DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Federal Aviation Administration

[Docket No. FA–1999–6483]

Fractional Ownership Advisory Committee; Submission of Comments and Public Meeting

AGENCY: Federal Aviation Administration, DOT.

ACTION: Notice of public meeting.

SUMMARY: This document announces a public meeting in which the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA), on behalf of the Fractional Ownership Advisory Committee (FOAC), solicits the views and recommendations of all interested parties, who are not members of the FOAC, on such revisions to the Federal Aviation Regulations as may be appropriate with respect to fractional ownership programs.

DATES: The public meeting will be held on November 30, 1999, and December 1, 1999, at 9:00 a.m. in Washington, DC. Registration will begin at 8:30 a.m. on each day. Written statements must be received no later than December 1, 1999.

ADDRESSES: The public meeting will be held at the Loews L'Enfant Plaza Hotel, 480 L'Enfant Plaza East, SW., Washington, DC 20024; telephone (202) 484–1000, facsimile (202) 646–4456.

Persons who are unable to attend the meeting and wish to submit written statements may mail statements (clearly marked with the docket number) in triplicate to Federal Aviation Administration, office of the Chief Counsel, Attention: Rules Docket (AGC–200), Docket No. FAA–1999–6483, 400 Seventh St., SW., Nassif Building, Rm. PL–401, Washington, DC 20590. Statements also may be submitted electronically to the following Internet address: 9-npm-cmts@faa.gov. Statements may be inspected in room PL–401. Written statements to the docket will receive the same consideration as oral statements made at the public meeting.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Request to present an oral statement at the public meeting and questions regarding the logistics of the meeting should be directed to Carrie Pugh, Flight Standards Service, AFS–200, Federal Aviation Administration, 800 Independence Avenue SW., Washington, DC 20591; telephone (202) 493–4153, facsimilie (202) 267–5229.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The public meeting will be held at the Lowe's L'Enfant Plaza Hotel, 480 L'Enfant Plaza, SW, Washington, DC 20024, telephone: (202) 484–1000. Persons needing overnight accommodations should contact the hotel directly.

The purpose of the meeting is to provide an opportunity for interested parties to make oral and written statements to the FOAC expressing their views and recommendations concerning the management of and operation of fractional ownership programs and how the FAA should regulate such operations. The agenda for the meeting will include:

Day One:
- Welcoming remarks.
- Public presentations.
- Responses by presenters to questions posed by members of the FOAC.

Day Two:
- Public Presentations.
- Responses by presenters to questions posed by members of the FOAC.

Participation at the Public Meeting

Requests from persons who wish to present oral statements at the public meetings should be received by the FAA no later than November 26, 1999. Such requests should be submitted to Carrie Pugh, Flight Standards Service, AFS–200 listed in the section above titled ''For Further Information Contact'' and should include a written time needed for the presentation, and identification of the kind of entity that may be affected by any future rulemaking with respect to fractional ownership programs. Requests received after the date specified above will be scheduled if there is time available during the meeting; however, the names of those individuals may not appear on the written agenda. The FAA will prepare an agenda of speakers and presenters and make the agenda available at the meeting. Because presenters on the agenda may decide not to make presentations presenters should make themselves available to speak earlier than scheduled. To accommodate as many presenters as possible, the amount of time allocated to each presenter may be less than the amount of time requested. Persons requiring audiovisual equipment should notify the FAA when requesting to be placed on the agenda.

Background

In May 1996, a management company asked the FAA to approve the master interchange agreement for what it called a fractional ownership master interchange program, which the management company sought to operate under subpart F of 14 CFR part 91. When this request was forwarded to FAA headquarters, it marked the beginning of an extensive agency review of master interchange programs and the fractional ownership issue. During its review, the FAA obtained information on several other programs from the management companies that operate them. It also received information from management companies that are not engaged in fractional ownership programs, charter operators, corporate customers, and various industry associations.

The FAA's consideration of the fractional ownership issue has now proceeded to a point where the Administrator deems it appropriate to create the Fractional Ownership Advisory Committee to provide the FAA with advice and recommendations on the appropriate regulatory structure for fractional ownership programs. The Fractional Ownership Advisory Committee will serve as a forum for interaction among FAA, the fractional owners, fractional and traditional management companies, and charter operators.

Public Meeting Procedures

Persons who plan to attend the meeting should be aware of the following procedures established for this meeting:

1. There will be no admission fee or other charge to attend or to participate in the public meeting. The meeting will be open to all persons who have requested in advance to present statements or who register on the day of the meeting (between 8:30 a.m. and 9 a.m.), subject to availability of space in the meeting room.

2. Representatives from the FAA will conduct the public meeting.

3. The public meeting is intended as a forum to gain additional information with respect to fractional ownership programs. Participants must limit their presentations to this issue.

4. The meeting will offer the opportunity for all interested parties to present additional information not currently available to the FAA.

5. The FAA will try to accommodate all speakers; therefore, it may be necessary to limit the time available for an individual or group. If necessary, the meeting may be extended to evenings. If practicable, the meeting may be accelerated to enable adjournment in less than the time scheduled.

6. Sign and oral interpretation can be made available at the meeting, as well as an assistive listening device, if requested 10 calendar days before the meeting.

