

the formation of public-private partnerships. This program is designed specifically to encourage greater leveraging of public transportation funds and attract private investment to transportation projects by providing credit assistance in the form of direct loans, loan guarantees, and standby lines of credit.

Little use has been made of the loan authority provided by 23 U.S.C. 129(a)(7). The FHWA welcomes proposals to use this "129(a)(7)" authority, which allows highway apportionments to be used for low cost loans to projects with dedicated revenue sources, as part of a three-way financing partnership between the State, the private venture partner, and the FHWA. By coupling "129(a)(7) authority" with TIFIA, tax-exempt bond financing, and Federal-aid grant funding as an integrated financing package, FHWA believes that this kind of partnership will serve as a catalyst for moving public-private partnerships quickly from concept to construction. When the State makes a 129(a)(7) loan to an eligible public or private entity, the State receives reimbursement from FHWA and is repaid the loan amount plus applicable interest by the borrower, which the State may then use for any eligible title 23 U.S.C. purpose; thus, assisting the State to establish a revolving loan fund for future projects.

The FHWA will devote the internal resources necessary to evaluate the financing package, offer alternative financing solutions, and establish financial feasibility in order to move the project from concept to commitment of Federal funds (where applicable) and construction.

Joint Development Agreements

In addition to the transportation project itself, significant benefit and revenue potential may be realized from joint use of the transportation facility. Thus, the ROW may be used both for transportation purposes and other uses that are compatible with the transportation use, such as airspace development. Even joint use of the airspace of Interstate and other limited access highways is favored, so long as the transportation purpose is not impaired. States are encouraged to enter into joint development agreements with private parties by current Federal law, 23 U.S.C. 156. Under this provision, if FHWA participates in the cost of acquiring real property needed for a proposed project, there are specific requirements that apply to the sale or lease of the real property acquired with Federal funds (such as air rights). These requirements may include such things

as ensuring that the amount realized by sale or lease represents the fair market value of the interest at issue. The net realized must be dedicated to transportation purposes. Waivers of the requirement to charge the fair market value are available in limited circumstances.

Application Process

A State DOT should submit SEP-15 proposals to the appropriate FHWA Division Office. Proposals may include localities and private transportation ventures as project sponsors. SEP-15 applications should provide a brief description of the project, including the innovative techniques proposed and the expected value of those techniques.

Upon the completion of major milestones, the public-private sponsors will be responsible for submitting an independently prepared report that summarizes lessons learned from the SEP-15 process. These reports shall include the experiment undertaken, the lessons learned, evaluate the success of the process and its impact on the project, and recommend statutory and regulatory changes with an explanation of how the changes will improve the delivery of the Federal-aid highway program.

Conclusion

The Secretary has identified public-private partnerships as being an important element of the Department's ability to reduce congestion and maintain the highway system. To this end, SEP-15 is designed to encourage a broad range of innovations in project planning, project development, finance, design, construction, maintenance, and operations. This notice outlines some areas in which States may experiment and innovate in order to help provide some framework for experimentation. Project proponents applying under SEP-15, however, are encouraged to propose innovations in all areas of title 23, U.S.C.

(Authority: 23 U.S.C. 315 and 502).

Issued on: September 23, 2004.

Mary E. Peters,

Federal Highway Administrator.

[FR Doc. 04-21975 Filed 10-5-04; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4910-22-P

DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY

Senior Executive Service Departmental Performance Review Board

AGENCY: Treasury Department.

ACTION: Notice of members of the Departmental Performance Review Board (PRB).

SUMMARY: Pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 4314(c)(4), this notice announces the appointment of members of the Departmental PRB. The purpose of this PRB is to review and make recommendations concerning proposed performance appraisals, ratings, bonuses and other appropriate personnel actions for incumbents of SES positions for which the Secretary or Deputy Secretary is the appointing authority. These positions include SES bureau heads, deputy bureau heads and certain other positions. The Board will perform PRB functions for other key bureau positions if requested.

