

such an emergency occurring exists, and public safety would benefit from providing the railroad industry with operational relief, the emergency waiver procedures of 49 CFR 211.45 will go into effect. In such an event, the FRA Administrator will issue a statement in the ERD indicating the emergency waiver procedures are in effect and FRA will make every effort to post the statement on its website at www.fra.dot.gov. Any party desiring relief from FRA regulatory requirements as a result of the emergency should submit a petition for emergency waiver under 49 CFR 211.45(e) and (f). Specific instructions for filing petitions for emergency waivers under 49 CFR 211.45 are found at 49 CFR 211.45(f). Specific instructions for filing comments in response to petitions for emergency waivers are at 49 CFR 211.45(h).

Privacy

Anyone can 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.). Under 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, as described in the system of records notice (DOT/ALL-14 FDMS), which can be reviewed at www.transportation.gov/privacy. See also www.regulations.gov/privacyNotice for the privacy notice of regulations.gov.

Issued in Washington, DC.

John Karl Alexy,

*Associate Administrator for Railroad Safety,
Chief Safety Officer.*

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DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Federal Railroad Administration

[Docket Number FRA-2008-0045]

Petition for Waiver of Compliance

Under part 211 of title 49 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR), this provides the public notice that on October 11, 2019, the Long Island Rail Road (LIRR) 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, Use of Locomotive Horns at Public Highway-

Rail Grade Crossings. FRA assigned the petition Docket Number FRA-2008-0045.

LIRR requested to extend its waiver of the requirement in § 222.21(a), which requires that a railroad sound its locomotive horn in a specific manner (two long, one short, and one long blast) as it approaches and enters public highway-rail grade crossings. Specifically, LIRR requested that FRA continue to allow it to sound one short blast when departing from 22 train stations identified in LIRR's initial February 6, 2008 waiver request (FRA-2008-0045-0001). The original waiver granted by FRA included 23 stations; however, one of those stations (Little Neck) has since been included in a designated quiet zone, and therefore is not part of this extension request. All of these 22 stations are located in close proximity to public highway-rail grade crossings.

LIRR noted in its initial request, as well as in its first extension request on October 16, 2013, that the waiver was in the public interest and was consistent with railroad safety. As there have been no materially changed circumstances since the waiver commenced, LIRR now requests that the waiver be extended.

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 Ave. 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 parties desire an opportunity for oral comment and a public hearing, 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:

- *Website:* <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 Ave. SE, W12-140, Washington, DC 20590.

- *Hand Delivery:* 1200 New Jersey Ave. SE, Room W12-140, Washington, DC 20590, between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m., Monday through Friday, except Federal Holidays.

Communications received by February 24, 2020 will be considered by FRA before final action is taken. Comments received after that date will be considered if practicable. Anyone can 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.). Under 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, as described in the system of records notice (DOT/ALL-14 FDMS), which can be reviewed at <https://www.transportation.gov/privacy>. See also <https://www.regulations.gov/privacyNotice> for the privacy notice of regulations.gov.

Issued in Washington, DC.

John Karl Alexy,

*Associate Administrator for Railroad Safety,
Chief Safety Officer.*

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DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Federal Railroad Administration

[Docket Number FRA-2019-0085]

Petition for Special Approval of Alternative Compliance

Under part 211 of title 49 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) and 49 CFR 238.21, this provides the public notice that on October 16, 2019, the California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) petitioned the Federal Railroad Administration (FRA) for a special approval of alternative compliance pursuant to the requirements in 49 CFR part 238, Passenger Equipment Safety Standards. FRA assigned the petition Docket Number FRA-2019-0085.

Specifically, Caltrans seeks relief from 49 CFR 238.135(b), which requires that all passenger train exterior side doors and trap doors must be closed when a train is in motion between stations. Caltrans seeks special approval of alternative compliance to allow variations in the operating of boarding stair trap doors for its fleet of single-level coach, cab cars and café/vending cars built by Siemens, due to the cars' unique construction.

