

Previous Studies

Rapid transit has been discussed in Charlotte for decades, and in 1998, the City of Charlotte prepared the 2025 Integrated Transit/Land Use Plan. This was the original transit and land use plan that proposed using rapid transit to support focusing future growth in Charlotte's key centers and corridors. The West Corridor (along Wilkinson Boulevard) and the Southeast Corridor (along Independence Boulevard) were two of the identified corridors. Since 1998, there have been various planning efforts, and the plan has since been updated to the 2030 Transit System Plan.

In 2016, CATS completed the Southeast Corridor Transit Study, which considered various transit technologies and alignments. The MTC approved the recommendation of a light rail locally preferred alternative for the 13-mile Southeast Corridor from Center City Charlotte to the Mecklenburg and Union County border. The locally preferred alternative resulted from a detailed technical evaluation and outreach effort to the public and stakeholders.

More recently, CATS studied various technology and alignment alternatives for the West Corridor and Center City as part of the LYNX System Update, and in February 2019, the MTC adopted a light rail locally preferred alternative for the West Corridor, and combined the West and Southeast Corridor locally preferred alternatives as one continuous 26-mile light rail corridor from Belmont to Matthews known as the LYNX Silver Line. An extension into Union County will also be evaluated, as directed by the MTC.

Purpose and Need for Action

Previous planning analysis and discussions with stakeholders have helped to identify key transportation needs in the West and Southeast Corridors. These needs will be refined and detailed during planning and through environmental review, as analysis continues, and input is received from the public, stakeholders, and regulatory agencies. Initially, the key transportation concerns are continued population and employment growth in the Charlotte region, a congested roadway network with increased travel times, reduced reliability of the transportation system, and local goals to address equity concerns such as limited transportation options for transit-dependent populations, and inadequate connectivity between and access to transit, affordable housing, employment,

and community services by environmental justice populations.

The preliminary purpose of the SLP is to provide high-capacity transit service in dedicated right-of-way along the US 74 (Wilkinson Boulevard), Cedar Street/Graham Street, 11th Street, US 74 (Independence Boulevard), and Monroe Road transportation corridors that:

- Provides a competitive and reliable alternative to automobiles;
- Improves local connectivity between and access to transit, housing, employment, and community services in the corridor;
- Promotes opportunities for development consistent with local vision, goals, plans, and policies;
- Provides a transit system that is financially sustainable to build, operate, and maintain; and,
- Preserves and protects the natural and built environment.

Alternatives

FTA and CATS are considering refinements to the light rail locally preferred alternative which came out of the Southeast Corridor Transit Study and the LYNX System Update, including shifts in alignment to address new opportunities and risks, and terminus options including an approximate two-mile extension into Union County.

In addition to what is described above, other reasonable alternatives identified through the early scoping process will be considered for potential inclusion in the planning analysis.

FTA Procedures

Early scoping is an optional element of the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) process that is particularly useful in situations where, as here, alignment variations are under consideration in a broadly-defined study area. While NEPA scoping normally begins with issuance of a Notice of Intent which describes the proposed action, it "may be initiated earlier, as long as there is appropriate public notice and enough information available on the proposal so that the public and relevant agencies can participate effectively." See the Council on Environmental Quality's "Forty Most Asked Questions Concerning CEQ's National Environmental Policy Act Regulations," 46 FR 18026, 18030 (1981). In this case, the available information is more than adequate to permit the public and relevant agencies to participate effectively in early scoping and the planning analysis. Early scoping can also serve to link transportation planning and NEPA. CATS intends to formalize the Federal

Planning and Environmental Linkages (PEL) process with the initiation of early scoping, so that the results of planning studies may be considered during the formal NEPA environmental review process.

CATS may seek New Starts funding for the proposed project under 49 U.S.C. Sec. 5309 and will, therefore, be subject to New Starts regulation (49 CFR part 611). The New Starts regulation requires a planning analysis that leads to the selection of a locally preferred alternative by CATS and the inclusion of the locally preferred alternative in the long-range transportation plan adopted by MPOs. The planning analysis will examine alignments, station locations, costs, funding, ridership, economic development, land use, engineering feasibility, and environmental factors in the study area. The New Starts regulation also requires the submission of certain project-justification information in support of a request to initiate the engineering phase.

Authority: 49 CFR 622.101, 23 CFR 771.111, and 40 CFR 1501.7.

Yvette Taylor,
Regional Administrator.

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DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY

Open Meeting of the Federal Advisory Committee on Insurance

AGENCY: Departmental Offices, U.S. Department of the Treasury.

ACTION: Notice of open meeting.

SUMMARY: This notice announces that the U.S. Department of the Treasury's Federal Advisory Committee on Insurance ("Committee") will meet via teleconference on Tuesday, September 29, 2020 from 12:30 p.m.–4:30 p.m. Eastern Standard Time. The meeting is open to the public.

DATES: The meeting will be held via teleconference on Tuesday, September 29, 2020, from 12:30 p.m.–4:30 p.m. Eastern Time.

ADDRESSES: The Committee meeting will be held via teleconference and is open to the public. The public can attend remotely via live webcast at www.yorkcast.com/treasury/events/2020/09/29/faci. The webcast will also be available through the Committee's website at <https://home.treasury.gov/policy-issues/financial-markets-financial-institutions-and-fiscal-service/federal-insurance-office/federal-advisory-committee-on-insurance-faci>.

