

given of the time and place of the meeting.

To ensure that the full range of issues related to this proposed action are addressed and all significant issues identified, comments, and suggestions are invited from all interested parties. Comments or questions concerning this proposed action and the EIS should be directed to the FHWA at the address provided above.

(Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance Program Number 20.205, Highway Planning and Construction. The regulations implementing Executive Order 12372 regarding intergovernmental consultation on Federal programs and activities apply to this program.)

Authority: 42 U.S.C. 4321 *et seq.*, 49 CFR 1.48(d)(17), and 40 CFR 1501.7.

Issued on: February 20, 2008.

Susan E. Klekar,

Division Administrator, Federal Highway Administration, Nevada Division, Carson City, Nevada.

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DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Federal Highway Administration

Notice of Final Federal Agency Actions on Winston-Salem Northern Beltway, Forsyth County, NC

AGENCY: Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), DOT.

ACTION: Notice of Limitations on Claims for Judicial Review of Actions by FHWA and Other Federal Agencies.

SUMMARY: This notice announces actions taken by the FHWA and other Federal agencies that are final within the meaning of 23 U.S.C. 139(l)(1). The actions relate to a proposed highway project, the Winston-Salem Northern Beltway, from U.S. 158 southwest of Winston-Salem to U.S. 311 southeast of Winston-Salem in Forsyth County, North Carolina. Those actions grant licenses, permits, and approvals for the project.

DATES: By this notice, the FHWA is advising the public of final agency actions subject to 23 U.S.C. 139(l)(1). A claim seeking judicial review of the Federal agency actions on the highway project will be barred unless the claim is filed on or before August 27, 2008. If the Federal law that authorizes judicial review of a claim provides a time period of less than 180 days for filing such claim, then that shorter time period still applies.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Clarence W. Coleman, P. E., Operations

Engineer, Federal Highway Administration, 310 New Bern Avenue, Ste 410, Raleigh, North Carolina, 27601–1418; Telephone: (919) 747–7014; e-mail: clarence.coleman@fhwa.dot.gov. FHWA North Carolina Division Office's normal business hours are 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. (Eastern Time). You may also contact Gregory J. Thorpe, PhD, Project Development and Environmental Analysis Branch Manager, North Carolina Department of Transportation (NCDOT), 1 South Wilmington Street (Delivery), 1548 Mail Service Center, Raleigh, North Carolina 27699–1548; Telephone (919) 733–3141, gthorpe@dot.state.nc.us. NCDOT—Project Development and Environmental Analysis Branch Office's normal business hours are 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. (Eastern Time).

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Notice is hereby given that the FHWA and other Federal agencies have taken final agency actions by issuing licenses, permits, and approvals for the following highway project in the State of North Carolina: the Winston-Salem Northern Beltway, Forsyth County, North Carolina. The proposed action would be the construction of a 34.2-mile multi-lane divided, controlled access highway on new location from U.S. 158 southwest of Winston-Salem to U.S. 311 southeast of Winston-Salem in Forsyth County, North Carolina. The actions by the Federal agencies, and the laws under which such actions were taken, are described in the Supplemental Final Environmental Impact Statement (Western Section)/Final Environmental Impact Statement (Eastern Section and Eastern Section Extension) (SFEIS/FEIS) for the project, approved on January 11, 2007, in the FHWA Record of Decision (ROD) issued on February 15, 2008, and in other documents in the FHWA administrative record. The SFEIS/FEIS, ROD, and other documents in the FHWA administrative record file are available by contacting the FHWA or NCDOT at the addresses provided above. The FHWA SFEIS/FEIS and ROD can be viewed at the NCDOT—Project Development and Environmental Analysis Branch, 1 South Wilmington Street, Raleigh, North Carolina; NCDOT—Division 9 Office, 375 Silas Creek Parkway, Winston-Salem, North Carolina and the Winston-Salem Department of Transportation, City Hall South, 101 East First Street, Room 307, Winston-Salem, North Carolina.

This notice applies to all Federal agency decisions as of the issuance date of this notice and all laws under which such actions were taken, including but not limited to:

1. *General:* National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) [42 U.S.C. 4321–4351]; Federal-Aid Highway Act [23 U.S.C. 109].

2. *Air:* Clean Air Act [42 U.S.C. 7401–7671(q)].

3. *Land:* Section 4(f) of the Department of Transportation Act of 1966 [49 U.S.C. 303]; Landscaping and Scenic Enhancement (Wildflowers) [23 U.S.C. 319].

4. *Wildlife:* Endangered Species Act [16 U.S.C. 1531–1544 and Section 1536], Marine Mammal Protection Act [16 U.S.C. 1361], Anadromous Fish Conservation Act [16 U.S.C. 757(a)–757(g)], Fish and Wildlife Coordination Act [16 U.S.C. 661–667(d)], Migratory Bird Treaty Act [16 U.S.C. 703–712], Magnuson-Stevenson Fishery Conservation and Management Act of 1976, as amended [16 U.S.C. 1801 *et seq.*].

