receipt of payment while awaiting a determination on their appeal.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Modality of completion</th>
<th>Number of respondents</th>
<th>Frequency of response</th>
<th>Average burden per response (minutes)</th>
<th>Estimated total annual burden (hours)</th>
<th>Average theoretical hourly cost amount (dollars)*</th>
<th>Average wait time in field office or teleservice centers (minutes)**</th>
<th>Total annual opportunity cost (dollars)***</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>SSA-263</td>
<td>3,676</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>306</td>
<td>$1.170</td>
<td>**21</td>
<td>$18,638</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*We based this figure on the average DI payments based on SSA’s current FY 2022 data (https://www.ssa.gov/legislation/2022factsheet.pdf).

** We based this figure by averaging the average FY 2022 wait times for field offices and teleservice centers, based on SSA’s current management information data.

*** This figure does not represent actual costs that SSA is imposing on recipients of Social Security payments to complete this application; rather, these are theoretical opportunity costs for the additional time respondents will spend to complete the application.

Dated: June 27, 2022.

Faye I. Lipsky,
Director, Office of Regulations and Reports Clearance, Social Security Administration.

[FR Doc. 2022–13996 Filed 6–29–22; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4191–02–P

SOCIAL SECURITY ADMINISTRATION

Docket No. SSA–2022–0020

Maximum Dollar Limit in the Fee Agreement Process

AGENCY: Social Security Administration.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: We are increasing the maximum dollar amount limit for fee agreements approved under the Social Security Act (the Act) to $7,200. Effective November 30, 2022, we may approve fee agreements up to the new dollar limit, provided that the fee agreement otherwise meets the statutory conditions of the agreement process.

DATES: We will apply this notice beginning on November 30, 2022.


For information on eligibility or filing for benefits, call SSA’s national toll-free number, 1–800–772–1213 or TTY 1–800–325–0778, or visit SSA’s internet site, Social Security Online at http://www.socialsecurity.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The Act provides a streamlined process for a representative to obtain approval of the fee the representative wishes to charge for representing a claimant before us.¹ To use that process, the representative(s) and the claimant must agree, in writing, to a fee that does not exceed the lesser of 25 percent of past due benefits or a prescribed dollar amount. Section 5106 of the Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act (OBRA) of 1990, Public Law 101–506, set the initial fee amount at $4,000 and gave the Commissioner the authority to increase it periodically, provided that the cumulative rate of increase did not at any time exceed the rate of increase in the primary insurance amount (PIA) since January 1, 1991. The law further provided that notice of any increased amount shall be published in the Federal Register. On February 4, 2009, we published a notice raising the maximum fee to $6,000, effective June 22, 2009, which is the current maximum dollar amount for fee agreements.² With this notice, we announce that the maximum dollar amount for fee agreements will increase to $7,200, effective November 30, 2022. This increase does not exceed the rate of increase provided in the OBRA of 1990. We expect that this increase will compensate representatives for their services while ensuring claimants are protected from excessive fees.

In setting the new cap, we considered a number of factors, including: feedback we received about the current fee cap, the Cost of Living Adjustment rates, PIAs, data about fees authorized under the current fee cap, increases in disability benefits, data about case backlogs, and the effects on our claimants.

Beginning November 30, 2022, decision makers may approve a fee agreement up to the new dollar limit if the fee agreement meets the statutory conditions for approval, no exceptions to the fee agreement process exist, and the favorable determination or decision is issued on or after this date. We are setting this date to ensure there is adequate time to provide training and guidance to our employees and to make necessary changes in our information technology infrastructure.

The Acting Commissioner of Social Security, Kilolo Kijakazi, Ph.D., M.S.W., having reviewed and approved this document, is delegating the authority to electronically sign this document to Faye I. Lipsky, who is the primary Federal Register Liaison for the Social Security Administration, for purposes of publication in the Federal Register.

Faye I. Lipsky,
Federal Register Liaison, Office of Legislation and Congressional Affairs, Social Security Administration.

[FR Doc. 2022–13996 Filed 6–29–22; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4191–02–P

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Federal Transit Administration

Early Scoping Notice for the Metropolitan Atlanta Rapid Transit Authority’s (MARTA) Proposed Clifton Corridor Transit Initiative in Fulton County and DeKalb County, Georgia

AGENCY: Federal Transit Administration (FTA), Department of Transportation (DOT).

ACTION: Early scoping notice.

SUMMARY: The Federal Transit Administration (FTA) and Metropolitan Atlanta Rapid Transit Authority (MARTA) issue this early scoping notice to advise tribes, agencies, and the public that FTA and MARTA will explore potential alternatives for high-capacity, fixed-guideway transit extending from Lindbergh Center in the City of Atlanta, Fulton County, GA to the City of Decatur in DeKalb County, GA. The project would enhance mobility and accessibility by providing a more robust transit network by linking to existing heavy rail transit lines, with the potential to connect to other planned regional transit expansion projects. This notice invites the public and agency officials to help support the ongoing alternatives analysis and system planning efforts by reviewing information and commenting.

¹ 42 U.S.C. 406(a) and 1383(d)(2)(A).

² 74 FR 6080 (2009).
DATES: Two in-person public information open houses will be held at the following times:

- Thursday, July 14, 2022 at 6:30 p.m., at the Emory University Rollins School of Public Health Auditorium, located at 1518 Clifton Road, Atlanta, GA 30322.
- Saturday, July 16, 2022 from 11:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., in the atrium of MARTA Headquarters, located at 2424 Piedmont Road NE, Atlanta, GA 30324.

MARTA Headquarters is located at the western terminus of the proposed project in Atlanta’s Lindbergh/Morosgo neighborhood, near the existing Lindbergh Center MARTA rail station.

Two online public early scoping meetings will be held at the following times (all times are Eastern Daylight Time):

- Tuesday, July 19, 2022 at 10:00 a.m.
- Wednesday, July 20, 2022 at 6:30 p.m.

Registration information for these public forums can be found below. Pre-registration is not required to attend the in-person forums but is recommended for planning purposes.

- Online Public Early Scoping Meeting #1—Tuesday, July 19, 2022, at 10:00 a.m.: https://us06web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZjDqO2grz4HdXuyUd6HsnuDjo6GGL
- Online Public Early Scoping Meeting #2—Wednesday, July 20, 2022, at 6:30 p.m.: https://us06web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZMfuuvpzMpGL3bCvFO45649P15_JmFwk9
- In-person Public Information Open House #1—Emory Rollins School of Public Health Auditorium, Thursday, July 14, 2022, at 6:30 p.m.: https://tinyurl.com/4hxnxmnb
- In-person Public Information Open House #2—MARTA Atrium, Saturday, July 16, 2022, from 11:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.: https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/N8D22RQ

In-person or electronic scoping comments are requested by August 30, 2022, and may be mailed or emailed to the MARTA Project Manager at the address below or provided via a comment form on the project website here: https://ConnectClifton.com. Virtual forums will be recorded and made available via the project website.

ADDRESS: Written or electronic comments should be sent to Bryan Hobbs, Project Manager, MARTA, 2424 Piedmont Road NE, Atlanta, GA 30324–3330 or by email to clifton@marta.itsmarta.com. If submitting an electronic comment, please type “Clifton Corridor Study Early Scoping Comment for MARTA” in the subject line of the email. MARTA maintains social media accounts for general announcements and will notify social media followers, in conjunction with publication of this notice, to submit comments to the email address above. Registration links for the early scoping forums can be found on the project website: https://ConnectClifton.com.

