

Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) of 1969, as amended (42 U.S.C. 4371, et seq.), Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ) regulations (40 CFR parts 1500–1508), FHWA Code of Federal Regulations (23 CFR 771.101–771.137, et seq.), and all applicable Federal, State, and local government laws, regulations, and policies.

The EIS will replace the Environmental Assessment (EA) currently being prepared by FHWA and DDOT for the proposed reconstruction of Virginia Avenue Tunnel. Engineering, environmental and public involvement work or activities associated with the EA preparation conducted to date will be incorporated into preparing the EIS. Cooperating agencies will be notified of FHWA's intent to prepare an EIS for the proposed reconstruction of Virginia Avenue Tunnel. Notices will also be given to other agencies, private organizations, citizens, and interest groups that have previously expressed or are known to have interest in the project. Public input will continue to be solicited through the ongoing public involvement and outreach effort.

Public Scoping Meetings: DDOT has solicited public and agency comments on the proposed action through public scoping, including public meetings held on September 14, 2011 and November 30, 2011. To ensure that the full range of issues is identified early in the process, comments are invited from all interested and/or potentially affected parties. The location and time for any future public meeting will be publicized in at least one local daily newspaper. Written comments will be accepted throughout this process and can be forwarded to Faisal Hameed at the address provided above. Any future meeting will also be announced on the project Web site accessible at <http://www.virginiaavenuetunnel.com>. Meeting materials will be available at all public meetings and after the meetings from the project Web site. At all future meetings, oral and written comments may be given. Comments may also be sent to Faisal Hameed at the above project Web site.

Description of Primary Study Area and Transportation Needs

Virginia Avenue Tunnel is located in the Capitol Hill neighborhood of Washington, DC beneath eastbound Virginia Avenue SE from 2nd Street SE (west portal) to 11th Street SE (east portal), a distance of approximately 3,800 feet. This section of Virginia Avenue SE is adjacent to or in close proximity to the U.S. Marine Corps recreation facility, National Park Service properties, residences and a few

businesses. The Southeast Freeway abuts the north side of Virginia Avenue SE throughout nearly all the project limits.

In order to meet the freight transportation needs of the 21st century, the capacity and condition of freight rail infrastructure must keep pace. Overall freight tonnage is projected to increase by 50 percent in 2040 from 2010 levels, and freight rail is expected to accommodate a substantial share of the future increase demand for freight land transportation in the U.S. The current deficiencies of Virginia Avenue Tunnel prevent CSX from operating their freight rail network in the manner needed to meet the projected freight transportation demand through the District of Columbia. The interior height and width of Virginia Avenue Tunnel do not meet the needs of modern freight rail infrastructure due to its single track arrangement and the inability to accommodate double-stack intermodal container freight trains. The single-track presents a bottleneck in the system, preventing fluid operations along CSX's mainline rail network. Built over 100 years ago, the tunnel is nearing the end of its useful life and is subject to an ever increasing level of maintenance and repairs. During construction of the project, which may last approximately three years, CSX must be able to maintain freight transport through the District of Columbia. Determining how CSX will maintain their freight rail transport through the District of Columbia during reconstruction of the tunnel will be part of the environmental review for this project.

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

Authority: 23 U.S.C. 315; 49 CFR 1.48.

Issued on: April 30, 2012.

Joseph C. Lawson,
Division Administrator, District of Columbia Division, Federal Highway Administration.

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DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Federal Highway Administration

Environmental Impact Statement: Madison County, IL

AGENCY: Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), DOT.

ACTION: Notice of Intent.

SUMMARY: The FHWA is issuing this notice of intent to advise the public that an Environmental Impact Statement will be prepared for a proposed transportation project in Alton and Godfrey, Illinois in an area bounded roughly by IL Route 3 on the south; Seminary Road on the east; Seiler Road on the north and US 67 on the west.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:
Norman Stoner, Division Administrator, Federal Highway Administration, 3250 Executive Park Drive, Springfield, Illinois 62703, Phone: (217) 492-4640.
Omer Osman, Deputy Director of Highways, Region 5 Engineer, Illinois Department of Transportation, 1102 Eastport Plaza Drive, Collinsville, Illinois 62234, Phone: (618) 346-3110.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The FHWA, in cooperation with the Illinois Department of Transportation (IDOT) will prepare an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for a project that involves improved transportation flow, safety and connectivity in Alton and Godfrey, Illinois. Improved connectivity will focus on IL Route 3 and IL Route 255. Possible alternatives include: No Action, an upgrade of existing roadways and connections, or roadways on new alignment with new connections.

IDOT has initiated a scoping process that involves all appropriate federal, state, and local agencies, consulting parties, private organizations and citizens who have previously expressed or are known to have interest in this proposal. Context Sensitive Solutions (CSS) is being used for this project and a Stakeholder Involvement Plan (SIP) has been developed. A public hearing will be held to present the findings of the Draft EIS. Public notice will be given regarding the time and place of the hearing. The Draft EIS will be available for public and agency review and comment prior to the public hearing.

