

injuries and fatalities occurring to bicyclists and pedestrians.

Besides reducing pedestrian/bicyclist injuries and fatalities, the U.S. Secretary of Transportation has called for a doubling in the national percentage of transportation trips made by bicycling and walking. Both goals are part of the DOT Secretarial Initiative for Pedestrian and Bicycle Safety. This is a national effort to promote walking and bicycling as safe, efficient, and healthy ways to travel. It involves partnering with numerous groups to foster the development of a more balanced transportation system. Yet while the Initiative calls for an increase in pedestrian and bicyclist activities, there are no exposure data to measure its progress. Moreover, there is a lack of information on the obstacles to walking and bicycling that would have to be addressed to meet the Secretarial goal; as well as information on how persons decide whether or not to walk, or to bike.

The proposed survey would collect data to meet the informational needs described above. The survey instrument would include items to measure exposure, knowledge, risk perception, community characteristics, and decision factors. The survey data would be used to assess the adequacy of present strategies to increase pedestrian and bicyclist safety, and to help guide policies aimed at encouraging these modes of transportation.

Description of the Likely Respondents (Including Estimated Number, and Proposed Frequency of Response to the Collection of Information)—Under this proposed effort, a telephone interview averaging approximately 23.5 minutes in length would be administered to each of 4,200 randomly selected members of the general public age 16 and older in telephone households. The respondent sample would be selected from all 50 states plus the District of Columbia. Interviews would be conducted with persons at residential phone numbers selected through random digit dialing. Businesses are ineligible for the sample and would not be interviewed. No more than one respondent would be selected per household. Each member of the sample would complete one interview.

Estimate of the Total Annual Reporting and Record Keeping Burden Resulting from the Collection of Information—NHTSA estimates that each respondent in the sample would require an average of 23.5 minutes to complete the telephone interview. Thus, the number of estimated reporting burden hours a year on the general public (4,200 respondents multiplied by 1 interview multiplied by 23.5 minutes)

would be 1645 for the proposed survey. The respondents would not incur any reporting cost from the information collection. The respondents also would not incur any record keeping burden or record keeping cost from the information collection.

Rose A. McMurray,

Associate Administrator for Traffic Safety Programs.

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DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Surface Transportation Board

[STB Ex Parte No. 290 (Sub No. 5) (99-2)]

Quarterly Rail Cost Adjustment Factor

AGENCY: Surface Transportation Board, DOT.

ACTION: Approval of rail cost adjustment factor.

SUMMARY: The Board has approved the second quarter 1999 rail cost adjustment factor (RCAF) and cost index filed by the Association of American Railroads. The second quarter 1999 RCAF (Unadjusted) is 0.993. The second quarter 1999 RCAF (Adjusted) is 0.589. The second quarter 1999 RCAF-5 is 0.587.

EFFECTIVE DATE: April 1, 1999.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: H. Jeff Warren, (202) 565-1533. TDD for the hearing impaired: (202) 565-1695.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Additional information is contained in the Board's decision. To purchase a copy of the full decision, write to, call, or pick up in person from: DC NEWS & DATA, INC., Suite 210, 1925 K Street, NW, Washington, DC 20423-0001, telephone (202) 289-4357. [Assistance for the hearing impaired is available through TDD services (202) 565-1695.]

This action will not significantly affect either the quality of the human environment or energy conservation.

Pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 605(b), we conclude that our action will not have a significant economic impact on a substantial number of small entities within the meaning of the Regulatory Flexibility Act.

Decided: March 18, 1999.

By the Board, Chairman Morgan, Vice Chairman Clyburn, and Commissioner Burkes.

Vernon A. Williams,
Secretary.

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DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS

Advisory Committee on Former Prisoners of War, Notice of Meeting

The Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) gives notice under Public Law 92-463 that a meeting of the Advisory Committee on Former Prisoners of War will be held on April 12th through 14th, 1999, at the Department of Veterans Affairs, VA Central Office, 810 Vermont Avenue, NW., Washington, DC 20420. The meeting will be held in Room 230. Each day the meeting will convene at 9 a.m. and end at 4:30 p.m. The meeting is open to the public.

The purpose of the committee is to advise the Secretary of Veterans Affairs on the administration of benefits under Title 38, United States Code, for veterans who are former prisoners of war, and to make recommendations on the need of such veterans for compensation, health care and rehabilitation.

The agenda for April 12 will begin with an introduction of committee members and dignitaries, a review of Committee reports, an update of activities since the last meeting, and also a period for POW veterans and/or the public to address the committee. Additionally, the Committee will receive presentations on the Veterans Benefits Administration and Veterans Health Administration activities. The agenda on April 13 will include updates on the Center for POW Studies, continuing learning education seminars and the Mortality/Morbidity Study. On April 14, the Committee's Medical and Administrative subcommittees will break out to discuss their activities and report back to the Committee. Additionally, the committee will review and analyze the comments that had been discussed throughout the meeting for the purpose of assisting and compiling a final report to be sent to the Secretary.

Members of the public may direct questions or submit prepared statements for review by the Committee in advance of the meeting, in writing only, to Mr. Robert J. Epley, Director, Compensation and Pension Service (21), Department of Veterans Affairs, 810 Vermont Avenue, NW., Washington, DC 20420. Submitted materials must be received by April 2, 1999. A report of the meeting and roster of Committee members may be obtained from Mr. Epley.

Dated: March 15, 1999.

By Direction of the Secretary.

Heyward Bannister,

Committee Management Officer.

[FR Doc. 99-7147 Filed 3-23-99; 8:45 am]

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