

compatibility program are delineated in FAR Part 150, section 150.5. Approval is not a determination concerning the acceptability of land uses under Federal, state, or local law. Approval does not by itself constitute an FAA implementing action. A request for Federal action or approval to implement specific noise compatibility measures may be required, and an FAA decision on the request may require an environmental assessment of the proposed action.

Approval does not constitute a commitment by the FAA to financially assist in the implementation of the program nor a determination that all measures covered by the program are eligible for grant-in-aid funding from the FAA. Where federal funding is sought, requests for project grants must be submitted to the FAA Regional Office in Fort Worth, Texas.

The Lafayette Airport Commission submitted to the FAA on November 29, 2011 the noise exposure maps, descriptions, and other documentation produced during the noise compatibility planning study conducted from August 14, 2013 through August 6, 2014. The Lafayette Regional Airport noise exposure maps were determined by FAA to be in compliance with applicable requirements on April 4, 2012. Notice of this determination was published in the **Federal Register** on April 13, 2012.

The Lafayette Regional Airport study contains a proposed noise compatibility program comprised of actions designed for phased implementation by airport management and adjacent jurisdictions from August 6, 2014 to the year 2017. It was requested that the FAA evaluate and approve this material as a noise compatibility program as described in section 47504 of the Act. The FAA began its review of the program on May 25, 2015 and was required by a provision of the Act to approve or disapprove the program within 180 days (other than the use of new or modified flight procedures for noise control). Failure to approve or disapprove such program within the 180-day period shall be deemed to be an approval of such program.

The submitted program contained two proposed actions for noise mitigation off the airport. The FAA completed its review and determined that the procedural and substantive requirements of the Act and FAR Part 150 have been satisfied. The overall program, therefore, was approved by the FAA effective November 23, 2015.

Outright approval was granted for both of the specific program elements. A preventive land use mitigation measure would offer owners of vacant residential

parcels located within the existing DNL 65 contour the opportunity to participate in the Avigation Easement Acquisition Program. A remedial measure would offer owners of residential properties located within the DNL 65 contour the opportunity to participate in the Avigation Easement Acquisition Program.

These determinations are set forth in detail in a Record of Approval signed by the FAA Southwest Region Airports Division Manager on November 23, 2015. The Record of Approval, as well as other evaluation materials and the documents comprising the submittal, are available for review at the FAA office listed above and at the administrative offices of the Lafayette Airport Commission. The Record of Approval also will be available on-line at <http://www.faa.gov/arp/environmental/14cfr150/index14.cfm>.

Issued in Fort Worth, Texas, February 4, 2016.

**Ignacio Flores,**

*Manager, Airports Division.*

[FR Doc. 2016-04763 Filed 3-2-16; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 4910-13-P**

## DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

### Federal Aviation Administration

#### Notice of Intent To Rule on Request To Release Airport Property at the Gainesville Municipal Airport in Gainesville, Texas

**AGENCY:** Federal Aviation Administration (FAA), DOT.

**ACTION:** Notice of request to release airport property.

**SUMMARY:** The FAA proposes to rule and invite public comment on the release of land at the Gainesville Municipal Airport under the provisions of Section 125 of the Wendell H. Ford Aviation Investment Reform Act for the 21st Century (AIR 21).

**DATES:** Comments must be received on or before April 4, 2016.

**ADDRESSES:** Comments on this application may be mailed or delivered to the FAA at the following address: Mr. Cameron Bryan, Acting Manager, Federal Aviation Administration, Southwest Region, Airports Division, Texas Airports Development Office, ASW-650, 10101 Hillwood Parkway, Fort Worth, Texas 76177.

In addition, one copy of any comments submitted to the FAA must be mailed or delivered to Mr. Barry Sullivan, City Manager, at the following address: 2300 Airport Drive, Gainesville, Texas 76240.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Mr. Anthony Mekhail, Program Manager, Federal Aviation Administration, Texas Airports Development Office, ASW-650, 10101 Hillwood Parkway, Fort Worth, TX 76177, Telephone: (817) 222-5663, email: [Anthony.Mekhail@faa.gov](mailto:Anthony.Mekhail@faa.gov).

The request to release property may be reviewed in person at this same location.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The FAA invites public comment on the request to release property at the Gainesville Municipal Airport under the provisions of the AIR 21.

The following is a brief overview of the request: City of Gainesville requests the release of 20 acres of non-aeronautical airport property. The property is located on the southeast side of the airport, bordered by US HWY 82 to the south. The property to be released will be sold and revenues shall be used to enhance development, operations and maintenance of the airport. Any person may inspect the request in person at the FAA office listed above under **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT.**

In addition, any person may, upon request, inspect the application, notice and other documents relevant to the application in person at the Gainesville Municipal Airport, telephone number (940) 668-4500.

Issued in Fort Worth, Texas on February 2, 2016.

