

Issued under the authority of 49 CFR 1.87.

Nicole S. Michel,

*Acting Associate Administrator, Office of
Research and Registration.*

[FR Doc. 2026-17340 Filed 8-24-26; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4910-EX-P

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration

[Docket No. FMCSA-2026-2476]

Agency Information Collection Activities; Renewal of an Approved Information Collection: Emergency Exemptions Under 49 CFR 390.25

AGENCY: Federal Motor Carrier Safety
Administration (FMCSA), Department
of Transportation (DOT).

ACTION: Notice and request for
comments.

SUMMARY: In accordance with the
Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995,
FMCSA announces its plan to submit
the Information Collection Request (ICR)
described below to the Office of
Management and Budget (OMB) for
review and approval and invites public
comment. This notice invites comments
on the renewal of an approved
information collection titled
“Emergency Exemptions Under 49 CFR
390.25,” (OMB Control No. 2126-007)
which is currently due to expire on
January 31, 2027.

DATES: Comments on this notice must be
received on or before October 26, 2026.

ADDRESSES: You may submit comments
identified by Docket Number FMCSA-
2026-2476 using any of the following
methods:

- *Federal eRulemaking Portal:*
<https://www.regulations.gov>. Follow the
online instructions for submitting
comments.

- *Mail:* Dockets Operations; U.S.
Department of Transportation, W58-
213, 1200 New Jersey Avenue SE,
Washington, DC 20590-0001.

- *Hand Delivery or Courier:* Dockets
Operations, U.S. Department of
Transportation, W58-213, 1200 New
Jersey Avenue SE, Washington, DC
20590-0001 between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m.
ET, Monday through Friday, except
Federal holidays.

- *Fax:* (202) 493-2251.

To avoid duplication, please use only
one of these four methods. See the
“Public Participation and Request for
Comments” portion of the
SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION section for
instructions on submitting comments.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:
Kathryn Sinniger, Regulatory Law

Division, Office of the Chief Counsel,
FMCSA, 1200 New Jersey Avenue SE,
Washington, DC 20590-0001;
kathryn.sinniger@dot.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Instructions

All submissions must include the
Agency name and docket number. For
detailed instructions on submitting
comments, see the Public Participation
heading below. Note that all comments
received will be posted without change
to <https://www.regulations.gov>,
including any personal information
provided. Please see the Privacy Act
heading below.

Public Participation and Request for Comments

If you submit a comment, please
include the docket number for this
notice (FMCSA-2026-2476), indicate
the specific section of this document to
which your comment applies, and
provide a reason for each suggestion or
recommendation. You may submit your
comments and material online or by fax,
mail, or hand delivery, but please use
only one of these means. FMCSA
recommends that you include your
name and a mailing address, an email
address, or a phone number in the body
of your document so FMCSA can
contact you if there are questions
regarding your submission.

To submit your comment online, go to
[https://www.regulations.gov/docket/
FMCSA-2026-2476/document](https://www.regulations.gov/docket/FMCSA-2026-2476/document), click on
this notice, click “Comment,” and type
your comment into the text box on the
following screen.

If you submit your comments by mail
or hand delivery, submit them in an
unbound format, no larger than 8½ by
11 inches, suitable for copying and
electronic filing.

FMCSA will consider all comments
and material received during the
comment period.

Privacy Act

In accordance with 5 U.S.C. 553(c),
DOT solicits comments from the public
to better inform its regulatory process.
DOT posts these comments, including
any personal information the
commenter provides, to
www.regulations.gov as described in the
system of records notice DOT/ALL 14
(Federal Docket Management System
(FDMS)), which can be reviewed at
[https://www.transportation.gov/
individuals/privacy/privacy-act-system-
records-notices](https://www.transportation.gov/individuals/privacy/privacy-act-system-records-notices). The comments are
posted without edits and are searchable
by the name of the submitter.

Background

Section 390.23 of title 49, Code of
Federal Regulations (CFR),
automatically creates a 14-day
exemption from the hours of service
regulations, found in 49 CFR 395.3 and
395.5, when a Governor, or FMCSA,
issues a declaration of an *emergency*, as
defined in §§ 390.5 and 390.5T, and a
motor carrier or driver provides direct
assistance to supplement State and local
emergency relief efforts in response to
that emergency, as those terms are
defined in §§ 390.5 and 390.5T. Section
390.25 provides a means for an
individual, motor carrier, or State
seeking an extension or modification of
an emergency exemption to make that
request in writing to an identified email
address. Additionally, § 390.25(b)
allows FMCSA to place reporting
requirements on any individual or
motor carrier operating under the terms
of an extended or modified emergency
exemption. In both cases, the
information is used by FMCSA to
determine whether the emergency
exemption is still needed, or if it can be
modified to limit its scope.

This ICR supports the DOT strategic
goal of safety and organizational
excellence by ensuring that the
exemptions from the regulations are
limited to those that are necessary to
support immediate direct assistance in
the wake of an emergency declaration.

Title: Emergency Exemptions Under
49 CFR 390.25.

OMB Control Number: 2126-0077.

Type of Request: Renewal.

Respondents: Individuals, motor
carriers, or States seeking an extension
or modification of an emergency
exemption, or who may be required to
comply with reporting requirements
under an extended or modified
emergency exemption.

Estimated Number of Respondents: 25
extension and modification requests per
year.

Estimated Time per Response: 15
minutes.

Expiration Date: January 31, 2027.

Frequency of Response: As needed.

Estimated Total Annual Burden:
1,437.