7. The meeting will be recorded by a court reporter. A transcript of the meeting and written material submitted on fractional ownership programs will be included in the public docket. Each person interested in purchasing a copy of the transcript should contact the court reporter directly. This information will be available at the meeting.

8. The FAA will review and consider all material presented by participants at the public meeting.

9. The meeting is designed to solicit public views and more complete information relevant to the regulation of fractional ownership operation. Therefore, the meeting will be conducted in an informal and nonadversarial manner.

Issued in Washington, DC, on November 19, 1999.

L. Nicholas Lacey,

Director, Flight Standards Service.

[FR Doc. 99–30608 Filed 11–22–99; 10:19 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Federal Highway Administration

Environmental Impact Statement: Tippecanoe, Carroll and Cass Counties; Indiana

AGENCY: Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), DOT.

ACTION: Notice of intent.

SUMMARY: The FHWA is issuing this notice to advise the public that an environmental impact statement will be prepared for a proposed highway project in Tippecanoe, Carroll and Cass Counties, Indiana.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Mr. Larry Heil, Planning and Program Development Manager, Federal Highway, Administration, Room 254, Federal Office Building, 575 North Pennsylvania Street, Indianapolis, Indiana 46204, Telephone (317) 226–7491.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The FHWA, in cooperation with the Indiana Department of Transportation (INDOT), will prepare an environmental impact statement (EIS) on a proposal to improve and/or relocate SR 25 from Lafayette to Logansport, a distance of approximately 54 kilometers (34 miles).

The proposed project was designated a high priority project by Congress in the Transportation Equity Act of the 21st Century (TEA–21). Improvements to the corridor are needed to reduce overall travel time, reduce traffic congestion and improve traffic safety. The proposed project is the final element in the state's effort to provide a multilane highway from Lafayette to Fort Wayne.

The range of alternatives under consideration include the do nothing alternative, alternatives using various other transportation modes, widening the existing two-lane highway, and constructing a multi-lane controlled access highway on new location. The study of the build alternatives will consider various grade and alignment designs.

The scoping process will include early coordination with federal, state and local agencies; the preparation of a scoping document, including an environmental overview, and a scoping meeting. The scoping meeting will be held after all parties have had an opportunity to review the scoping document and proper notice has been given.

To ensure that the full range of issues related to this proposed action are addressed and all significant issues identified, comments and suggestions are invited from all interested parties. Comments or questions concerning this proposed action and the EIS should be directed to the FHWA at the address provided above.

This program is described in the Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance Program Number 20.205, Highway Planning and Construction. The regulations implementing Executive Order 12372 regarding intergovernmental consultation on federal programs and activities apply to this program.

Issued on: November 16, 1999.

Lawrence M. Heil,

Planning and Program Development Manager, Indianapolis, Indiana.

[FR Doc. 99–30637 Filed 11–23–99; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4910–22–M

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Federal Transit Administration

Prevention of Prohibited Drug Use in Transit Operations; Prevention of Alcohol Misuse in Transit Operations

AGENCY: Federal Transit Administration, DOT.

ACTION: Notice of random drug and alcohol testing rates.

SUMMARY: This notice announces the random testing rates for employers subject to the Federal Transit Administration's (FTA) drug and alcohol rules.

EFFECTIVE DATE: January 1, 2000.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Mark Snider, Drug and Alcohol Program Manager for the Office of Safety and Security, (202) 366–2896 (telephone) and (202) 366–7951 (fax). Electronic access to this and other documents concerning FTA's drug and alcohol testing rules may be obtained through the FTA World Wide Web home page at http://www.fta.dot.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The FTA required large transit employers to begin drug and alcohol testing employees performing safety-sensitive functions on January 1, 1995, and to report, annually by March 15 of each year beginning in 1996, the number of such employees who had a verified positive for the use of prohibited drugs, and the number of such employees who tested positive for the misuse of alcohol. Small employers commenced their FTA-required testing on January 1, 1996, and began reporting the same information as the large employers beginning March 15, 1997. Employers are required annually to submit other data, not relevant here, in the same report; these data are available from the FTA as discussed below.

The 1994 rules established a random testing rate for prohibited drugs and the misuse of alcohol; specifically, the rules require that employers conduct random drug tests at a rate equivalent to at least 50 percent of their total number of safety-sensitive employees for prohibited drug use and at least 25 percent for the misuse of alcohol. The rules provide that the drug random testing rate may be lowered to 25 percent if the ''positive rate'' for the entire transit industry is less than one percent for two consecutive years. Once lowered, it may be raised to 50 percent if the positive rate equals or exceeds one percent for any one year. (''Positive rate'' means the number of positive results for random drug tests conducted under part 653 plus the number of refusals of random tests required by part 653, divided by the total number of random drug tests, plus the number of refusals of random tests required by part 653.)

The alcohol rule provides that the random rate may be lowered to 10 percent if the ''violation rate'' for the entire transit industry is less than .5 percent for two consecutive years. It will remain at 25 percent if the ''violation rate'' is equal to or greater than .5 percent but less than one percent, and it will be raised to 50 percent if the ''violation rate'' is one percent or greater for any one year. (''Violation rate'' means the number of covered employees found during random tests given under part 654 to