

**DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION****Federal Transit Administration**

[FTA Docket No. FTA-2007-29054]

**Notice of Request for the Extension of a Currently Approved Information Collection****AGENCY:** Federal Transit Administration, DOT.**ACTION:** Notice of request for comments.

**SUMMARY:** In accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, this notice announces the intention of the Federal Transit Administration (FTA) to request the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) to extend the following currently approved information collection:

Charter Service Operations.

**DATES:** Comments must be submitted before October 23, 2007.

**ADDRESSES:** All written comments must refer to the docket number that appears at the top of this document and be submitted to the United States Department of Transportation, Central Dockets Office, 1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE., W12-140, Washington, DC 20590. Comments may also be faxed to (202) 493-2251; or submitted electronically at <http://dms.dot.gov>. All comments should include the docket number in this notice's heading. All comments may be examined and copied at the above address from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday through Friday, except federal holidays. If you desire a receipt, you must include a self-addressed, stamped envelope or postcard or, if you submit your comments electronically, you may print the acknowledgement page.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Ms. Elizabeth Martineau, Office of Chief Counsel, (202) 366-1936, or e-mail: [Elizabeth.Martineau@dot.gov](mailto:Elizabeth.Martineau@dot.gov).

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** Interested parties are invited to send comments regarding any aspect of this information collection, including: (1) The necessity and utility of the information collection for the proper performance of the functions of the FTA; (2) the accuracy of the estimated burden; (3) ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the collected information; and (4) ways to minimize the collection burden without reducing the quality of the collected information. Comments submitted in response to this notice will be summarized and/or included in the request for OMB approval of this information collection.

*Title:* Charter Service Operations (OMB Number: 2132-0543).

*Background:* 49 U.S.C. 5323(d) requires all applicants for financial assistance from FTA to enter into a charter bus agreement with the Secretary of Transportation (delegated to the Administrator of FTA in 49 CFR 1.51(a)). 49 U.S.C. 5323(d) provides protections for private intercity charter bus operators from unfair competition by FTA recipients. 49 U.S.C. 5302(a)(10) as interpreted by the Comptroller General permits FTA recipients, but does not state that recipients have a right, to provide charter bus service with FTA-funded facilities and equipment only if it is incidental to the provision of mass transportation service. These statutory requirements have been implemented in FTA's charter regulation, 49 CFR part 604. 49 CFR 604.7 requires all applicants for financial assistance under 49 U.S.C. 5309, 5336, or 5311 to include two copies of a charter bus agreement with the first grant application submitted after the effective date of the rule. The applicant signs the agreement, but FTA executes it only upon approval of the application. This is a one-time submission with incorporation by reference in subsequent grant applications. 49 CFR 604.11(b) requires recipients to provide notice to all private charter operators and allows them to submit written evidence demonstrating that they are willing and able to provide the charter service the recipient is proposing to provide. The notice must be published in a newspaper and sent to any private operator requesting notice and to the United Bus Owners of America and the American Bus Association, the two trade associations to which most private charter operators belong. To continue receiving federal financial assistance, recipients must publish this notice annually. 49 CFR 604.13(b) requires recipients to review the evidence submitted and notify the submitter of its decision. This notice is also an annual requirement. On December 30, 1988, FTA issued an amendment to the Charter Service regulation that allows additional exceptions for certain non-profit social service groups that meet eligibility requirements.

*Respondents:* State and local government, business or other for-profit institutions, and non-profit institutions.

*Estimated Annual Burden on Respondents:* 1.2 hours for each of the 1,656 respondents.

*Estimated Total Annual Burden:* 1,984 hours.

*Frequency:* Annual.

Issued: August 20, 2007.

**Ann M. Linnertz,***Associate Administrator for Administration.*

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**DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION****Federal Transit Administration**

[Docket Number: FTA-2007-25737]

**Notice of Public Meetings on Notice of Proposed Rulemaking for Major Capital Investment Projects****AGENCY:** Federal Transit Administration (FTA), DOT.**ACTION:** Notice.

**SUMMARY:** This notice announces the dates, times, and locations of five public meetings to be held in September and October 2007 concerning a Notice of Proposed Rulemaking (NPRM) on Major Capital Investment Projects. Presentations delivered at these meetings will describe the provisions of the NPRM issued by the Federal Transit Administration (FTA) on August 3, 2007 that proposes to implement the provisions of Safe, Accountable, Flexible, Efficient, Transportation Equity Act: A Legacy for Users (SAFETEA-LU), the Federal surface transportation law.

**DATES:** See **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION** section for meeting dates.

**ADDRESSES:** See **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION** section for meeting locations

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Ron Fisher, Office of Planning and Environment, telephone (202) 366-4033, Federal Transit Administration, U.S. Department of Transportation, 1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE., Washington, DC 20590 or [Ronald.Fisher@dot.gov](mailto:Ronald.Fisher@dot.gov).

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The meetings listed below will provide a forum for FTA staff to make oral presentations on the Notice of Proposed Rulemaking (NPRM) for Major Capital Investment Projects. Additionally, the sessions are intended to encourage interested parties and stakeholders to submit their comments to the official docket by the close of the comment period on November 3, 2007 per the instructions found in the NPRM.

**I. Meetings**

The Major Capital Investment Projects NPRM public outreach session meeting dates and addresses are:

1. Thursday, September 13th, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. local time, Los Angeles, CA—Los Angeles County Metropolitan