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 Ave., 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 parties desire an opportunity for oral comment and a public hearing, 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:

- **Website:** <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 Ave. SE, W12–140, Washington, DC 20590.
- **Hand Delivery:** 1200 New Jersey Ave. SE, Room W12–140, Washington, DC 20590, between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m., Monday through Friday, except Federal Holidays.

Communications received by February 24, 2020 will be considered by FRA before final action is taken. Comments received after that date will be considered if practicable. Anyone can 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.). Under 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, as described in the system of records notice (DOT/ALL-14 FDMS), which can be reviewed at <https://www.transportation.gov/privacy>. See also <https://www.regulations.gov/privacyNotice> for the privacy notice of regulations.gov.

Issued in Washington, DC.

John Karl Alexy,
Associate Administrator for Railroad Safety, Chief Safety Officer.
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DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Maritime Administration

Small Shipyard Grant Program; Application Deadlines

AGENCY: Maritime Administration, Department of Transportation.

ACTION: Notice of Small Shipyard Grants Application deadlines.

SUMMARY: Under the Small Shipyard Grant Program, \$19,600,000 is currently available for grants to: (1) Make capital and related improvements to qualified shipyard facilities that will be effective in fostering efficiency, competitive operations, and quality ship construction, repair, and reconfiguration, and (2) provide training for workers in shipbuilding, ship repair, and associated industries.

This notice announces the intention of the Maritime Administration to provide for grants to small shipyards. Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance Number: 20.814. Potential applicants are advised that it is expected, based on experience, that the number of applications will far exceed the funds available and that only a small percentage of applications will be funded. It is anticipated that roughly 8–20 applications will be selected for funding with an average grant amount of about \$1 million.

Timing of Grant Applications

In accordance with the statutory requirement at 46 U.S.C. 54101(f)(1) that applications must be submitted within 60 days of the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2020 (Pub. L. 116–94, December 20, 2019), applications must be received by the Maritime Administration by 5 p.m. EDT on February 18, 2020. Applications received later than this time will not be considered. The Administrator shall award grants under this section not later than 120 days after the date of the enactment of the appropriations Act for the fiscal year concerned.

ADDRESSES: Grant Applications should be sent to the Associate Administrator for Business and Finance Development, Room W21–318, Maritime Administration, 1200 New Jersey Avenue SE, Washington, DC 20590. Only applicants who comply with all

submission requirements described in this notice will be eligible for award.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: For further information concerning this notice, please contact David M. Heller, Director, Office of Shipyards and Marine Engineering, Maritime Administration, Room W21–318, 1200 New Jersey Ave. SE, Washington, DC 20590; phone: (202) 366–5737; or fax: (202) 366–6988.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Grants under the Maritime Administration's Small Shipyard Grant Program may not be used to construct buildings or other physical facilities or to acquire land. Grant funds may be used for maritime training programs to foster employee skills and enhanced productivity related to shipbuilding, ship repair, and associated industries. Grants for such training programs may only be awarded to "Eligible Applicants" as described below, but training programs can be established through vendors to such applicants.

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A. Program Description

The Small Shipyard Grant Program was authorized under Section 3501 of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2018 (Pub. L. 115–91), codified at 46 U.S.C. 54101. The statute authorizes the Maritime Administrator to provide assistance in the form of grants to make capital and related improvements in small shipyards and to provide training for workers in shipbuilding, ship repair, and associated industries. The Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2020, appropriated \$20,000,000 to the Small Shipyard Grant Program. Per 46 U.S.C. 54101, 2 percent of the funds may be set aside for grant administration. Therefore, the total amount available for grant awards is \$19,600,000. The purpose of the Program is to foster efficiency, competitive operations, and quality ship construction, repair, and reconfiguration in small shipyards across the United States in addition to fostering employee skills and enhanced productivity related to shipbuilding, ship repair, and associated industries.