

responsible fiscal management and full compliance with all reporting requirements for past Bureau grants as determined by Bureau Grants Staff. The Bureau will consider the past performance of prior recipients and the demonstrated potential of new applicants. Proposed personnel and institutional resources should be fully qualified to achieve the project's goals.

6. *Follow-on Activities:* Proposals should provide a plan for continued follow-on activity (without Bureau support) ensuring that Bureau supported programs are not isolated events.

## VI. Award Administration Information

### VI.1. Award Notices

Final awards cannot be made until funds have been appropriated by Congress, allocated and committed through internal Bureau procedures. Successful applicants will receive a Federal Assistance Award (FAA) from the Bureau's Grants Office. The FAA and the original proposal with subsequent modifications (if applicable) shall be the only binding authorizing document between the recipient and the U.S. Government. The FAA will be signed by an authorized Grants Officer and mailed to the recipient's responsible officer identified in the application.

Unsuccessful applicants will receive notification of the results of the application review from the ECA program office coordinating this competition.

### VI.2. Administrative and National Policy Requirements

Terms and Conditions for the Administration of ECA agreements include the following:

Office of Management and Budget Circular A-122, "Cost Principles for Nonprofit Organizations."

Office of Management and Budget Circular A-21, "Cost Principles for Educational Institutions."

OMB Circular A-87, "Cost Principles for State, Local and Indian Governments."

OMB Circular No. A-110 (Revised), "Uniform Administrative Requirements for Grants and Agreements with Institutions of Higher Education, Hospitals, and other Nonprofit Organizations."

OMB Circular No. A-102, "Uniform Administrative Requirements for Grants-in-Aid to State and Local Governments."

OMB Circular No. A-133, "Audits of States, Local Government, and Non-profit Organizations."

Please reference the following Web sites for additional information:

<http://www.whitehouse.gov/omb/grants>  
<http://fa.statebuy.state.gov>

### VI.3. Reporting Requirements

You must provide ECA with a hard copy original plus one copy of the following reports:

(1) An interim program report no more than 90 days after the completion of the Institute;

(2) A final program and financial report no more than 90 days after the expiration of the award;

(3) A concise, one-page final program report summarizing program outcomes no more than 90 days after the expiration of the award. This one-page report will be transmitted to OMB, and be made available to the public via OMB's USAspending.gov Web site—as part of ECA's Federal Funding Accountability and Transparency Act (FFATA) reporting requirements.

(1.) A SF-PPR, "Performance Progress Report" Cover Sheet with all program reports. Award recipients will be required to provide reports analyzing their evaluation findings to the Bureau in their regular program reports. Please refer to IV. Application and Submission Instructions (IV.3.d.3) above for Program Monitoring and Evaluation information.

All data collected, including survey responses and contact information, must be maintained for a minimum of three years and provided to the Bureau upon request.

All reports must be sent to the ECA Grants Officer and ECA Program Officer listed in the final assistance award document.

## VII. Agency Contacts

For questions about this announcement, contact: Amy M. Rustan, Study of the U.S. Branch, ECA/A/E/USS, U.S. Department of State, Fourth Floor, SA-5, 2200 C Street, NW., Washington, DC 20522-0504, phone: (202) 632-3337, e-mail: [RustanAM@state.gov](mailto:RustanAM@state.gov).

All correspondence with the Bureau concerning this RFGP should reference the above title and number ECA/A/E/USS-10-11-25.

## VIII. Other Information: Notice

The terms and conditions published in this RFGP are binding and may not be modified by any Bureau representative. Explanatory information provided by the Bureau that contradicts published language will not be binding. Issuance of the RFGP does not constitute an award commitment on the part of the Government. The Bureau reserves the right to reduce, revise, or

increase proposal budgets in accordance with the needs of the program and the availability of funds. In addition, it reserves the right to accept proposals in whole or in part and to make an award or awards in the best interest of the program. Awards made will be subject to periodic reporting and evaluation requirements per section VI.3 above.

Dated: November 3, 2009.

**Maura M. Pally,**

*Acting Assistant Secretary for Educational and Cultural Affairs, Department of State.*

[FR Doc. E9-26913 Filed 11-10-09; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4710-05-P

## DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

### Office of the Secretary

[Docket No. DOT-OST-2009-0115]

### Agency Information Collection Activities: Request for Extension of a Previously Approved Information Collection

**AGENCY:** U.S. Department of Transportation, Office of the Secretary (OST).

**ACTION:** Notice and request for OMB review.

**SUMMARY:** The Department of Transportation (DOT) invites public comments about our intention to request the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) approval to renew an information collection. The collection involves the Supplemental Discretionary Grants for a National Surface Transportation System. The information to be collected will be used to and/or is necessary in order to receive and evaluate applications for grant funds pursuant to Title XII of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 (ARRA). Title XII established a new program for OST to provide Supplemental Discretionary Grants for a National Surface Transportation System. OST is referring to these grants as Grants for Transportation Investment Generating Economic Recovery, or "TIGER" Discretionary Grants. The purposes of the TIGER Discretionary Grants program include promoting economic recovery and supporting projects that have a significant impact on the Nation, a metropolitan area or a region. A 60-day **Federal Register** notice was published on August 21, 2009 (FR Vol. 74, No. 161). Since the release of the initial May 18, 2009, interim **Federal Register** notice, a total of 145 comments were received to the Docket (DOT-OST-2009-0115) and reviewed by the

Department. Many of the comments received were letters supporting applications submitted for TIGER Discretionary Grant funding. These letters of support were submitted by members of Congress and members of the public. In addition, comments were submitted by members of the public requesting changes to the program selection criteria. These comments were considered and changes were made to the selection criteria in a June 17, 2009, **Federal Register** notice (FR Vol. 74, No. 115). None of the comments submitted to the Docket since the initial May 18, 2009, **Federal Register** notice were related to the proposed approval to renew the information collection.