Composition of Departmental PRB: The Board shall consist of at least three members. In the case of an appraisal of a career appointee, more than half the members shall consist of career appointees. The names and titles of the PRB members are as follows:

Wayne A. Abernathy, Assistant Secretary (Financial Institutions); Rebecca A. Contreras, Deputy Assistant Secretary (Human Resources) and Chief Human Capital Officer; Jesus H. Delgado-Jenkins, Deputy Assistant Secretary (Management and Budget); John M. Duncan, Assistant Secretary (Legislative Affairs); James H. Fall III, Deputy Assistant Secretary (Technical Assistance Policy); Reese H. Fuller, Advanced Counterfeit Deterrence Program Director (Domestic Finance); Geraldine A. Gerardi, Director for Business Taxation; Donald V. Hammond, Fiscal Assistant Secretary; Ira L. Hobbs, Chief Information Officer; Gregory F. Jenner, Deputy Assistant Secretary (Tax Policy); Jeffrey F. Kupfer, Deputy Chief of Staff; Robert Nichols, Assistant Secretary (Public Affairs); Patricia J. Pointer, Deputy for Human Resources; Randal K. Quarles, Assistant Secretary (International Affairs); Brian C. Roseboro, Under Secretary (Domestic Finance); Mary Beth Shaw, Executive for DC Pensions Policy and Oversight; Christopher A. Smith, Chief of Staff; Juan C. Zarate, Assistant Secretary (Terrorist Financing); Marla A. Freedman, Assistant Inspector General for Audit, Office; William H. Pugh, Deputy Assistant Inspector General for Audit (Financial Management); Dennis S. Schindel, Deputy Inspector General; Arthur J. Libertucci, Administrator, Tax and Trade Bureau; John J. Manfreda, Deputy Administrator, Tax and Trade Bureau; Marcia H. Coates, Senior Advisor, United States Mint; Henrietta H. Fore, Director, United States Mint; Jerry W. Horton, Chief Information Officer, United States Mint; David A. Lebryk, Deputy Director, United States Mint; Nancy Coto Fleetwood, Assistant Commissioner, Information Resources, Financial Management Service; Richard L. Gregg, Commissioner, Financial Management Service; Scott Johnson, Assistant Commissioner, Management (Chief Financial Officer), Financial Management

Service; Kerry Lanham, Assistant Commissioner, Agency Services, Financial Management Service; Kenneth R. Papaj, Deputy Commissioner, Financial Management Service; Gregory D. Carper, Associate Director (Chief Financial Officer), Bureau of Engraving and Printing; Ronald W. Falter, Associate Director (Chief Information Officer), Bureau of Engraving and Printing; Thomas A. Ferguson, Director, Bureau of Engraving and Printing; Joel C. Taub, Associate Director (Management), Bureau of Engraving and Printing; Beverly O. Babers, Chief Human Capital Officer, Internal Revenue Service; Helen Bolton, Director, Management Services, Modernization and Information Technology Services, Internal Revenue Service; John M. Dalrymple, Deputy Commissioner for Operations Support, Internal Revenue Service; Cecil T. Hua, Director, Systems Engineering and Integration, Business Modernization and Information Technology Services, Internal Revenue Service; Henry O. Lamar, Commissioner, Wage and Investment Division, Internal Revenue Service; Deborah M. Nolan, Commissioner, Large and Mid-Sized Business Division, Internal Revenue Service; Kathy K. Petronchak, Director, Pre-Filing and Technical Guidance, Large and Mid-Sized Business Division, Internal Revenue Service; Evelyn A. Petschek, Chief of Staff, Internal Revenue Service; Estelle R. Tunley, Deputy Director, Submission Processing, Wage and Investment Division, Internal Revenue Service; Anne M. Meister, Deputy Commissioner, Bureau of the Public Debt; Frederick Van Zeck, Commissioner, Bureau of the Public Debt; James W. Carroll, Deputy General Counsel; Roberta K. McNerney, Assistant General Counsel (Banking & Finance); Kenneth R. Schmalzbach, Assistant General Counsel (General Law & Ethics); Carol A. Campbell, Division Counsel, Wage and Investment; Edward L. Patton, Deputy Associate Chief Counsel; William F. Baity, Deputy Director, Financial Crimes Enforcement Network. Additional Member: William J. Fox, Director, Financial Crimes Enforcement Network.

