

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION**Office of the Secretary**

[OST—2008–0259, Pricing and Multilateral Affairs Division]

Agency Information Collection Request; Activity Under OMB Review; (14 CFR Part 221—Exemption from Passenger Tariff-filing Requirements in Certain Instances and Mandatory Electronic Filing of Residual Passenger Tariffs)

AGENCY: Office of the Secretary (OST), DOT.

ACTION: Notice and request for comments; Extension of a currently approved information collection.

SUMMARY: In compliance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, Public Law 104–13, (44 U.S.C. 3501 *et seq.*) this notice announces that the Information Collection Request, abstracted below, is being forwarded to the Office of Management and Budget for notice and request for comments of currently approved (Exemption from Passenger Tariff-Filing Requirements in Certain Instances, and Mandatory Electronic Filing of Residual Passenger Tariffs). A **Federal Register** Notice with a 60-day comment period was published on September 9, 2008, Volume 73, Number 175, Pages 52445–52447. The agency did not receive any comments to its previous notice.

DATES: Written comments should be submitted by December 17, 2008.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Bernice Gray, 202–366–2418 or John Kiser, 202–366–2435, Pricing and Multilateral Affairs Division, Office of the Secretary, Department of Transportation, Washington, DC. Office hours are from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday through Friday, except Federal holidays.

Comments: Comments should be sent to OMB: Attention DOT/OST Desk Officer, Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs, Office of Management and Budget, Docket Library, Room 10102, 725 17th Street, NW., Washington, DC 20503, or oir_submission@omb.eop.gov (e-mail).

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

OMB Control No.: 2106–0009.

Title: Exemption from Passenger Tariff-filing Requirements in Certain Instances and Mandatory Electronic Filing of Residual Passenger Tariffs.

Respondents: The vast majority of the air carriers filing international tariffs are large operators with revenues in excess of several million dollars each year. Small air carriers operating aircraft with 60 seats or less and 18,000 pounds

payload or less that offer on-demand air-taxi service are not required to file such tariffs.

Number of Respondents: 148.

Number of Responses: 229,200.

Total Annual Burden: 45,840.

Abstract: Chapter 41504 of Title 49 of the United States Code requires that every air carrier and foreign air carrier file with the Department of Transportation (DOT), publish and keep open (*i.e.*, post) for public inspection tariffs showing all “foreign” or “international” fares, and related charges for air transportation between points served by it, and any other air carrier or foreign air carrier when through services, fares and related charges have been established; and showing, to the extent required by DOT regulations, all classifications, rules, regulations, practices, and services in connection with such air transportation. Once tariffs are filed and approved by DOT, they become a legally binding contract of carriage between carriers and users of foreign air transportation.

Part 221 of the Department’s Economic Regulations (14 CFR part 221) set forth specific technical and substantive requirements governing the filing of tariff material with the DOT Office of International Aviation’s Pricing and Multilateral Affairs Division. A carrier initiates an electronic tariff filing whenever it wants to amend an existing tariff for commercial and competitive reasons or when it desires to file a new one. Electronic tariffs filed pursuant to part 221 are used by carriers, computer reservation systems, travel agents, DOT, other government agencies and the general public to determine the prices, rules and related charges for international passenger air transportation. In addition, DOT needs U.S. and foreign air carrier passenger tariff information to monitor international air commerce, carry out carrier route selections and conduct international negotiations.

Part 293 exempts carriers from their statutory and regulatory duty to file international tariffs in many specific markets.

Comments are invited on: (a) Whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the Department, including whether the information will have practical utility; (b) the accuracy of the Departments estimate of the burden of the proposed information collection; (c) ways to enhance the quality, utility and clarity of the information collection; and (d) ways to minimize the burden of the collection of information on

respondents, by the use of electronic means, including the use of automated collection techniques or other forms of information technology.

All responses to this notice will be summarized and included in the request for OMB approval. All comments will also become a matter of public record.

Issued in Washington, DC, on November 11, 2008.

Tracey M. Jackson,

Office of the Chief Information Officer.

[FR Doc. E8–27207 Filed 11–14–08; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4910–62–P

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION**Federal Aviation Administration**

Commercial Space Transportation Advisory Committee; Renewal

AGENCY: Federal Aviation Administration (FAA), DOT.

ACTION: Notice of renewal.

SUMMARY: Pursuant to section 14(a)(2)(A) of the Federal Advisory Committee Act (Pub. L. 92–463, 5 U.S.C. App. 2), and 5 U.S.C. 552b(c), and in accordance with section 102–3.65, title 41 of the Code of Federal Regulations, notice is hereby given that the Commercial Space Transportation Advisory Committee (COMSTAC) has been renewed for a 2-year period beginning November 15, 2008. The primary purpose of the Committee is to provide information, advice, and recommendations to the U.S. Department of Transportation (DOT) on matters concerning the U.S. commercial space transportation industry. The primary goals of the Committee are to evaluate economic, technological, and institutional developments relating to the industry; to provide a forum for the discussion of problems involving the relationship between industry activities and government requirements; and to make recommendations to DOT on issues and approaches for Federal policies and programs regarding the industry. The Committee will operate in accordance with the rules of the Federal Advisory Committee Act and the Department of Transportation, FAA Committee Management Order (1110.30C).

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Brenda Parker (AST–100), COMSTAC Executive Director, Office of Commercial Space Transportation, 800 Independence Avenue, SW., Room 331, Washington, DC 20591, telephone: (202) 267–3674; e-mail: brenda.parker@faa.dot.gov.

Issued in Washington, DC, November 7, 2008.

George C. Nield,

Associate Administrator for Commercial Space Transportation.