**DATES:** Comments should be submitted by December 14, 2009 and submitted to the attention of the 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 with the associated OMB Approval Number 2105-0560 and Dockets (DOT-OST-2009-0115).

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** The TIGER Discretionary Grants program manager via e-mail at [TIGERGrants@dot.gov](mailto:TIGERGrants@dot.gov).

**Comments:** Comments should be sent to the attention of the DOT/OST Desk Officer, Office of Management and Budget, Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs, Docket Library, Room 10102, 725 17th Street, NW., Washington, DC 20503 or [oir\\_submissions@omb.eop.gov](mailto:oir_submissions@omb.eop.gov) and should identify the associated OMB control number 2105-0560 and Docket (DOT-OST-2009-0115).

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**

**OMB Control Number:** 2105-0560.

**Title:** Supplemental Discretionary Grants for a National Surface Transportation System or TIGER Discretionary Grants.

**Form Numbers:** None.

**Type of Review:** Renewal of an information collection.

**Background:** On February 17, 2009, the President of the United States signed the Recovery Act to, among other purposes, (1) preserve and create jobs and promote economic recovery, (2) invest in transportation infrastructure that will provide long-term economic benefits, and (3) assist those most affected by the current economic downturn. The Recovery Act appropriated \$1.5 billion of discretionary grant funds to be awarded by the Department for capital investments in surface transportation infrastructure. The funds provided by

TIGER Discretionary Grants are awarded on a competitive basis to projects that have a significant impact on the Nation, a metropolitan area, or a region.

On May 18, 2009, the Department published an interim notice announcing the availability of funding for TIGER Discretionary Grants, project selection criteria, application requirements and the deadline for submitting applications, which was September 15, 2009. On June 17, 2009, the Department published an additional notice revising some elements of the interim notice (FR Vol. 74, No. 115). A 60-day **Federal Register** notice was published on August 21, 2009 (FR Vol. 74, No. 161). As the result of the notices, 145 comments were received to the Docket (DOT-OST-2009-0115). Many of the comments received were letters supporting applications submitted for TIGER Discretionary Grant funding. These letters of support were submitted by members of Congress and members of the public. In addition, comments were submitted by members of the public requesting changes to the program selection criteria. These comments were considered and changes were made to the selection criteria in the June 17, 2009, **Federal Register** notice. None of the comments received to the Docket were related to the proposed approval to renew the information collection. The Department's estimated burden for this information collection:

**Expected Number of Respondents:** 500.

**Frequency:** One time collection.

**Estimated Average Burden per Response:** 100 hours.

**Estimated Total Annual Burden:** 50,000.

**Authority:** The Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995; 44 U.S.C. Chapter 35, as amended; and 49 CFR 148.

Issued in Washington, DC on November 6, 2009.

**Patricia Lawton,**

*DOT PRA Clearance Officer.*

[FR Doc. E9-27342 Filed 11-10-09; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 4910-9X-P**

## DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

### Surface Transportation Board

#### Notice and Request for Comments

**AGENCY:** Surface Transportation Board.

**ACTION:** Notice and request for comments.

**SUMMARY:** The Surface Transportation Board (Board), as part of its continuing effort to reduce paperwork burdens, and

as required by the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, 44 U.S.C. 3501 *et seq.* (PRA), gives notice that the Board will seek from the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) an extension of approval for the two currently approved collections described below. The Board is seeking comments regarding one or both of these collections concerning (1) Whether the collection is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the Board, including whether the collection has practical utility; (2) the accuracy of the Board's burden estimates; (3) ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information collected; and (4) ways to minimize the burden of the collection of information on the respondents, including the use of automated collection techniques or other forms of information technology when appropriate. Submitted comments will be addressed in a subsequent notice and will also be submitted to OMB with the Board's request for OMB approval.

**Deadline:** Persons wishing to comment on one or both of these information collections should submit comments by January 11, 2010.

**ADDRESSES:** Direct all comments to Marilyn R. Levitt, Office of the General Counsel, Surface Transportation Board, 395 E Street, SW., Suite 1260, Washington, DC 20423, [levittm@stb.dot.gov](mailto:levittm@stb.dot.gov), or by fax at (202) 245-0460. Comments should be identified as "Paperwork Reduction Act Comments," and should refer to the title and control number of the specific collection(s) commented upon.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:**

Cynthia T. Brown, (202) 245-0350. For a copy of the regulations pertaining to the information collection(s), contact Cynthia T. Brown at (202) 245-0350 or [brownc@stb.dot.gov](mailto:brownc@stb.dot.gov).

#### Collection Number One

**Title:** Maps Required in Abandonment Exemption Proceedings.

**OMB Control Number:** 2140-0008.

**Form Number:** None.

**Type of Review:** Extension without change.

**Respondents:** Railroads initiating abandonment exemption proceedings.

**Number of Respondents:** 80.

**Estimated Time per Response:** 1 hour, based on average time reported in informal survey of respondents conducted in 2009.

**Frequency of Response:** 1.

**Total Annual Burden Hours:** 80.

**Total Annual "Non-Hour Burden"**

**Cost:** None have been identified.

**Needs and Uses:** Under 49 CFR 1152.50(d)(2) and 1152.60(b), the Board