The forums will include accessibility accommodations for persons with disabilities. If translation, closed captioning, or other special accommodations are needed, please contact the Project Manager, Bryan Hobbs at (johobbs@marta.com or 404–849–5733) at least two weeks before the early scoping forums.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Julia Walker, Environmental Protection Specialist, FTA Region IV, 230 Peachtree Street, NW, Suite 1400, Atlanta, GA 30303 or email: julia.walker@dot.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Early Scoping

The early scoping process is intended to support the alternatives analysis, any future National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) scoping process, and will help streamline the future development of an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS), if warranted. In addition, it supports FTA’s planning requirements associated with the Capital Investment Grants New Starts (“Section 5309”) funding program for major capital transit investments. While recent legislation has led to changes in the NEPA process, MARTA will comply with all relevant FTA requirements relating to planning and project development to help analyze and screen alternatives in preparation for the NEPA process. Early scoping is an optional step in the NEPA process that precedes NEPA scoping, which normally begins when the FTA and the grant applicant publish a Notice of Intent to prepare an EIS. Early scoping is intended to generate public and agency review and comments on the scope of a planning effort within a defined transportation corridor, which helps the agency to determine which alignment variations should receive more focused study and project development to streamline the NEPA process. Early scoping can streamline the NEPA process, but also firmly links transportation planning and NEPA; and allows the public and interested agencies the opportunity to review and provide comments on the results of the planning activities and studies that inform the NEPA process. Early scoping for the Clifton Corridor Transit Initiative is being conducted in accordance with the Council on Environmental Quality’s (CEQ) and FTA’s regulations and guidance for implementing NEPA (40 CFR 1501.2 through 1501.8 and through 23 CFR 771.111), which encourage federal agencies to initiate NEPA early in their planning processes. Early scoping begins as soon as there is enough information to describe the proposal so that the public and relevant agencies can participate effectively. This is particularly useful in situations when a proposed action involves a broadly defined corridor with an array of possible transit investment alternatives. This early scoping notice invites public and agency involvement with the ongoing supplementary planning activities and studies for the Clifton Corridor, including review of the (a) purpose and need, (b) the proposed alternatives, and (c) the potential environmental, transportation, and community impacts and benefits to consider during the NEPA process.

Purpose and Need for the Project

The purpose of the proposed project is to provide a high capacity, fixed-guideway transit service to the Clifton Corridor in a manner that increases the reliability and frequency of existing transit services to and within the corridor; improves access and connectivity within the Clifton Corridor; and provides alternative travel options in the event of emergencies that impair roadway travel within the corridor. The proposed transit investment would improve accessibility, travel time reliability, and economic development by providing high-capacity transit services for commuters accessing activity centers within the Clifton Corridor and the greater Atlanta region. The primary needs for the Clifton Corridor Transit Initiative are listed below and are supported by the existing conditions in the corridor and broader Atlanta region:

- Provide high-capacity transit to a major regional population and employment center
- Address the need for reliable and frequent transit
- Improve access and connectivity within the Clifton Corridor.

Project Description

A high-capacity, fixed-guideway transit within a corridor extending from the Lindbergh Center in the City of Atlanta, Fulton County, GA to the City of Decatur in DeKalb County, GA. Potential high-capacity, fixed-guideway alternatives would improve transit linkages and coverage within the study corridor, providing high-capacity transit and regional connectivity to one of the
metro area’s major regional jobs corridors that includes the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), Emory University and Hospital, the Atlanta Veterans Affairs (VA) Medical Center, Emory Decatur Hospital, and several clusters of growing multi-family residential, office, and commercial centers. The project would enhance mobility and accessibility to and within the study corridor by providing a more robust transit network that offers an alternative to automobile travel and would link to existing heavy rail transit lines, with the potential to connect to other planned regional transit expansion projects. The current study evaluates transit modal alternatives that would operate in or adjacent to the CSX Transportation freight rail corridor from the Lindbergh Center MARTA station area to a point near Belt Junction at the Emory-Clairmont Campus in DeKalb County. Transit service would continue east along either: (a) North Decatur Road, DeKalb Industrial Way, N Arcadia Way and E Ponce de Leon Avenue to the Avondale MARTA Station; or (b) continue along Clairmont Avenue to the Decatur MARTA Station.

