

service of the vessel Altitude Adjustment (Traveller) is:

*Intended Commercial Use of Vessel:* "Charter sailing trips with 6 passengers or less"

*Geographic Region:* "Puerto Rico, Florida"

The complete application is given in DOT docket MARAD-2016-0003 at <http://www.regulations.gov>. Interested parties may comment on the effect this action may have on U.S. vessel builders or businesses in the U.S. that use U.S.-flag vessels. If MARAD determines, in accordance with 46 U.S.C. 12121 and MARAD's regulations at 46 CFR part 388, that the issuance of the waiver will have an unduly adverse effect on a U.S.-vessel builder or a business that uses U.S.-flag vessels in that business, a waiver will not be granted. Comments should refer to the docket number of this notice and the vessel name in order for MARAD to properly consider the comments. Comments should also state the commenter's interest in the waiver application, and address the waiver criteria given in § 388.4 of MARAD's regulations at 46 CFR part 388.

#### Privacy Act

Anyone is able to search the electronic form of all 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).

By Order of the Maritime Administrator.

Dated: January 12, 2016.

**T. Mitchell Hudson, Jr.,**

*Secretary, Maritime Administration.*

[FR Doc. 2016-01862 Filed 2-1-16; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 4910-81-P**

## DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

### Maritime Administration

[Docket No. DOT-MARAD-2016-0005]

#### Request for Comments of a Previously Approved Information Collection

**AGENCY:** Maritime Administration (MARAD), Department of Transportation.

**ACTION:** Notice and request for comments.

**SUMMARY:** In compliance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (44 U.S.C. 3501 *et seq.*), this notice announces that the Information

Collection Request (ICR) abstracted below is being forwarded to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for review and comments. A **Federal Register** Notice with a 60-day comment period soliciting comments on the following information collection was published on October 15, 2015 (80 FR 62167, No.199).

**DATES:** Comments must be submitted on or before March 3, 2016.

#### FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Michael Hokana, 202-366-0760, Office of Cargo and Commercial Sealift, Maritime Administration, U.S. Department of Transportation, 1200 New Jersey Avenue SE., Washington, DC 20590.

#### SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

*Title:* Jones Act Vessel Availability Determinations.

*OMB Control Number:* 2133-0545.

*Type of Request:* Renewal of a Previously Approved Information Collection.

*Abstract:* The information is needed in order for the Maritime Administrator to make a timely and informed decision on the availability of coastwise qualified vessels in support of a request from the Department of Homeland Security prior to the final decision on granting a waiver request under 46 U.S.C. 501(b). The information will be specifically used to determine if there are coastwise qualified vessels available for a certain requirement.

*Affected Public:* Coastwise qualified vessel owners, operators, charterers, brokers and representatives.

*Form(s):* MA-1075, 1075A.

*Estimated Number of Respondents:* 85.

*Estimated Number of Responses:* 255.

*Annual Estimated Total Annual*

*Burden Hours:* 383 hours.

**ADDRESSES:** Send comments regarding the burden estimate, including suggestions for reducing the burden, to the Office of Management and Budget, Attention: Desk Officer for the Office of the Secretary of Transportation, 725 17th Street NW., Washington, DC 20503.

Comments are invited on: Whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the Department, including whether the information will have practical utility; the accuracy of the Department's estimate of the burden of the proposed information collection; ways to enhance the quality, utility and clarity of the information to be collected; and ways to minimize the burden of the collection of information on respondents, including the use of automated collection techniques or other forms of information technology.

**Authority:** The Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995; 44 U.S.C. chapter 35, as amended; and 49 CFR 1.93.

Dated: January 12, 2016.

**T. Mitchell Hudson, Jr.,**

*Secretary, Maritime Administration.*

[FR Doc. 2016-01863 Filed 2-1-16; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 4910-81-P**

## DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

### Maritime Administration

[Docket No. MARAD-2016 0002]

#### Requested Administrative Waiver of the Coastwise Trade Laws: Vessel PAU HANA; Invitation for Public Comments

**AGENCY:** Maritime Administration, Department of Transportation.

**ACTION:** Notice.

**SUMMARY:** As authorized by 46 U.S.C. 12121, the Secretary of Transportation, as represented by the Maritime Administration (MARAD), is authorized to grant waivers of the U.S.-build requirement of the coastwise laws under certain circumstances. A request for such a waiver has been received by MARAD. The vessel, and a brief description of the proposed service, is listed below.

**DATES:** Submit comments on or before March 3, 2016.

**ADDRESSES:** Comments should refer to docket number MARAD-2016-0002. Written comments may be submitted by hand or by mail to the Docket Clerk, U.S. Department of Transportation, Docket Operations, M-30, West Building Ground Floor, Room W12-140, 1200 New Jersey Avenue SE., Washington, DC 20590. You may also send comments electronically via the Internet at <http://www.regulations.gov>. All comments will become part of this docket and will be available for inspection and copying at the above address between 10 a.m. and 5 p.m., E.T., Monday through Friday, except federal holidays. An electronic version of this document and all documents entered into this docket is available on the World Wide Web at <http://www.regulations.gov>.

#### FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Bianca Carr, U.S. Department of Transportation, Maritime Administration, 1200 New Jersey Avenue SE., Room W23-465, Washington, DC 20590. Telephone 202-366-9309, Email [Bianca.carr@dot.gov](mailto:Bianca.carr@dot.gov).

