

acquire or subsidize a rail line for continued service, or to impose a trail use/railbanking or public use condition.

First, under 49 U.S.C. 10904, the filing of an "Offer of Financial Assistance" (OFA) starts a process of negotiations to define the financial assistance needed to purchase or subsidize the rail line sought for abandonment. Once the OFA is filed, the offeror may request additional information from the railroad, which the railroad must provide. If the parties cannot agree to the sale or subsidy, either party also may file a request for the Board to set the terms and conditions of the financial assistance. Or, under section 10905, a public use request allows the Board to impose a 180-day public use condition on the abandonment of a rail line, permitting the parties to negotiate a public use for the rail line. Alternatively, under section 10907, a feeder line application provides the basis for authorizing an involuntary sale of a rail line.

Finally, under the Trails Act and its regulations (49 CFR 1152.29), a trail-use request, if agreed upon by the abandoning carrier, requires the Board to condition the abandonment by issuing a Notice of Interim Trail Use (NITU) or Certificate of Interim Trail Use (CITU). The CITU/NITU permits parties, for 180 days, to negotiate for an interim trail use/railbanking agreement for the rail line. If parties reach an agreement, the CITU/NITU automatically authorizes interim trail use/railbanking, and the parties must notify the Board that they have reached an agreement. The interim trails use/railbanking preserves the rail corridor for possible future use as an active rail line again. If no agreement is reached, then upon expiration of the negotiation period, the CITU/NITU authorizes the railroad to exercise its option to fully abandon the line without further action by the Board.

The collection by the Board of these offers, requests, and applications, and the railroad's replies (when required), enables the Board to meet its statutory duty to regulate the referenced rail transactions.

#### Description of Collection 2

*Title:* Notifications of Trails Act Agreement and Substitute Sponsorship.

*OMB Control Number:* 2140-0017.

*STB Form Number:* None.

*Type of Review:* Merger.

*Respondents:* Rail carriers; parties to an interim trail use agreement; substitute trail sponsors; and state and local governments.

*Number of Respondents:* 40.

*Estimated Time per Response:* One hour.

*Frequency:* On occasion.

*Total Burden Hours (annually including all respondents):* 40 hours.

*Total "Non-hour Burden" Cost:* None identified. Submissions may be submitted electronically to the Board.

*Needs and Uses:* As described in "Description of Collection 1" above, the STB will issue a CITU or NITU to a prospective trail sponsor who seeks a trails use/railbanking agreement with the rail carrier of the rail line that is being abandoned. The CITU/NITU permits parties, for 180 days, to negotiate for a trails use/railbanking agreement. If parties reach an agreement, then, under 49 CFR 1152.29, they must jointly notify the Board of that fact and must identify the exact location of the right-of-way subject to the agreement, including a map and milepost marker information. The rules also require parties to file a petition to modify or vacate the CITU/NITU if the trail use/railbanking agreement applies to less of the right-of-way than what is covered by the CITU/NITU. Finally, the rules require that a substitute trail sponsor must acknowledge that interim trail use is subject to restoration and reactivation at any time. The collection by the Board of this information enables the agency to ensure that the documentation for activities under the Trails Act remains current.

The Board makes this submission because, under the PRA, a federal agency that conducts or sponsors a collection of information must display a currently valid OMB control number. The Board also notes that it will be seeking approval to merge the two related collections, as described above. A collection of information, which is defined in 44 U.S.C. 3502(3) and 5 CFR 1320.3(c), includes agency requirements that persons submit reports, keep records, or provide information to the agency, third parties, or the public. Under 44 U.S.C. 3506(c)(2)(A), federal agencies are required to provide, prior to an agency's submitting a collection to OMB for approval, a 60-day notice and comment period through publication in the **Federal Register** concerning each proposed collection of information, including each proposed extension of an existing collection of information.

Dated: April 13, 2018.

**Jeffrey Herzig,**

*Clearance Clerk.*

[FR Doc. 2018-08095 Filed 4-17-18; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 4915-01-P**

## DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

### Federal Aviation Administration

[Docket No: FAA-2011-0786]

#### Deadline for Notification of Intent To Use the Airport Improvement Program's (AIP) Primary, Cargo, and Nonprimary Entitlement Funds Available for Fiscal Year (FY) 2018

**AGENCY:** Federal Aviation Administration (FAA), Department of Transportation.

**ACTION:** Notice.

**SUMMARY:** The FAA announces May 15, 2018, as the deadline for each airport sponsor to notify the FAA whether or not it will use its FY 2018 entitlement funds (also referred to as apportioned funds) available under 49 U.S.C. 47114 to support AIP-eligible projects that the airport sponsor previously identified through the Airports Capital Improvement Plan process during the preceding year.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Elliott Black, Director, Office of Airport Planning and Programming, APP-1, at (202) 267-8775.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** Title 49 U.S.C. 47105(f) provides that the sponsor of each airport to which entitlement funds are apportioned shall notify the Secretary by such time and in a form as prescribed by the Secretary of the airport sponsor's intent to apply for its available entitlement funds.

Therefore, the FAA is hereby notifying airport sponsors of the steps required to ensure that the FAA has sufficient time to carry-over and convert remaining entitlement funds. This notice applies only to those airports that have had entitlement funds apportioned to them, except those nonprimary airports located in designated block grant states. Airport sponsors intending to apply for any of their available entitlement funds, including those unused from prior years, shall make their intent known by 12 p.m. prevailing local time on Tuesday, May 15, 2018. This notice must address all entitlement funds available for FY 2018, including those entitlement funds not obligated from prior years. These notifications are critical to ensure efficient planning and administration of the AIP. The final grant application deadline is Tuesday, July 10, 2018. All notifications and grant applications must be provided to the designated FAA Airports District Office (or regional office in regions without Airports District Offices).

