

customer satisfaction with BTS and Department of Transportation programs and services. As the statistical agency of the Department of Transportation, BTS is charged with fulfilling a wide variety of user needs. BTS has implemented a wide range of customer satisfaction surveys. The approaches include the Omnibus Survey Programs and the BTS Customer Satisfaction Survey, all of which are covered by this clearance request. Consistent with the requirements of Executive Order #12862, BTS plans to continue data collections at several levels to better assess and evaluate customer satisfaction within products, services, and overall performance of the agency over the next three years.

Description of Survey Topics: The Omnibus Surveys Program is comprised of several different surveys—A monthly Household Survey and periodic targeted surveys. The primary purpose of the Omnibus Household Survey are: (1) To determine the public's level of satisfaction with the nation's transportation system in light of the Department's strategic objectives, (2) to determine the public's satisfaction with the Department of Transportation products and services; and (3) to be a vehicle for the Operation Administrations within the Department of Transportation to survey the public about Administration-specific topics.

The Omnibus targeted surveys are designed on an "as needed" basis to address specific, emerging transportation issues. Although there is no schedule for such surveys, this submission requests clearance for a maximum of 8 targeted surveys per year. In the past, BTS has conducted such targeted surveys as the Mariner's Survey (which collects data about the Merchant Marines to be used in the event of a national emergency), the Highway User Survey (which collects data on highway

usage) and the Bicycle/Pedestrian Survey (which collects data on bicycle usage and on walking as transportation). Data collection for targeted surveys may be one time only or recurring.

The BTS Customer Satisfaction Survey was implemented in 1998. The resulting data identified customers who are served by the Bureau of Transportation Statistics; determined the kind of quality of services they want; and measured their level of satisfaction with existing services. The surveys covered by this request do not duplicate information currently being collected by any other agency or component within the Department of Transportation. The information to be collected by these surveys is not currently available in any other format or from any other source or combination of sources.

Burden Statement: The total annual respondent burden estimate is 8,700 hours. The number of respondents and average burden hour per response will vary with each survey.

Issued in Washington, DC, on March 24, 2004.

Michael Cohen,

Assistant Director, Survey Programs, Bureau of Transportation Statistics.

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DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY

Internal Revenue Service

Open Meeting of the Wage & Investment Reducing Taxpayer Burden (Notices) Issue Committee of the Taxpayer Advocacy Panel

AGENCY: Internal Revenue Service (IRS) Treasury.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: An open meeting of the Wage & Investment Reducing Taxpayer Burden (Notices) Issue Committee of the Taxpayer Advocacy Panel will be conducted (via teleconference). The Taxpayer Advocacy Panel is soliciting public comments, ideas and suggestions on improving customer service at the Internal Revenue Service.

DATES: The meeting will be held Wednesday, April 28, 2004, from 12 noon e.d.t. to 1 p.m. e.d.t.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Sallie Chavez at 1-888-912-1227, or 954-423-7979.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Notice is hereby given pursuant to section 10(a)(2) of the Federal Advisory Committee Act, 5 U.S.C. App. (1988) that an open meeting of the Wage & Investment Reducing Taxpayer Burden (Notices) Issue Committee of the Taxpayer Advocacy Panel will be held Wednesday, April 28, 2004, from 12 noon e.d.t. to 1 p.m. e.d.t. via a telephone conference call. Individual comments will be limited to 5 minutes. If you would like to have the TAP consider a written statement, please call 1-888-912-1227 or 954-423-7979, or write Sallie Chavez, TAP Office, 1000 South Pine Island Road, Suite 340, Plantation, FL 33324. Due to limited conference lines, notification of intent to participate in the telephone conference call meeting must be made with Sallie Chavez. Ms. Chavez can be reached at 1-888-912-1227 or 954-423-7979, or post comments to the Web site: <http://www.improveirs.org>.

The agenda will include various IRS issues.

Dated: March 26, 2004.

Bernard Coston,

Director, Taxpayer Advocacy Panel.

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