

collected; and (4) ways for FRA to minimize the burden of information collection activities on the public, including the use of automated collection techniques or other forms of information technology. *See* 44 U.S.C. 3506(c)(2)(A); 5 CFR 1320.8(d)(1).

FRA believes that soliciting public comment may reduce the administrative and paperwork burdens associated with the collection of information that Federal regulations mandate. In summary, comments received will advance three objectives: (1) reduce reporting burdens; (2) organize information collection requirements in a “user-friendly” format to improve the use of such information; and (3) accurately assess the resources expended to retrieve and produce

information requested. *See* 44 U.S.C. 3501.

The summary below describes the ICR that FRA will submit for OMB clearance as the PRA requires:

Title: Rear End Marking Devices.

OMB Control Number: 2130–0523.

Abstract: 49 CFR part 221 contains requirements for rear end marking devices, which are subject to FRA approval. Railroads must provide FRA with a detailed description of the type of marking devices used for any locomotive operating singly or for cars or locomotives operating at the end of a train (trailing end) to ensure that they meet minimum standards for visibility and display. Specifically, part 221 requires railroads to furnish a certification that each device has been tested in accordance with current

“Guidelines for Testing of Rear End Marking Devices.” In addition, part 221 requires railroads to furnish detailed test records, which include the names of testing organizations, test descriptions, number of samples tested, and the test results, to demonstrate compliance with the performance requirements in this part.

In this 60-day notice, FRA made no changes to the previously approved burden hours or responses.

Type of Request: Extension without change of a currently approved collection.

Affected Public: Businesses.

Form(s): N/A.

Respondent Universe: 754 railroads and 30 manufacturers.

Frequency of Submission: On occasion.

REPORTING BURDEN

CFR	Respondent universe	Total annual responses (A)	Average time per response (hours) (B)	Total annual burden hours (A * B = C)	Wage rate ¹	Total cost equivalent U.S.D (D = C * wage rate)
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Appendix A to Part 221—Procedures for Approval of Rear End Marking Devices

—Approval of marking devices in accordance with appendix procedures.	754 railroads 30 manufacturers.	2 submissions & records.	1	2	\$90.19	\$180.38
Total	754 railroads 30 manufacturers.	2 responses	2	180.38

¹ Surface Transportation Board (STB), *Quarterly Wage Form A&B Data* (2024). Compiled from Class I railroad data reported on Wage Form A&B for year 2024. Calculated as: Wage (\$/hour) = sum of compensation for time worked and paid for straight time rates (\$) for Class I railroads + sum of service hours for time worked and paid for straight time rates (hours) for Class I railroads. Available: <https://www.stb.gov/reports-data/economic-data/quarterly-wage-ab-data/>. Using employee group 200 (Professional and Administrative) hourly wage rate of \$51.54 multiplied by 1.75 gives a total burdened wage rate of \$90.19.

Total Estimated Annual Responses: 2.

Total Estimated Annual Burden: 2 hours.

Total Estimated Annual Burden Hour Dollar Cost Equivalent: \$180.38.

FRA informs all interested parties that it may not conduct or sponsor, and a respondent is not required to respond to, a collection of information that does not display a currently valid OMB control number.

Authority: 44 U.S.C. 3501–3520.

Christopher S. Van Nostrand,

Deputy Chief Counsel.

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ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: By this notice, the Federal Transit Administration (FTA) is establishing an Emergency Relief Docket for calendar year 2026, so grantees and subgrantees affected by a national or regional emergency or disaster may request temporary relief from FTA administrative and statutory requirements.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Diane Alexander, Attorney-Advisor, Office of Chief Counsel, Federal Transit Administration, phone: (202) 366–4043, or email, Diane.Alexander@dot.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Pursuant to 49 CFR 601.42, FTA is establishing the Emergency Relief Docket for calendar year 2026. In the case of a national or regional emergency or disaster, or in anticipation of such an event, when FTA requirements impede a grantee or subgrantee's ability to respond to the emergency or disaster, a grantee or subgrantee may submit a request for relief from specific FTA requirements.

If FTA determines that a national or regional emergency or disaster has occurred, or in anticipation of such an event, FTA will place a message on its web page (<https://www.transit.dot.gov>) indicating the Emergency Relief Docket has been opened and including the docket number.

All petitions for relief from FTA administrative or statutory requirements must be posted in the docket to receive consideration by FTA. The docket is publicly available and can be accessed 24 hours a day, seven days a week, via the internet at <https://www.regulations.gov>. Any grantee or subgrantee submitting petitions for relief or comments to the docket must include the agency name (Federal Transit Administration) and docket number FTA-2026-0001.

Interested parties may consult 49 CFR part 601, subpart D for information on FTA's emergency procedures for public transportation systems. FTA strongly encourages grantees and subgrantees to contact their FTA regional office and notify FTA of the intent to submit a petition to the docket.

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Federal Transit Administration

[Docket FTA-2026-0001]

Notice of Establishment of Emergency Relief Docket for Calendar Year 2026

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

A grantee or subgrantee seeking relief has three avenues for submitting a petition. First, a grantee or subgrantee may submit a petition for waiver of FTA requirements to <https://www.regulations.gov/> for posting in the docket (FTA-2026-0001). Alternatively, a grantee or subgrantee may submit a petition in duplicate (two copies) to the FTA Administrator, via U.S. mail or hand delivery to Federal Transit Administration, 1200 New Jersey Ave. SE, Washington, DC 20590; via fax to (202) 366-3472; or via email to Diane.Alexander@dot.gov; or via U.S. mail or hand delivery to the DOT Docket Management Facility, 1200 New Jersey Ave. SE, Room W58-213, Washington, DC 20590. Finally, if a grantee or subgrantee needs to request immediate relief and does not have access to electronic means to request that relief, the grantee or subgrantee may contact any FTA regional office or FTA headquarters and request that FTA staff submit the petition on its behalf.