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** As described by the applicant the intended service of the vessel PAU HANA is:

*Intended Commercial Use Of Vessel:* “Passenger Charter (term-average one week long)”

*Geographic Region:* “Virginia, North Carolina, South Carolina, Georgia, Alabama, Puerto Rico, Hawaii, California”

The complete application is given in DOT docket MARAD-2016-0002 at <http://www.regulations.gov>. Interested parties may comment on the effect this action may have on U.S. vessel builders or businesses in the U.S. that use U.S.-flag vessels. If MARAD determines, in accordance with 46 U.S.C. 12121 and MARAD’s regulations at 46 CFR part 388, that the issuance of the waiver will have an unduly adverse effect on a U.S.-vessel builder or a business that uses U.S.-flag vessels in that business, a waiver will not be granted. Comments should refer to the docket number of this notice and the vessel name in order for MARAD to properly consider the comments. Comments should also state the commenter’s interest in the waiver application, and address the waiver criteria given in § 388.4 of MARAD’s regulations at 46 CFR part 388.

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By Order of the Maritime Administrator.

Dated: January 12, 2016.

**T. Mitchell Hudson, Jr.,**

*Secretary, Maritime Administration.*

[FR Doc. 2016-01873 Filed 2-1-16; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4910-81-P

## DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

### Office of the Assistant Secretary for Research and Technology; University Transportation Centers Program Competition

**AGENCY:** Office of the Assistant Secretary for Research and Technology (OST–R), DOT.

**ACTION:** Notice.

**SUMMARY:** The United States Department of Transportation (the Department) is publishing this notice to give eligible nonprofit institutions of higher learning advance notice that they will have an opportunity to submit grant applications for the University Transportation

Centers (UTCs) program (Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance number 20.701).

Funds for this grant program are authorized beginning on October 1, 2015. In the near future, the Department, via the Office of the Assistant Secretary for Research and Technology, will release a grant solicitation through [Grants.gov](http://www.grants.gov), also posted on the UTC Program’s Web site, <http://utc.dot.gov>, describing the competition and deadlines for applications. Proposals will be evaluated through a competitive process on the basis of demonstrated ability, research, technology transfer and education resources, leadership, multimodal research capability, commitment to transportation workforce development programs, dissemination of results, the use of peer review, cost effectiveness and partnerships to advance diversity.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Dr. Kevin Womack, Director, Office of Research, Development and Technology, mail code RDT–10, Office of the Assistant Secretary for Research and Technology (OST–R), 1200 New Jersey Avenue SE., Washington, DC 20590. Telephone Number (405) 954–7312 or Email [Kevin.Womack@dot.gov](mailto:Kevin.Womack@dot.gov).

#### SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

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#### I. Background

The Fixing America’s Surface Transportation Act (FAST Act; Pub. L. 114–94, Sec. 6002(a)(5); December 4, 2015) authorizes \$72.5 million for Federal fiscal year 2016 (FY 2016), \$75 million for fiscal years 2017 (FY 2017) and 2018 (FY 2018), and \$77.5 million for fiscal years 2019 (FY 2019) and 2020 (FY 2020) for up to 35 competitive grants for UTCs. The FY 2016 through FY 2020 funds are subject to appropriations and to an annual obligation limitation. The amount of budget authority available in a given year may be less than the amount authorized for that fiscal year.

The FAST Act authorizes the Secretary of Transportation to make grants to eligible nonprofit institutions of higher education to establish and operate UTCs. Nonprofit institutions of higher education may include qualifying two-year institutions (20 U.S.C. 1001(a)). OST–R will manage the UTC Program for the Department. The

Department will solicit competitive grant applications for National University Transportation Centers, Regional University Transportation Centers and Tier 1 University Transportation Centers as set forth in the FAST Act. UTCs will be selected by the Secretary, in consultation as appropriate with the Assistant Secretary for Research and Technology, and the Administrator of the Federal Highway Administration and other modal administrators as appropriate. (49 U.S.C. 5505(b)(4)(B) as amended by Pub. L. 114–94, Sec. 6016).

The Department plans to competitively select five National UTCs with annual awards for five years of between \$2 and \$4 million each, ten Regional UTCs with annual awards of between \$1.5 and \$3 million each, and up to 20 Tier 1 UTCs with annual awards of between \$1 and \$2 million each.

The role of each UTC is to advance transportation expertise and technology in the varied disciplines that comprise the field of transportation through education, research, and technology transfer activities; to provide for a critical transportation knowledge base outside of the Department of Transportation; and to address critical workforce needs and educate the next generation of transportation leaders.

#### II. Eligibility

A UTC must be located in the United States or territories. A change in the UTC Program from prior authorizations is that each UTC must be a consortium of two or more nonprofit institutions of higher learning (49 U.S.C. 5505(b)(1) as amended by Pub. L. 114–94, § 6016).

A Regional UTC must be located in the region for which the grant is sought. (49 U.S.C. 5505(c)(3)(B)(ii) as amended by Pub. L. 114–94, § 6016). All members of a Regional UTC consortium must be located in the region for which the grant is sought.

Institutions may collaborate with state and local departments of transportation, Metropolitan Planning Organizations, the private sector, and non-governmental organizations; however, these organizations or others that are not U.S. nonprofit institutions of higher learning may not be considered members of a consortium. A change from previous UTC Program competitions is that two-year institutions may be members of a consortium if they meet the definition of “institution of higher learning” in 20 U.S.C. 1001(a). The grantee institution (lead institution of a consortium of institutions) will be the direct and primary recipient of UTC program