washington, DC 20590–0001 between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m., est, Monday through Friday, except Federal Holidays.

• Fax: 1–202–493–2251.

Each submission must include the Agency name and the docket number for this Notice. Note that DOT posts all comments received without change to http://www.regulations.gov, including any personal information included in a comment. Please see the Privacy Act heading below.

Docket: For access to the docket to read background documents or comments, go to http://www.regulations.gov at any time or Room W12–140 on the ground level of the West Building, 1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE., Washington, DC, 20590–0001 between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m., Monday through Friday, except Federal Holidays. The FDMS is available 24 hours each day, 365 days each year. If you want acknowledgement that we received your comments, please include a self-addressed, stamped envelope or post card or print the acknowledgement page that appears after submitting them on-line.

Privacy Act: Anyone may search the electronic form of all comments received into any of our dockets by the name of the individual submitting the comment (or of the person signing the comment, if submitted on behalf of an association, business, labor union, etc.). You may review the DOT’s complete Privacy Act Statement in the Federal Register on April 11, 2000 (65 FR 19476). This information is also available at http://docketsinfo.dot.gov.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Mr. James R. Dubose, Commercial Enforcement Division, Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration, West Building 6th Floor, 1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE., Washington, DC 20590. Telephone: 215–656–7251; e-mail james.dubose@dot.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Background: The Motor Carrier Safety Improvement Act of 1999 (Pub. L. 106–159, 113 Stat. 1749, December 9, 1999) (MCSIA) authorized the Secretary of Transportation to regulate household goods carriers engaged in interstate operations for individual shippers. In earlier legislation, Congress abolished the Interstate Commerce Commission and transferred the Commission’s jurisdiction over household goods transportation to the U.S. Department of Transportation (DOT) (ICC Termination Act of 1995, Pub. L. 104–88). Prior to FMCSA’s establishment, the Secretary delegated this household goods jurisdiction to the Federal Highway Administration, FMCSA’s predecessor organization within DOT.

Secretary of Transportation 4212 through 4216 of the Safe, Accountable, Flexible, Efficient Transportation Equity Act: A Legacy for Users (Pub. L. 109–59, 119 Stat. 1144, Aug. 10, 2005) (SAFETEA–LU) amended various provisions of existing law regarding household goods transportation. It specifically addressed: definitions (section 4202); payment of rates (section 4203); registration requirements for household goods motor carriers (section 4204); carrier operations (section 4205); enforcement of regulations (section 4206); liability of carriers under receipts and bills of lading (section 4207); arbitration requirements (section 4208); civil penalties for brokers and unauthorized transportation (section 4209); penalties for holding goods hostage (section 4210); consumer handbook (section 4211); release of broker information (section 4212); working group for Federal-State relations (section 4213); consumer complaint information (section 4214); review of liability of carriers (section 4215); and application of State laws (section 4216). The FMCSA regulations that set forth Federal requirements for movers that provide interstate transportation of household goods are found in 49 CFR part 375, “Transportation of Household Goods; Consumer Protection Regulation.”

Title: Transportation of Household Goods; Consumer Protection.

OMB Control Number: 2126–0025.

Type of Request: Revision of a currently-approved information collection.

Respondents: Motor carriers and individual shippers of household goods.

Estimated Number of Respondents: 6,000 household goods movers.

Estimated Time per Response: Varies from 5 minutes to display assigned U.S. DOT number in created advertisement to 12.5 minutes to distribute consumer publication.

Expiration Date: October 31, 2010.

Frequency of Response: On occasion.

Estimated Total Annual Burden: 5,556,000 hours [Informational documents provided to prospective shippers 75,400 hours + written cost estimates for prospective shippers 4,620,000 hours + service orders, bills of lading 805,300 hours + in-transit service notifications 22,600 hours + complaint and inquiry reports, including establishing records system 32,700 hours = 5,556,000].

Public Comments Invited: You are asked to comment on any aspect of this information collection, including: (1) Whether the proposed collection is necessary for the performance of FMCSA’s functions; (2) the accuracy of the estimated burden; (3) ways for FMCSA to enhance the quality, usefulness, and clarity of the collected
information; and (4) ways that the burden could be minimized without reducing the quality of the collected information. The Agency will summarize or include your comments in the request for OMB’s clearance of this information collection.  


Terry Shelton,  
Associate Administrator for Research and Information Technology.  

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DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION  
Federal Transit Administration  

Alternative Transit in Parks and Public Lands Program  

AGENCY: Federal Transit Administration (FTA), DOT.  

ACTION: Paul S. Sarbanes Transit in Parks Program Announcement of Project Selections.  

