

Certification forms for the same document.

c. The Peer Reviewer for 3 of 11 environmental documents examined under the audit did not meet the requirement in SER Chapter 38 to be "a staff member who has not participated in, supervised, or technically reviewed the project."

(D2) *Pilot Program Self-Assessment*—Caltrans' self-assessment process failed to fully comply with MOU section 8.2.6 which requires the identification of "any areas needing improvement." The Caltrans self-assessment (which reviewed the completion of the Quality Control Certification forms) did not identify that in some cases the peer reviewer function was not performed according to SER Chapter 38 policy. The policy requires an independent review by environmental staff not otherwise involved in the project. The self assessment did not identify that on 3 of 11 QA/QC certification forms (reviewed under this audit and the self assessment) used on EA and EIS projects, the person signing as the peer reviewer also signed as a technical expert.

(D3) *Records Management*—The project filing system in place at District 4 did not meet the Caltrans Uniform Filing System requirements as specified in the "Record Keeping and Retention" section of the Caltrans Application. This determination was made by the Audit Team through interviews with district personnel during the on-site audit. The Uniform Filing System is the records management method chosen by Caltrans to comply with the records retention requirements in MOU section 8.3. This filing system was not in use and was not implemented as described in the Application and SER Chapter 38.

(D4) *Statement Regarding Assumption of Responsibility*—MOU section 3.2.5 requires language regarding Caltrans' assumption of responsibility under 23 U.S.C. 327 be included on the cover page of each environmental document for all assumed Pilot Program projects. The cover pages for two Draft EIS documents and one EA reviewed during the audit did not include this required statement.

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DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Federal Transit Administration

[FTA Docket No. FTA-2008-0026]

Notice of Request for the Extension of Currently Approved Information Collections

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: 49 U.S.C. section 53 14(a) United We Ride State Coordination Grants.

DATES: Comments must be submitted before August 1, 2008.

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:* <http://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 <http://www.regulations.gov>. Commenters should follow the directions below for mailed and hand-delivered comments.

2. *Fax:* 202-366-7951.

3. *Mail:* U.S. Department of Transportation, 1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE., Docket Operations, M-30, West Building, Ground Floor, Room W12-140, Washington, DC 20590-0001.

4. *Hand Delivery:* U.S. Department of Transportation, 1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE., Docket Operations, M-30, West Building, Ground Floor, Room W12-140, Washington, DC 20590-0001 between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m., Monday through Friday, except federal holidays.

Instructions: You must include the agency name and docket number for this notice at the beginning of your comments. Submit two copies of your comments if you submit them by mail. For confirmation that FTA has received your comments, include a self-addressed stamped postcard. Note that all comments received, including any personal information, will be posted and will be available to Internet users,

without change, to <http://www.regulations.gov>. You may review DOT's complete Privacy Act Statement in the **Federal Register** published April 11, 2000 (65 FR 19477), or you may visit <http://www.regulations.gov>. Docket: For access to the docket to read background documents and comments received, go to <http://www.regulations.gov> at any time. Background documents and comments received may also be viewed at the U.S. Department of Transportation, 1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE., Docket Operations, M-30, West Building, Ground Floor, Room W12-140, Washington, DC 20590-0001 between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m., Monday through Friday, except federal holidays.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Mr. Doug Birnie, Office of Program Management, (202) 366-1666, or e-mail: Doug.Birnie@dot.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Interested parties are invited to send comments regarding any aspect of these information collections, 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: 49 U.S.C. Section 53 14(a) United We Ride State Coordination Grants (OMB Number: 2132-0562).