The airport sponsor's notification must address all entitlement funds

available for FY 2018, as well as any entitlement funds not obligated from prior years. After Tuesday, July 10, 2018, the FAA will carry over any currently available entitlement funds for which the airport sponsor has not notified the FAA of its intention to use and these funds will not be available again until at least the beginning of FY 2019. This notification requirement does not apply to nonprimary airports covered by the State Block Grant Program.

Historically this deadline has been May 1 of each year. Due to the timing of the FY 2018 appropriation and extension of authorizing legislation, the FAA is extending the normal deadline. However, the FAA encourages airport sponsors to communicate with the FAA as soon as possible. Regional offices may establish earlier deadlines due to constraints on construction seasons.

Absent notification of the intent to use entitlement funds or submission of a grant application by the relevant deadlines noted above, the FAA will proceed after Tuesday, July 10, 2018, to carry over the remainder of available entitlement funds. These funds will not be available again until at least the beginning of FY 2019. This notice is promulgated to expedite and facilitate the grant-making process.

Issued in Washington, DC, on April 6, 2018.

**Elliott Black,**

*Director, Office of Airport Planning and Programming.*

[FR Doc. 2018-07658 Filed 4-17-18; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 4910-13-P**

## DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

### Federal Highway Administration

[FHWA Docket No. FHWA-2018-0009]

#### Surface Transportation Project Delivery Program; Ohio Department of Transportation Audit Report

**AGENCY:** Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), U.S. Department of Transportation (DOT).

**ACTION:** Notice; Request for comment.

**SUMMARY:** The Moving Ahead for Progress in the 21st Century Act (MAP-21) established the Surface Transportation Project Delivery Program that allows a State to assume FHWA's environmental responsibilities for environmental review, consultation, and compliance under the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) for Federal highway projects. When a State assumes these Federal responsibilities, the State becomes solely responsible

and liable for carrying out the responsibilities it has assumed, in lieu of FHWA. This program mandates annual audits during each of the first 4 years of State participation to ensure compliance with program requirements. This notice announces and solicits comments on the second audit report for the Ohio Department of Transportation (ODOT).

**DATES:** Comments must be received on or before May 18, 2018.

**ADDRESSES:** Mail or hand deliver comments to Docket Management Facility: U.S. Department of Transportation, 1200 New Jersey Avenue SE Room W12-140, Washington, DC 20590. You may also submit comments electronically at [www.regulations.gov](http://www.regulations.gov). All comments should include the docket number that appears in the heading of this document. All comments received will be available for examination and copying at the above address from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., e.t., Monday through Friday, except Federal holidays. Those desiring notification of receipt of comments must include a self-addressed, stamped postcard or you may print the acknowledgment page that appears after submitting comments electronically. Anyone can search the electronic form of all comments in 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, or labor union). The DOT posts these comments, without edits, 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).

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Mr. James G. Gavin, Office of Project Development and Environmental Review, (202) 366-1473, [James.Gavin@dot.gov](mailto:James.Gavin@dot.gov), Federal Highway Administration, U.S. Department of Transportation, 1200 New Jersey Avenue SE., Washington, DC 20590 or Mr. David Sett, Office of the Chief Counsel, (404) 562-3676, [david.sett@dot.gov](mailto:david.sett@dot.gov), Federal Highway Administration, U.S. Department of Transportation, 61 Forsyth Street 17T100, Atlanta, GA 30303. Office hours are from 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., e.t., Monday through Friday, except Federal holidays.

#### **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**

##### **Electronic Access**

An electronic copy of this notice may be downloaded from the specific docket page at [www.regulations.gov](http://www.regulations.gov).

## Background

The Surface Transportation Project Delivery Program, codified at 23 United States Code (U.S.C.) 327, commonly known as the NEPA Assignment Program, allows a State to assume FHWA's responsibilities for environmental review, consultation, and compliance for Federal highway projects. When a State assumes these Federal responsibilities, the State becomes solely liable for carrying out the responsibilities it has assumed, in lieu of the FHWA. The ODOT published its application for assumption under the NEPA Assignment Program on April 12, 2015, and made it available for public comment for 30 days. After considering public comments, ODOT submitted its application to FHWA on May 27, 2015. The application served as the basis for developing the memorandum of understanding (MOU) that identifies the responsibilities and obligations that ODOT would assume. The FHWA published a notice of the draft MOU in the **Federal Register** on October 15, 2015, at 80 FR 62153, with a 30-day comment period to solicit the views of the public and Federal agencies. After the comment period closed, FHWA and ODOT considered comments and executed the MOU.

Section 327(g) of Title 23, U.S.C., requires the Secretary to conduct annual audits to ensure compliance with the MOU during each of the first 4 years of State participation and, after the fourth year, monitor compliance. The results of each audit must be made available for public comment. The first audit report of ODOT compliance was finalized on July 7, 2017. This notice announces the availability of the second audit report for ODOT and solicits public comment on same.

**Authority:** Section 1313 of Public Law 112-141; Section 6005 of Public Law 109-59; 23 U.S.C. 327; 23 CFR 773.

Issued on: April 11, 2018.

**Brandye L. Hendrickson,**

*Acting Administrator, Federal Highway Administration.*

#### Surface Transportation Project Delivery Program

#### Draft FHWA Audit of the Ohio Department of Transportation

August 6, 2016 to August 4, 2017

#### Executive Summary

This is the second audit of the Ohio Department of Transportation's (ODOT) assumption of National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) responsibilities, conducted by a team of Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) staff (the team). The ODOT made the