There are sensitive resources within the study area. These resources include schools, a Centennial farm, wetlands, Coal Branch Creek, the West Fork of Wood River, and areas with highly erodible soils. Sites within the study area listed on the National Register of Historic Places include the Benjamin Godfrey Mansion, Benjamin Godfrey Memorial Chapel, and Gilman Hall at Lewis and Clark Community College and Bierbaum Monument and Levis Tomb at Oakwood Cemetery. There is potential for archaeological sites within the study area. No formal neighborhood groups are within the study area. However, there are several residential subdivisions and cohesiveness and character of neighborhoods as well as noise impacts will need to be further

analyzed. In addition, it has yet to be determined if there is potential for threatened and endangered species within the study area.

To ensure that the full range of issues related to this proposed action are addressed and all major issues are identified in the process, comments and suggestions are invited from all interested and/or potentially affected parties. Comments or questions concerning this proposed action and the EIS should be directed to FHWA or IDOT at the addresses 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: April 24, 2012.

Norman R. Stoner,

Division Administrator Springfield, Illinois.

[FR Doc. 2012-10448 Filed 4-30-12; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Federal Railroad Administration

[Docket Number FRA-2012-0034]

Petition for Waiver of Compliance

In accordance with Part 211 of Title 49 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR), this document provides the public notice that by a document dated March 21, 2012, the City of Nevada, Iowa (City), has petitioned the Federal Railroad Administration (FRA) for a waiver of compliance from certain provisions of the Federal railroad safety regulations contained at 49 CFR part 222. FRA assigned the petition Docket Number FRA-2012-0034.

The City is seeking a waiver from the provisions of 49 CFR 222.35(b), which requires active grade crossing warning devices at public crossings within a new quiet zone be equipped with constant warning time devices, so that the active grade crossing warning devices at South West 4th Street (DOT #199653D) are not required to be equipped with a constant warning time device in order to be included in a new quiet zone.

A copy of the petition, as well as any written communications concerning the petition, is available for review online at www.regulations.gov and in person at the U.S. Department of Transportation's (DOT) Docket Operations Facility, 1200 New Jersey Avenue SE., W12-140, Washington, DC 20590. The Docket Operations Facility is open from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday through Friday, except Federal Holidays.

Interested parties are invited to participate in these proceedings by submitting written views, data, or comments. FRA does not anticipate scheduling a public hearing in connection with these proceedings since the facts do not appear to warrant a hearing. If any interested party desires an opportunity for oral comment, they should notify FRA, in writing, before the end of the comment period and specify the basis for their request.

All communications concerning these proceedings should identify the appropriate docket number and may be submitted by any of the following methods:

- **Web site:** <http://www.regulations.gov>. Follow the online instructions for submitting comments.
- **Fax:** 202-493-2251.
- **Mail:** Docket Operations Facility, U.S. Department of Transportation, 1200 New Jersey Avenue SE., W12-140, Washington, DC 20590.
- **Hand Delivery:** 1200 New Jersey Avenue SE., Room W12-140, Washington, DC 20590, between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m., Monday through Friday, except Federal Holidays.

Communications received by June 15, 2012 will be considered by FRA before final action is taken. Comments received after that date will be considered as far as practicable.

Anyone is able to search the electronic form of any written communications and comments received into any of our dockets by the name of the individual submitting the comment (or signing the comment, if submitted on behalf of an association, business, labor union, etc.). You may review DOT's complete Privacy Act Statement in the **Federal Register** published on April 11, 2000 (Volume 65, Number 70; Pages 19477-78), or online at <http://www.dot.gov/privacy.html>.

Issued in Washington, DC, on April 25, 2012.

Ron Hynes,

Acting Deputy Associate Administrator for Regulatory and Legislative Operations.

[FR Doc. 2012-10421 Filed 4-30-12; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY

Internal Revenue Service

Proposed Information Collection; Comment Request

AGENCY: Internal Revenue Service (IRS), Treasury.

ACTION: Notice and request for comments.

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 take this opportunity to comment on proposed and/or continuing information collections, as required by the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, Public Law 104-13 (44 U.S.C. 3506(c)(2)(A)).

DATES: Written comments should be received on or before July 2, 2012 to be assured of consideration.

ADDRESSES: Direct all written comments to Yvette B. Lawrence, Internal Revenue Service, Room 6129, 1111 Constitution Avenue NW., Washington, DC 20224.

Please send separate comments for each specific information collection listed below. You must reference the information collection's title, form number, reporting or record-keeping requirement number, and OMB number (if any) in your comment.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: To obtain additional information, or copies of the information collection and instructions, or copies of any comments received, contact Elaine Christophe, at (202) 622-3179, or at Internal Revenue Service, Room 6129, 1111 Constitution Avenue NW., Washington, DC 20224, or through the internet, at Elaine.H.Christophe@irs.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Request for Comments

The Department of the Treasury and the Internal Revenue Service, as part of their continuing effort to reduce paperwork and respondent burden, invite the general public and other Federal agencies to take this opportunity to comment on the proposed or continuing information collections listed below in this notice, as required by the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, (44 U.S.C. 3501 *et seq.*).

Request for Comments: Comments submitted in response to this notice will be summarized and/or included in our request for Office of Management and Budget (OMB) approval of the relevant information collection. All comments will become a matter of public record. Please do not include any confidential or inappropriate material in your comments.

We invite comments on: (a) Whether the collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the agency's functions, including whether the information has practical utility; (b) the accuracy of the agency's estimate of the burden of the collection of information; (c) ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the