Federal public transportation law at 49 U.S.C. 5324(d) provides that a grant awarded under Section 5324, or under 49 U.S.C. 5307 or 49 U.S.C. 5311, that is made to address an emergency shall be subject to the terms and conditions the Secretary determines are necessary. This language allows FTA to waive certain statutory and administrative requirements.

An FTA grantee or subgrantee receiving financial assistance under 49 U.S.C. 5324, 5307, or 5311 that is affected by a national or regional emergency or disaster may request a waiver of provisions of Chapter 53 of Title 49 of the United States Code in connection with such financial assistance, when a grantee or subgrantee demonstrates that the requirement(s) will limit a grantee's or subgrantee's ability to respond to a national or regional emergency or disaster.

Pursuant to 49 CFR 601.42, a grantee or subgrantee must include certain information when requesting a waiver of statutory or administrative requirements. A petition for relief shall:

- (a) Include the agency name (Federal Transit Administration) and docket number FTA-2026-0001;
- (b) Identify the grantee or subgrantee and its geographic location;
- (c) Identify the section of Chapter 53 of Title 49 of the United States Code, or the portion of an FTA policy statement, circular, guidance document or rule, from which the grantee or subgrantee seeks relief;
- (d) Specifically address how a requirement in Chapter 53 of Title 49 of the United States Code or an FTA requirement in a policy statement,

circular, guidance, or rule will limit a grantee's or subgrantee's ability to respond to a national or regional emergency or disaster; and

(e) Specify if the petition for relief is one-time or ongoing and, if ongoing, identify the period for which the relief is requested. The period may not exceed three months; however, additional time may be requested through a second petition for relief.

Pursuant to 49 CFR 601.46, a petition for relief from administrative requirements will be conditionally granted for a period of three (3) business days from the date it is submitted to the Emergency Relief Docket. FTA will review the petition after the expiration of the three business days and review any comments submitted regarding the petition. FTA may contact the grantee or subgrantee that submitted the request for relief, or any party that submits comments to the docket, to obtain more information prior to making a decision. FTA will then post a decision to the Emergency Relief Docket. FTA's decision will be based on whether the petition meets the criteria for use of these emergency procedures, the substance of the request, and any comments submitted regarding the petition. If FTA does not respond to the request for relief to the docket within three business days, the grantee or subgrantee may assume its petition is granted for a period not to exceed three months until and unless FTA states otherwise.

A petition for relief from statutory requirements will not be conditionally granted and requires a written decision from the FTA Administrator. Further, grantees seeking a waiver from Buy America requirements must follow the procedures in 49 CFR 661.7 and 661.9. Buy America waivers will not be granted through the Emergency Relief Docket.

An FTA decision either granting or denying a petition will be posted in the Emergency Relief Docket and will reference the document number of the petition to which it relates. FTA reserves the right to reconsider any decision made pursuant to these emergency procedures based upon its own initiative, based upon information or comments received subsequent to the three-business-day comment period, or at the request of a grantee or subgrantee upon denial of a request for relief. FTA shall notify the grantee or subgrantee if FTA plans to reconsider a decision.

Pursuant to FTA's Charter Rule at 49 CFR 604.2(f), grantees and subgrantees may assist with evacuations or other movements of people that might otherwise be considered charter

transportation when that transportation is in response to an emergency declared by the President, governor or mayor, or in an emergency requiring immediate action prior to a formal declaration, even if a formal declaration of an emergency is not eventually made by the President, governor or mayor. Therefore, a request for relief is not necessary to provide this service. However, if the emergency lasts more than 45 calendar days and the grantee will continue to provide service that would otherwise be considered charter service, the grantee or subgrantee must follow the procedures set out in this notice.

The contents of this document do not have the force and effect of law and are not meant to bind the public in any way. This document is intended only to provide clarity to the public regarding existing requirements under the law or agency policies. Grantees and subgrantees should refer to FTA's regulations, including 49 CFR part 601, for requirements for submitting a request for emergency relief.

Marcus J. Molinaro,
Administrator.

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DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Maritime Administration

[Docket No. MARAD-2026-0034]

Request Notice: Use of Foreign-Built Small Passenger Vessel in United States Coastwise Trade, M/V FLIPSIDE

AGENCY: Maritime Administration (MARAD), U.S. Department of Transportation (DOT).

ACTION: Notice and request for comments.

SUMMARY: The Secretary of Transportation, as represented by MARAD, is authorized to make determinations regarding the coastwise use of foreign built; certain U.S. built; and U.S. and foreign rebuilt vessels that solely carry no more than twelve passengers for hire. MARAD has received such a determination request and is publishing this notice to solicit comments to assist with determining whether the proposed use of the vessel set forth in the request would have an adverse effect on U.S. vessel builders or U.S. coastwise trade businesses that use U.S.-built vessels in those businesses. Information about the requestor's vessel, including a description of the proposed