Public Comments Invited: You are
asked to comment on any aspect of this
information collection, including: (1)
whether the proposed collection is
necessary for the performance of
FMCSA’s functions; (2) the accuracy of
the estimated burden; (3) ways for
FMCSA to enhance the quality,
usefulness, and clarity of the collected
information; and (4) ways that the
burden could be minimized without
reducing the quality of the collected

information. The Agency will summarize or include your comments in the request for OMB's clearance of this ICR.

Issued under the authority of 49 CFR 1.87.

Nicole S. Michel,

Acting Associate Administrator, Office of Research and Registration.

[FR Doc. 2026-17341 Filed 8-24-26; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Federal Railroad Administration

[Docket No. FRA-2026-2179]

Notice of Limitation on Claims Against Elwood to Braidwood Track Construction Project

AGENCY: Federal Railroad Administration (FRA), Department of Transportation (DOT).

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: This notice announces final environmental action taken for the Elwood to Braidwood Track Construction Project. The purpose of this notice is to advise the public of the time limit to file any claims that may challenge these decisions and other Federal permits, licenses, and approvals for the Project.

DATES: A claim seeking judicial review of Federal agency actions for the listed rail transportation project will be barred unless the claim is filed on or before August 24, 2028. If the Federal law that authorizes judicial review of a claim provides a time period of less than two years for filing such claim, then the shorter time period applies.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: For further information related to this notice, please contact Kathryn Johnson, Attorney Adviser, Office of the Chief Counsel by email: kathryn.johnson@dot.gov or by telephone: 202-731-0658.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Notice is given that FRA has taken final agency action by issuing certain approvals for the railroad project listed below. The actions on the project, as well as the laws under which such actions were taken, are described in the documentation issued in connection with the project to comply with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), available at <https://railroads.dot.gov/rail-network-development/environment/environmental-reviews/elwood-braidwood-track-construction>.

This notice applies to all Federal agency decisions on the listed project as of the issuance date of this notice and

all laws under which such actions were taken, including but not limited to, NEPA (42 U.S.C. 4321-4375); Section 4(f) requirements (23 U.S.C. 138, 49 U.S.C. 303); Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (54 U.S.C. 306108); the Clean Air Act (42 U.S.C. 7401-7671q); the Endangered Species Act (16 U.S.C. 1531-1544); the Clean Water Act (33 U.S.C. 1251), the Rivers and Harbors Act of 1899 (33 U.S.C. 403), the Coastal Zone Management Act of 1972 (16 U.S.C. 1451), and relevant Executive Orders. This notice does not, however, alter or extend a shorter limitation period that may exist for challenges of project decisions covered by this notice. The project that is the subject of this notice follows:

Project name and location: Elwood to Braidwood Track Construction Project, Will County, Illinois.

Project Summary: The Federal Railroad Administration (Lead Federal Agency) and Illinois Department of Transportation (Project Proponent/Sponsor) propose to implement railroad improvements between Elwood, IL and Braidwood, IL in accordance with the Chicago to St. Louis High-Speed Rail Program. The project includes construction of a second mainline track of approximately 9.5 miles adjacent to the existing Union Pacific Railroad mainline track, a parallel maintenance access facility, grade crossing improvements, new fencing, culvert, bridge, signal, and related work.

In the 2010 Omnibus Appropriations Act, Congress provided IDOT funding to support preliminary engineering for the Elwood to Braidwood Track Construction Project, among other improvements on the Chicago to St. Louis corridor. At this time, no federal funding has been awarded for final design or construction of the Elwood to Braidwood Track Construction Project.

In July 2025, FRA and IDOT released an Environmental Assessment (EA) for the Elwood to Braidwood Track Construction Project to evaluate potential impacts to the human and natural environment, in accordance with NEPA. FRA was the lead Federal agency for the NEPA process. FRA released the EA for public review and comment July 9, 2025 through August 15, 2025. IDOT hosted an open house/public hearing on August 7, 2025. FRA considered all comments before issuing a FONSI.

Authority: 49 U.S.C. 24201(a)(4) and 23 U.S.C. 139(l)(1).

Issued in Washington, DC.

Marlys Ann Osterhues,

Director, Environmental Program Management.

[FR Doc. 2026-17260 Filed 8-24-26; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Office of the Secretary

Beautifying Transportation Infrastructure Council; Public Meeting

AGENCY: Office of the Secretary (OST), Department of Transportation (DOT).

ACTION: Notice of public meetings.

SUMMARY: The Office of the Secretary of Transportation (OST) announces the next public meeting of the Beautifying Transportation Infrastructure Council (Council) on September 30, 2026. This notice announces the date, time, and location of the virtual meeting, which will be open to the public. The purpose of the Council is to advise the Secretary of Transportation on enhancing the aesthetic value of our Nation's transportation systems.

DATES: The meeting will be held on September 30, 2026, beginning at 10:00 p.m. (EST) and ending at 4:00 p.m. (EST). The exact start and end times are subject to change; please monitor <https://www.transportation.gov/beautifytransportation/meetings> for the latest information.

ADDRESSES: The Council will meet virtually. The public may join the meeting virtually, with information available on <https://www.transportation.gov/beautifytransportation/meetings>.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: The Council's Designated Federal Officer, Julianne Schwarzer, Office of the Assistant Secretary for Transportation Policy, Office of the Secretary, BeautifyTransportation@dot.gov or 617-999-9667.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Background

The U.S. Secretary of Transportation (Secretary) established the Council as a Federal Advisory Committee in accordance with the Federal Advisory Committee Act (Pub. L. 92-463, 5 U.S.C. Ch. 10) to advise the Secretary on enhancing the aesthetic value of our Nation's transportation systems. The Council provides recommendations on policies, designs, and funding priorities that beautify transportation infrastructure, including highways, bridges, and transit hubs, while maintaining safety and efficiency.