[FR Doc. E8-27153 Filed 11-14-08; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Federal Transit Administration

Preparation of an Environmental Impact Statement on Hatcher Pass Recreational Area Trails and Transit Facilities in the Matanuska-Susitna Borough, AK

AGENCY: Federal Transit Administration (FTA), Department of Transportation.

ACTION: Notice of Intent To Prepare an Environmental Impact Statement.

SUMMARY: The FTA and Matanuska-Susitna Borough are issuing this notice to advise the public that an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) will be prepared for the proposed Hatcher Pass Recreational Area Trails and Transit Facilities project in the Matanuska-Susitna Borough, Alaska. The project would construct access roads, parking areas, and pedestrian facilities for two day-use areas that would provide an opportunity for skiing and other recreational opportunities for local and regional residents. The EIS will be prepared in accordance with regulations implementing the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), as well as provisions of the recently enacted Safe, Accountable, Flexible, Efficient Transportation Equity Act: A Legacy for Users (SAFETEA-LU). The purpose of the Notice of Intent (NOI) is to alert interested parties regarding the plan to prepare the EIS, to provide information on the nature of the proposed project, to invite participation in the EIS process, including comments on the scope of the EIS proposed in this notice, and to announce that public scoping meetings will be conducted.

DATES: Written comments on the scope of the EIS should be sent to Ms. Kristi Stuller, DOWL HKM Public Involvement Coordinator, by December 24, 2008, at 2:30 p.m. at the location indicated under **ADDRESSES** below. An interagency scoping meeting has been scheduled for December 8, 2008, and the public scoping meeting will be held on December 11, 2008, from 5:30–8:30 p.m. at the location indicated under **ADDRESSES** below.

ADDRESSES: Written comments on the scope of the EIS should be sent to Ms. Kristi Stuller, DOWL HKM Public

Involvement Coordinator, 4041 B Street, Anchorage, Alaska 99503. Comments may also be offered at the public and agency scoping meetings. The address for the public scoping meeting is as follows: Colony Middle School, 9250 Colony Schools Drive, Palmer, AK 99645.

The address for the agency scoping meeting is as follows: Matanuska-Susitna Borough Lower Level Conference Room, 350 East Dahlia Avenue, Palmer, AK 99645.

These locations are accessible to persons with disabilities. If translation signing services or other special accommodations are needed, please contact Public Involvement Coordinator Kristi Stuller at (907) 562-2000 at least 48 hours before the meeting. A scoping information packet is available on the project Web site at: <http://www.hatcherpass.com>, or by calling Public Involvement Coordinator Kristi Stuller at (907) 562-2000. Copies will also be available at the scoping meeting.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Ms. Linda Gehrke, Deputy Regional Administrator, Federal Transit Administration, Region 10 Office, at (206) 220-4463.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

The Proposed Project: The FTA and Matanuska-Susitna Borough (MSB) are proposing a project to construct access roads, parking lots, and trail connections for two day-use areas that would provide transportation access and transit facilities to serve recreational opportunities for local and regional residents in the Hatcher Pass area. The MSB intends to create a moderate sized development that would include Nordic and alpine skiing, snowboarding, biathlon, mountain biking, hiking, sledding, and equestrian access in Hatcher Pass, Alaska. The study area is located at approximately 61.734 north latitude and 149.299 west longitude (Sections 2-5, 8-11, 14-22, and 26-30 of T19N, R1E, Seward Meridian) (USGS Quadrangle Anchorage C6, C7, and D7 1:63,360 Scale).

Preliminary Purposes and Need for the Proposed Project

Purpose. The preliminary statement of purpose of this project is to provide transportation access and transit facilities to assist in the transportation needs of proposed new Nordic and alpine ski and recreational areas in Hatcher Pass, Alaska. Hatcher Pass is located approximately 55 miles north of Anchorage, Alaska, in the heart of the MSB, Alaska's fastest growing community.

Need. The preliminary statement of need for the project is the lack of existing transportation access, pedestrian amenities and trails, and transit facilities to accommodate the proposed development of new recreational areas at Hatcher Pass that otherwise has excellent road access by both the Glenn and Parks Highways and is paved to the Alpine base area as well as to nearly the top of the pass.

In the summer months, Hatcher Pass is a popular tourist destination with activity focused around the Independence Mine State Historical Park, which features the area's brief but intense hard rock mining history. The area is also a very popular family hiking area with many trail destinations. Hatcher Pass has been used as a winter sports venue since the 1940s and sees use by cross-country and downhill skiers, snowboarders and snowmobile riders. Their activities are currently supported by small-scale businesses, which provide limited food and lodging and some trail grooming services.

The Hatcher Pass Ski Area Project, as currently proposed by the MSB, is not the large-scale four-season resort as is currently described in the 1989 State of Alaska Department of Natural Resources Hatcher Pass Management Plan. Rather, it will be a day-use area that will provide an opportunity for skiing and other recreational opportunities for local and regional residents that is financially feasible and environmentally sensitive. The MSB's goal is a moderate sized development that would include Nordic and alpine skiing, snowboarding, biathlon (winter sport that combines cross-country skiing with rifle shooting), mountain biking, hiking, sledding, and equestrian access.

Preliminary estimates indicate that approximately 1,850 skiers will visit the Nordic area day during the 150 day ski season. In the Alpine area, the estimated visitation will be between 130,000–240,000 skiers during the 100 day ski season. These estimates are a result of applying economic trends and growth rates to the estimates in the Financial Feasibility Study conducted by Economic Research Associates in 1995. As of 2006, the average daily traffic (ADT) at the intersection of Palmer Fishhook Road and Edgerton Parks Road was 502.

Alternatives: The proposed project includes improvements at two areas in Hatcher Pass—the North Side Alpine Ski Area and the South Side Recreational Area. Proposed improvements include the following: