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SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Background

On September 20, 2007, the FHWA published its NPRM in the **Federal Register** at 72 FR 53736. As required under section 1604(b)(6) of the Safe, Accountable, Flexible, Efficient Transportation Equity Act: A Legacy for Users (SAFETEA-LU), the proposed rule specifies the interoperability requirements for automated toll collection systems for the facilities that are tolled under any of the tolling programs contained in section 1604 of SAFETEA-LU. Specifically, this NPRM proposes to require facilities operating with authority under section 1604 of SAFETEA-LU to use electronic toll collection systems and for these systems to address their interoperability with other toll facilities. Although a nationwide interoperability standard has not yet been established, the proposed rule seeks to accelerate progress toward achieving nationwide interoperability by requiring these facilities to upgrade their electronic toll collection systems to the national standards whenever adopted.

The September 20, 2007, notice announced a public meeting on October 11, 2007, to discuss the NPRM. In response to comments received, the FHWA has decided to hold an additional public meeting on October 18, 2007.

Public Meetings

The public meetings will be held at the address listed above. The FHWA invites participation in these meetings by all those interested in the above noted NPRM. Written submissions are welcome, although not required for participation. The FHWA expects each meeting to last approximately three hours. No pre-registration is required for participation.

Issued on: September 26, 2007.

Anthony Furst,

Acting Associate Administrator for Operations.

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DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Federal Railroad Administration

Draft Bay Area to Central Valley High-Speed Train Programmatic Environmental Impact Report/ Environmental Impact Statement

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

ACTION: Notice of extension of draft environmental impact statement comment period.

SUMMARY: On July 2, 2007, FRA approved for release and agency and public review the Draft Programmatic Environmental Impact Report/ Environmental Impact Statement (EIR/EIS) for the Bay Area to Central Valley portion of the California High Speed Rail Authority's (Authority) proposed High Speed Train Program for the State of California. FRA is the lead federal agency on the environmental review in accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) and the Authority is the project sponsor and lead agency for the California Environmental Quality Act review. In releasing the Draft Program EIR/EIS, FRA and the Authority established a 70-day public comment period that was scheduled to end on September 28, 2007. The public was notified of the 70-day comment period through a variety of avenues, including newspaper publications, information included on both agencies' Web sites, at public hearings held throughout the affected area, and through the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's weekly **Federal Register** publication (72 FR 39808, July 20, 2007), which noted the availability of the Draft Program EIR/EIS, identified as EIS No. 20070303.

At its September 26, 2007 board meeting, the Authority considered a number of public requests to extend the comment period and decided to accept comments until noon on October 26, 2007. FRA agrees with the Authority that this extension will facilitate public participation and is extending the comment period for NEPA purposes to October 26, 2007 as well.

DATES: The comment period on the Draft Bay Area to Central Valley HST Program EIR/EIS is extended until October 26, 2007.

ADDRESSES: Comments may be submitted to the California High-Speed Rail Authority, EIR/EIS Comments, 925 L Street, Suite 1425, Sacramento, CA 95814.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: For further information regarding the

programmatic environmental review, please contact: Mr. Dan Leavitt, Deputy Director of the California High-Speed Rail Authority, 925 L Street, Suite 1425, Sacramento, CA 95814 (telephone 916-324-1541); or Mr. David Valenstein, Environmental Program Manager, Office of Passenger Programs, Federal Railroad Administration, 1120 Vermont Avenue (Mail Stop 20), Washington, DC 20590 (telephone 202-493-6368).

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: More information about the proposed HST system, the first-tier Program EIR/EIS addressing the HST system and the Draft Bay Area to Central Valley HST EIS are available at <http://www.cahighspeedrail.ca.gov>.

Issued in Washington, DC, on September 26, 2007.

Mark E. Yachmetz,

Associate Administrator for Railroad Development.

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DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Federal Transit Administration

[FTA Docket No. FTA-2007-29355]

Notice of Request for a New 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 approve a new collection: 49 U.S.C. Section 5317, New Freedom Program.

DATES: Comments must be submitted before December 3, 2007.

ADDRESSES: To ensure that your comments are not entered more than once into the docket, submit comments identified by the docket number by only one of the following methods:

1. *Web site:* www.regulations.gov. Follow the instructions for submitting comments on the U.S. Government electronic docket site. (**Note:** The U.S. Department of Transportation's (DOT's) electronic docket is no longer accepting electronic comments.) All electronic submissions must be made to the U.S. Government electronic docket site at www.regulations.gov. Commenters should follow the directions below for mailed and hand-delivered comments.

2. *Fax:* 202-493-2251.

3. *Mail:* U.S. Department of Transportation, 1200 New Jersey