Requests for reasonable accommodations under Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act should be directed to Mariam G. Harvey, Office of Civil Rights and Diversity, Department of the Treasury at (202) 622-0316, or mariam.harvey@do.treas.gov.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Lindsey Baldwin, Senior Insurance Regulatory Policy Analyst, Federal Insurance Office, U.S. Department of the Treasury, 1500 Pennsylvania Ave. NW, Room 1410 MT, Washington, DC 20220, at (202) 622-3220 (this is not a toll-free number). Persons who have difficulty hearing or speaking may access this number via TTY by calling the toll-free Federal Relay Service at (800) 877-8339.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Notice of this meeting is provided in accordance with the Federal Advisory Committee Act, 5 U.S.C. App. 10(a)(2), through implementing regulations at 41 CFR 102-3.150.

Public Comment: Members of the public wishing to comment on the business of the Federal Advisory Committee on Insurance are invited to submit written statements by any of the following methods:

Electronic Statements

- Send electronic comments to faci@treasury.gov.

Paper Statements

- Send paper statements in triplicate to the Federal Advisory Committee on Insurance, U.S. Department of the Treasury, 1500 Pennsylvania Ave. NW, Room 1410 MT, Washington, DC 20220.

In general, the Department of the Treasury will post all statements on its website at <https://home.treasury.gov/policy-issues/financial-markets-financial-institutions-and-fiscal-service/federal-insurance-office/federal-advisory-committee-on-insurance-faci> without change, including any business or personal information provided such as names, addresses, email addresses, or telephone numbers. The Department of the Treasury will also make such statements available for public inspection and copying in the Department of the Treasury's Library, 720 Madison Place NW, Room 1020, Washington, DC 20220, on official business days between the hours of 10:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. Eastern Time. You can make an appointment to inspect statements by telephoning (202) 622-2000. All statements received, including attachments and other supporting materials, are part of the public record and subject to public disclosure. You should submit only information that you wish to make available publicly.

Tentative Agenda/Topics for Discussion: This will be the third Committee meeting of 2020. In this meeting, the Committee will receive updates from its four subcommittees, which include the COVID-19 subcommittee, Availability of Insurance Products subcommittee, FIO's International Work subcommittee, and Addressing the Protection Gap Through Public-Private Partnerships and Other Mechanisms subcommittee. The COVID-19 subcommittee consists of two workstreams on "Protection" and "Preparedness," each of which will discuss their ongoing work related to the insurance sector's preparation for future pandemics and other emergencies. The subcommittee on the Availability of Insurance Products will hold a discussion on its ongoing work. The subcommittee on FIO's International Work and the subcommittee on Addressing the Protection Gap Through Public-Private Partnerships and Other Mechanisms will each provide an update on its ongoing work. The Committee will also receive an update from FIO staff on FIO's activities and consider any new business.

Dated: August 25, 2020.

Steven Seitz,

Director, Federal Insurance Office.

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DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY

Agency Information Collection Activities; Submission for OMB Review; Comment Request; Provisions Pertaining to Certain Investments in the United States by Foreign Persons and Provisions Pertaining to Certain Transactions by Foreign Persons Involving Real Estate in the United States

AGENCY: Departmental Offices, U.S. Department of the Treasury.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: The Department of the Treasury will submit the following information collection requests to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for review and clearance in accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, on or after the date of publication of this notice. The public is invited to submit comments on these requests.

DATES: Comments should be received on or before September 30, 2020 to be assured of consideration.

ADDRESSES: Written comments and recommendations for the proposed information collection should be sent within 30 days of publication of this notice to www.reginfo.gov/public/do/PRAMain. Find this particular information collection by selecting "Currently under 30-day Review—Open for Public Comments" or by using the search function.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Copies of the submissions may be obtained from Spencer W. Clark by emailing PRA@treasury.gov, calling (202) 927-5331, or viewing the entire information collection request at www.reginfo.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Title: Provisions Pertaining to Certain Investments in the United States by Foreign Persons and Provisions Pertaining to Certain Transactions by Foreign Persons Involving Real Estate in the United States.

OMB Control Number: 1505-0121.

Type of Review: Extension without change of currently approved collection.

Description: Section 721 of the Defense Production Act of 1950, as amended (section 721), provides the President, acting through the Committee on Foreign Investment in the United States (CFIUS or the Committee), authority to review certain foreign investments in the United States in order to determine the effects of those transactions on the national security of the United States. In August 2018, section 721 was amended by the Foreign Investment Risk Review Modernization Act of 2018 (FIRRMA), Subtitle A of Title XVII, Public Law 115-232, 132 Stat. 2173 (Aug. 13, 2018). FIRRMA maintains CFIUS's jurisdiction over any merger, acquisition, or takeover that could result in foreign control of any U.S. business, and broadens the authorities of the President and CFIUS under section 721 to review and take action to address any national security concerns arising from certain noncontrolling investments and certain real estate transactions involving foreign persons.

Executive Order 13456, 73 FR 4677 (Jan. 23, 2008), directs the Secretary of the Treasury to issue regulations implementing section 721. Most recently, on January 17, 2020, the Department of the Treasury issued final regulations (85 FR 3112 and 85 FR 3158) implementing FIRRMA, including information collections related to notices and declarations filed with or submitted to the Committee regarding transactions that could result in foreign control of a U.S. business, certain noncontrolling investments and certain