Background: The Federal Interagency Transportation Council on Access and Mobility, comprised of 11 federal departments and agencies, launched United We Ride (UWR) to enhance the coordination of human service transportation. UWR intends to break down the barriers between programs and set the stage for local and state partnerships that generate common-sense solutions and deliver A-plus performance for those individuals who depend on transportation services to participate fully in community life. The UWR initiatives include: (1) Promotion of coordinated local transportation planning among federally-assisted programs funding transportation, (2) removal of federal barriers to coordination of transportation services, (3) United We Ride state and local leadership awards, (4) State United We Ride Coordination Grants, (5) National Mobility Services for All Americans Demonstration Program creating one call transportation call centers for

consumers and (6) Help Along the Way technical assistance coordinated by the National Resource Center on Human Service Transportation Coordination.

Congress and the Executive Branch are interested in ensuring that various human service transportation activities funded by various federal programs are better coordinated. The General Accounting Office (GAO) issued a report on "Transportation Disadvantaged Populations" (June 2003) that identified 62 different federal programs across eight federal agencies that provide funding that may be used to support community transportation services.

The report points out that there are multiple public and private agencies that provide human service transportation in any one community and services vary greatly in terms of eligibility requirements, hours or scope of operation, specific destinations and quality.

Given the multiplicity of programs and the significant dollar amounts spent, more effective coordination is needed to ensure better service to more people. This is especially true when federal, state and local budgets for human service activities are under extreme financial pressure.

As also indicated by GAO, many objectives have been achieved; however, the fragmentation and lack of coordination within supporting agencies continue to be a challenge.

On February 24, 2004, President Bush signed an Executive Order 13330 on Human Service Transportation Coordination establishing the Federal Interagency Coordinating Council on Access and Mobility and requiring attention to the obstacles outlined by GAO.

The United We Ride initiative includes a State Coordination Grant that provides support to help states provide leadership and assistance to localities to develop more coordinated and

improved human service transportation delivery systems in accordance with the objectives set forth by the President in Executive Order 13330.

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

Estimated Annual Burden on Respondents: 40 hours for each of the 50 respondents.

Estimated Total Annual Burden: 2,000 hours.

Frequency: Annual.

Issued: May 19, 2008.

Ann M. Linnertz,

Associate Administrator for Administration.

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DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Federal Transit Administration

Announcement of Project Selections for FY 2008 Bus and Bus Facilities Discretionary Program Funds

AGENCY: Federal Transit Administration, DOT.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: The U.S. Department of Transportation (DOT) Federal Transit Administration (FTA) announces the discretionary selection of projects that will be funded using the unallocated Fiscal Year (FY) 2008 Bus and Bus Facilities Program funds.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: The appropriate FTA Regional Administrator for grant-specific issues; or Kimberly Sledge, Office of Program Management, 202-366-2053, for general information about the Bus and Bus Facilities Program.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Bus and Bus Facilities Program

A total of \$96.02 million is available for discretionary allocation under the

Bus and Bus Facilities Program (Bus Program) in FY 2008. FTA published a notice of funding availability on March 23, 2007, inviting proposals for funding under the FY 2007 program. Proposals submitted addressed a number of FTA priorities under the program, including replacement of vehicles that had met their useful life criteria, fleet expansion to improve service, bus related facilities, and investment in rural transportation systems. FTA received proposals totaling over \$3.2 billion in response to the NOFA.

FTA reviewed all proposals submitted and rated them based on the criteria specified in the NOFA. FTA was not able to fund any of the meritorious projects submitted in response to the March 23, 2007, NOFA using FY 2007 discretionary funding; however, FTA has elected to utilize the proposals submitted in response to that NOFA to distribute most of the discretionary Bus Program funds that remain available in FY 2008.

Of the amount allocated, \$9.60 million—or 10 percent of total program availability—is made available to the Chicago Transit Authority to support its request to the U.S. Department of Transportation's Solicitation of Proposals for its Congestion-Reduction Demonstration Initiative, issued November 13, 2007. The 26 other projects selected for funding reflect a number of urbanized areas of various sizes as well as several statewide requests for funding to meet State-defined urban and rural bus and bus facility capital needs.

Projects selected for funding are shown in Table 1 that accompanies this announcement.

Issued in Washington, DC, this 28th day of May, 2008.

James S. Simpson,
Administrator.