**Ignacio Flores**

*Manager, Airports Division.*

[FR Doc. 2016-04764 Filed 3-2-16; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 4910-13-P**

## DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

### Federal Railroad Administration

[Docket Number FRA-2010-0180]

#### 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 February 9, 2016, the Denton County Transportation Authority (DCTA) has petitioned the Federal Railroad Administration (FRA) for an extension of its existing waiver of compliance from certain provisions of the Federal railroad safety regulations. Specifically, DCTA is requesting an extension of its existing relief from the following parts and specific regulations of 49 CFR part 238, Passenger Equipment Safety Standards (Sections 238.115, 238.121, 238.223, 238.305, 238.309, and Appendix D); Part 229, Railroad

Locomotive Safety Standards (Sections 229.31, 229.51, 229.47, 229.71, 229.135, and Appendix D); Part 231, Railroad Safety Appliance Standards (Section 231.14); and Part 239, Passenger Train Emergency Preparedness (Section 239.101). FRA assigned the petition Docket Number FRA–2010–0180.

DCTA operates its “A-train” commuter rail service along a 21.3-mile corridor adjacent to and parallel with Interstate 35 between Dallas, TX, and Denton, TX, featuring six station stops. The commuter rail operation is contracted to Herzog for vehicle and right-of-way maintenance, dispatching services, dispatching, and operations. The corridor also has a currently active freight operation served by the Dallas Garland and Northeastern Railroad, which provides freight service to customers in the Lewisville, TX, area. The passenger operations are temporally separated from freight operations through a plan on file with FRA using interlocked derails on the southern terminus and stub-end track on the northern terminus. In its extension request, DCTA states that a real-time shunt monitoring system is being installed in conjunction with Positive Train Control.

DCTA operates Stadler diesel multiple-unit (DMU) vehicles constructed to meet European safety standards for crashworthiness and related safety measures. As asserted in its original petition, DCTA chose these vehicles because DCTA believes that they offer an equivalent or higher level of safety, security, and performance to the passenger and crew than conventional FRA-compliant equipment.

In a July 13, 2011, decision letter, FRA granted relief from the Federal railroad safety regulations listed above. Additionally, FRA invoked its authority under 49 U.S.C. 20306 to exempt DCTA from the requirements of 49 U.S.C. 20302 for sill steps and end handholds. The current waiver expires on July 13, 2016.

FRA notes that this docket number includes a separate permanent decision letter dated May 31, 2012, which was granted in accordance with FRA’s October 2011 final report and guidelines on “Technical Criteria and Procedures for Evaluating the Crashworthiness and Occupant Protection Performance of Alternatively Designed Passenger Rail Equipment for Use in Tier I Service,” issued by the Engineering Task Force (ETF). This letter, known as the “Alternatively Designed Vehicle (AVT)” waiver, was granted to DCTA for use of its Stadler GTW 2/6 DMUs, finding that they are in compliance with

crashworthiness criteria contained in the ETF guidelines. DCTA is not requesting any modification of the conditions contained in that decision letter.

A copy of the petition, as well as any written communications concerning the petition, is available for review online at [www.regulations.gov](http://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 April 18, 2016 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 document, if submitted on behalf of an association, business, labor union, etc.). In accordance with 5 U.S.C. 553(c), DOT solicits comments from the public to better inform its processes. DOT posts these comments, without edit, including any personal information the commenter provides, to [www.regulations.gov](http://www.regulations.gov), as described in the system of records notice (DOT/ALL–14 FDMS), which can be reviewed at [www.dot.gov/privacy](http://www.dot.gov/privacy). See also <http://www.regulations.gov/#!privacyNotice> for the privacy notice of regulations.gov.

[www.regulations.gov/#!privacyNotice](http://www.regulations.gov/#!privacyNotice) for the privacy notice of regulations.gov.

**Robert C. Lauby,**  
Associate Administrator for Railroad Safety,  
Chief Safety Officer.

[FR Doc. 2016–04670 Filed 3–2–16; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4910–06–P

## DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

### Federal Transit Administration

[Docket Number: FTA–2016–0013]

#### Notice of Proposed Equal Employment Opportunity Program Circular

**AGENCY:** Federal Transit Administration, DOT.

**ACTION:** Notice of proposed revisions to circular and request for comment.

**SUMMARY:** The Federal Transit Administration (FTA) has placed in the docket and on its Web site proposed guidance in the form of a Circular to assist grantees in complying with various Equal Employment Opportunity regulations and statutes. The purpose of this Circular is to provide recipients of FTA financial assistance with instructions and guidance necessary to carry out the U.S. Department of Transportation’s Equal Employment Opportunity regulations (\*\*\*\*). FTA is updating its “Equal Employment Opportunity (EEO) Program Guidelines for Grant Recipients” to clarify the requirements for compliance. By this notice, FTA invites public comment on the proposed circular.

**DATES:** Comments must be submitted by May 2, 2016. Late-filed comments will be considered to the extent practicable.

**ADDRESSES:** Please submit your comments by only one of the following methods, identifying your submission by docket No. FTA–2016–0013. All electronic submissions must be made to the U.S. Government electronic site at <http://www.regulations.gov>.

(1) *Federal eRulemaking Portal:* Go to <http://www.regulations.gov> and follow the online instructions for submitting comments.

(2) *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.

(3) *Hand Delivery or Courier:* West Building, Ground Floor, Room W12–140, 1200 New Jersey Avenue SE., between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m. Eastern time, Monday through Friday, except Federal holidays.

(4) *Fax:* (202) 493–2251.

*Instructions:* You must include the agency name (Federal Transit