DATES: Membership is effective on the date of this notice.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Dennis Cannon, Department of the Treasury, Director, Human Resources Strategy and Solutions, 1500 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW., Attention: Suite 12105, 1750 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW., Washington, DC 20220, telephone: (202) 622-1109.

This notice does not meet the Department's criteria for significant regulations.

Dennis Cannon,

Director, Human Resources Strategy and Solutions.

[FR Doc. 04-22429 Filed 10-5-04; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4811-16-M

DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY

Office of Thrift Supervision

Proposed Agency Information Collection Activities; Comment Request—Lending and Investment

AGENCY: Office of Thrift Supervision (OTS), Treasury.

ACTION: Notice and request for comment.

SUMMARY: The Department of the Treasury, as part of its continuing effort to reduce paperwork and respondent burden, invites the general public and other Federal agencies to comment on proposed and continuing information collections, as required by the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, 44 U.S.C. 3507. The Office of Thrift Supervision within the Department of the Treasury will submit the proposed information collection requirement described below to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for review, as required by the Paperwork Reduction Act. Today, OTS is soliciting public comments on the proposal.

DATES: Submit written comments on or before December 6, 2004.

ADDRESSES: Send comments, referring to the collection by title of the proposal or by OMB approval number, to Information Collection Comments, Chief Counsel's Office, Office of Thrift Supervision, 1700 G Street, NW., Washington, DC 20552; send a facsimile transmission to (202) 906-6518; or send an e-mail to infocollection.comments@ots.treas.gov. OTS will post comments and the related index on the OTS Internet Site at www.ots.treas.gov. In addition, interested persons may inspect comments at the Public Reading Room, 1700 G Street, NW., by appointment. To make an appointment, call (202) 906-5922, send an e-mail to publicinfo@ots.treas.gov, or send a facsimile transmission to (202) 906-7755.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: You can request additional information about this proposed information collection from William Magrini, Senior Project Manager, Supervision Policy, (202) 906-5744, Office of Thrift Supervision, 1700 G Street, NW., Washington, DC 20552.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: OTS may not conduct or sponsor an information collection, and respondents are not required to respond to an information collection, unless the information collection displays a currently valid OMB control number. As part of the approval process, we invite comments on the following information collection.

Comments should address one or more of the following points:

a. Whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of OTS;

b. The accuracy of OTS's estimate of the burden of the proposed information collection;

c. Ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected;

d. Ways to minimize the burden of the information collection on respondents, including through the use information technology.

We will summarize the comments that we receive and include them in the OTS request for OMB approval. All comments will become a matter of public record. In this notice, OTS is soliciting comments concerning the following information collection.

Title of Proposal: Lending and Investment.

OMB Number: 1550-0078.

Form Number: N/A.

Regulation requirement: 12 CFR parts 560 and 564; and §§ 562.1, 563.41, 563.170, and 590.4.

Description: This information collection requires savings associations to maintain adequate documentation to support their lending and investment activities. OTS staff may request the information during examinations.

Type of Review: Renewal.

Affected Public: Savings Associations.

Estimated Number of Respondents: 902.

Estimated Frequency of Response: Event-generated.

Estimated Total Burden: 327,968 hours.

Clearance Officer: Marilyn K. Burton, (202) 906-6467, Office of Thrift Supervision, 1700 G Street, NW., Washington, DC 20552.

OMB Reviewer: Mark D. Menchik, (202) 395-3176, Office of Management and Budget, Room 10236, New Executive Office Building, Washington, DC 20503.

Dated: September 30, 2004.

By the Office of Thrift Supervision.

Richard M. Riccobono,

Deputy Director.

[FR Doc. 04-22380 Filed 10-5-04; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6720-01-P

DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS

Advisory Committee for CARES Business Plan Studies; Notice of Establishment

As required by section 9(a)(2) of the Federal Advisory Committee Act, the