Project Context and History

The Clifton Corridor Transit Initiative was initiated by MARTA in 2009, in cooperation with the Clifton Corridor Transportation Management Association (CCTMA), to identify and select a transit solution that would provide access to the CDC and Emory University and Hospital Area. An initial alternatives analysis study evaluated several alignment and transit mode alternatives and resulted in a Locally Preferred Alternative (LPA) that was adopted by the MARTA Board of Directors in 2012. Since that time, MARTA has evaluated an extensive number of additional alternatives to maximize operational efficiency and ridership potential, reduce project costs, and reduce environmental and community impacts in a highly complex study area with limited right-of-way (ROW), freight rail, established historic and residential areas, and a rapid pace of real estate development.

Next Steps

FTA and MARTA invite comments on all planning activities and developments, which include, but are not limited to, the Purpose and Need of the Project, the Project study area, potential impacts, and potential alternatives. At the end of the alternatives analysis process, FTA and MARTA will identify a preferred mode and corridor for further evaluation during the NEPA process.

The classification of the NEPA documentation (Categorical Exclusion, Environmental Assessment, or Environmental Impact Statement) will be determined by FTA at the end of the alternatives analysis. If the preferred mode and alignment involve the potential for significant environmental impacts, an EIS may be required. If an EIS is required, a Notice of Intent to Prepare an EIS will be published in the Federal Register by FTA, and the public and interested agencies will have the opportunity to participate in a review and comment period on the scope of the EIS.


Yvette Taylor,
Regional Administrator.

SUMMARY: The OCC, 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 a continuing information collection as required by the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (PRA). An agency may not conduct or sponsor, and respondents are not required to respond to, an information collection unless it displays a currently valid Office of Management and Budget (OMB) control number. The OCC is soliciting comment concerning the renewal of its information collection titled “Annual Stress Test Rule.”

DATES: Comments must be submitted on or before August 29, 2022.

ADDRESS: Comments are encouraged to submit comments by email, if possible. You may submit comments by any of the following methods:

- Email: prainfo@occ.treas.gov.
- Fax: (571) 465–4326.

Instructions: You must include “OCC” as the agency name and “1557–0343” in your comment. In general, the OCC will publish comments on www.reginfo.gov without change, including any business or personal information provided, such as name and address information, email addresses, or phone numbers. Comments received, including attachments and other supporting materials, are part of the public record and subject to public disclosure. Do not include any information in your comment or supporting materials that you consider confidential or inappropriate for public disclosure.

Following the close of this notice’s 60-day comment period, the OCC will publish a second notice with a 30-day comment period. You may review comments and other related materials that pertain to this information collection beginning on the date of publication of the second notice for this collection by the method set forth in the next bullet.

- Viewing Comments Electronically: Go to www.reginfo.gov. Hover over the “Information Collection Review” drop-down menu, and click on “Information Collection Review.” From the “Currently under Review” drop-down menu, select “Department of Treasury” and then click “Submit.” This information collection can be located by searching by OMB control number “1557–0343” or “Annual Stress Test Rule.” Upon finding the appropriate information collection, click on the related “ICR Reference Number.” On the next screen, select “View Supporting Statement and Other Documents” and then click on the link to any comment listed at the bottom of the screen.

- For assistance in navigating www.reginfo.gov, please contact the Regulatory Information Service Center at (202) 482–7340.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:
Shaquita Merritt, OCC Clearance Officer, (202) 649–5490, Chief Counsel’s Office, Office of the Comptroller of the Currency, 400 7th Street SW, Washington, DC 20219. If you are deaf, hard of hearing, or have a speech disability, please dial 7–1–1 to access telecommunications relay services.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Under the PRA (44 U.S.C. 3501 et seq.), Federal agencies must obtain approval from the OMB for each collection of information that they conduct or sponsor. “Collection of information” is defined