SUMMARY: The U.S. Department of Transportation’s (DOT) Federal Transit Administration (FTA) announces the selection of projects funded with Fiscal Year (FY) 2009 appropriations for the Paul S. Sarbanes Transit in Parks program (formally the Alternative Transportation in Parks and Public Lands (ATPPL)) program, authorized by Section 3021 of the Safe, Accountable, Flexible, Efficient Transportation Equity Act—A Legacy for Users of 2005 (SAFETEA–LU) and codified in 49 U.S.C. 5320. The Paul S. Sarbanes Transit in Parks program funds capital and planning expenses for alternative transportation systems in parks and public lands. Federal land management agencies and State, tribal and local governments acting with the consent of a Federal land management agency are eligible recipients.  

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Project sponsors who are State, local, or tribal entities may contact the appropriate FTA Regional Administrator (See the Appendix to this Notice) for grant-specific issues. Project sponsors who are a Federal land management agency or a specific unit of a Federal land management agency should work with the contact listed below at their headquarters office to coordinate the availability of funds to that unit.  

• National Park Service: Mark H Hartsoe, Mark.H.Hartsoe@nps.gov; tel: 202–513–7025, fax: 202–371–6675, mail: 1849 C Street, NW, (MS2420); Washington, DC 20240–0001.  

• Fish and Wildlife Service: Nathan Caldwell, Nathan.Caldwell@fws.gov, tel: 703–358–2205, fax: 703–358–2517, mail: 4401 N. Fairfax Drive, Room 634; Arlington, VA 22203.  

• Forest Service: Floyd Thompson, Fthompson02@fs.fed.us, tel: 202–205–1423, mail: 1400 Independence Avenue, SW., Washington, DC 20250–1101.  


For general information about the Paul S. Sarbanes Transit in Parks program, please contact Kimberly Sledge, Office of Program Management, Federal Transit Administration, at kimblyr.sledge@dot.gov, 202–366–2053.  

SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION: A total of $26,900,000 was appropriated for FTA’s Paul S. Sarbanes Transit in Parks program in Fiscal Year (FY) 2009. Of this amount, a minimum of $24,801,473 is available for project awards; $134,500 is reserved for oversight activities; $1,500,000 is reserved for planning, research, and technical assistance; and $464,027 will be added to available FY 2010 appropriations for the program. A total of 80 applicants requested $69.0 million, more than twice the amount available in FY 2009 for projects, indicating high competition for funds. Both the U.S. Department of Interior and DOT review committees evaluated the project proposals based on the criteria defined in 49 U.S.C. 5320(g)(2). Final selections were made through a collaborative process.  

The goals of the program are to conserve natural, historical, and cultural resources; reduce congestion and pollution; improve visitor mobility and accessibility; enhance visitor experience; and ensure access to all, including persons with disabilities through alternative transportation projects. The projects selected to use FY 2009 funding represent a diverse set of capital and planning projects across the country, ranging from bus purchases to installation of Intelligent Transportation Systems (ITS) and are listed in Table 1.  

Applying For Funds  

Recipients who are State or local government entities will be required to apply for Paul S. Sarbanes Transit in Parks program funds electronically through FTA’s electronic grant award and management system, TEAM. These entities are assigned discretionary project IDs as shown in Table 1 of this notice. The content of these grant applications must reflect the approved proposal. (Note: Applications for the Paul S. Sarbanes Transit in Parks program do not require Department of Labor Certification.) Upon grant award, payments to grantees will be made by electronic transfer to the grantee’s financial institution through FTA’s Electronic Clearing House Operation (ECHO) system. Staff in FTA’s Regional offices are available to assist applicants.  

Recipients who are Federal land management agencies will be required to enter into an interagency agreement with FTA. FTA will administer one interagency agreement with each Federal land management agency receiving funding through the program for all of that agency’s projects. Individual units of Federal land management agencies should work with the contact at their headquarters office listed above to coordinate the availability of funds to that unit.  

Program Requirements  

Section 5320 requires funding recipients to meet certain requirements. Requirements that reflect existing statutory and regulatory provisions can be found in the document “Alternative Transportation in Parks and Public Lands Program: Requirements for Recipients” available at http://www.fta.dot.gov/atppl. These requirements are incorporated into the grant agreements and inter-agency agreements used to fund the selected projects.  

Pre-Award Authority  

Pre-award authority allows an agency that will receive a grant or interagency agreement to incur certain project costs prior to receipt of the grant or interagency agreement and retain eligibility of the costs for subsequent reimbursement after the grant or agreement is approved. The recipient assumes all risk and is responsible for ensuring that all conditions are met to retain eligibility, including compliance with Federal requirements such as the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), SAFETEA–LU planning requirements, and provisions established in the grant contract or Intergency Agreement. This automatic pre-award spending authority, when triggered, permits a grantee to incur costs on an eligible transit capital or planning project without prejudice to possible future Federal participation in the cost of the project or projects. Under the authority provided in 49 U.S.C. 5320(b), FTA is extending pre-award authority for FY 2009 ATPPL projects effective April 5, 2010 when the projects were publicly announced.