5. *Historic and Cultural Resources:* Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended [16 U.S.C. 470(f) *et seq.*]; Archeological Resources Protection Act of 1977 [16 U.S.C. 470(aa)–11]; Archeological and Historic Preservation Act [16 U.S.C. 469–469(c)]; Native American Grave Protection and Repatriation Act (NAGPRA) [25 U.S.C. 3001–3013].

6. *Social and Economic:* Civil Rights Act of 1964 [42 U.S.C. 2000(d)–2000(d)(1)]; American Indian Religious Freedom Act [42 U.S.C. 1996]; Farmland Protection Policy Act (FPPA) [7 U.S.C. 4201–4209].

7. *Wetlands and Water Resources:* Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF) [16 U.S.C. 4601–4604]; Safe Drinking Water Act (SDWA) [42 U.S.C. 300(f)–300(j)(6)]; Wild and Scenic Rivers Act [16 U.S.C. 1271–1287]; Emergency Wetlands Resources Act [16 U.S.C. 3921, 3931]; TEA–21 Wetlands Mitigation [23 U.S.C. 103(b)(6)(m), 133(b)(11)]; Flood Disaster Protection Act [42 U.S.C. 4001–4128].

8. *Hazardous Materials:* Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (CERCLA) [42 U.S.C. 9601–9675]; Superfund Amendments and Reauthorization Act of 1986 (SARA); Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA) [42 U.S.C. 6901–6992(k)].

9. *Executive Orders:* E.O. 11990 Protection of Wetlands; E.O. 11988 Floodplain Management; E.O. 12898, Federal Actions to Address Environmental Justice in Minority Populations and Low Income Populations; E.O. 11593 Protection and Enhancement of Cultural Resources; E.O. 13007 Indian Sacred Sites; E.O. 13287 Preserve America; E.O. 13175 Consultation and Coordination with

Indian Tribal Governments; E.O. 11514 Protection and Enhancement of Environmental Quality; E.O. 13112 Invasive Species.

(Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance Program Number 20.205, Highway Planning and Construction. The regulations implementing Executive Order 12372 regarding intergovernmental consultation on Federal programs and activities apply to this program.)

Authority: 23 U.S.C. 139(l)(1).

Issued on: February 22, 2008.

Clarence W. Coleman,
Operations Engineer, Raleigh, North Carolina.
[FR Doc. E8-3878 Filed 2-28-08; 8:45 am]
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DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Federal Highway Administration

Rural Safety Innovation Program

AGENCY: Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), (DOT).

ACTION: Notice of solicitation for applications to enter into agreements with the U.S. Department of Transportation (DOT or the "Department") for funding to support qualified Rural Safety Innovation Program projects.

SUMMARY: The goal of the Rural Safety Innovation Program is to improve rural road safety by assisting rural communities in addressing highway safety problems and by providing rural communities the opportunity to compete for project funding to address these problems. The program will encourage States and rural communities to develop creative, locally crafted solutions to roadway safety problems, document their efforts and outcomes, and share the results with other communities across the country.

Through the Rural Safety Innovation Program, the Department aims to heighten awareness and interest in rural safety issues, and promote the benefits of rural safety countermeasures which can reduce rural crashes and fatalities nationwide. By providing technical assistance and best practice guidance from the program we will give States and rural road owners better tools to improve road safety in their communities.

The primary objectives of the Rural Safety Innovation Program are to:

i. Improve safety on local and rural roads with innovative approaches in which rural communities develop and design local solutions to their roadway safety problems.

ii. Provide best practices and lessons learned on innovative safety technologies to assist local and rural road owners and operators in the development and implementation of infrastructure-based rural safety countermeasures that complement behavioral safety efforts.

iii. Promote national awareness and interest in addressing rural safety issues.

iv. Promote the use of Intelligent Transportation Systems (ITS) technologies to improve safety on rural roads.

DATES: Applications must be received on or before April 14, 2008. Proposals for applications selected for potential funding will be due in June 2008.

ADDRESSES: Interested parties should submit Applications to Mr. John E. Dewar, State and Local Programs Team Leader, Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), Office of Safety, 1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE., Washington, DC 20590, electronically to ruralsafetyinitiative@dot.gov.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Mr. John E. Dewar, Federal Highway Administration, Office of Safety, (202) 366-2218, john.dewar2@dot.gov, 1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE., Washington, DC 20590. Office hours are from 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m., e.t., Monday through Friday, except Federal holidays.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Electronic Access and Filing: An electronic copy of this document may be downloaded from the Office of the Federal Register's home page at: <http://www.archives.gov> and the Government Printing Office's Web page at: <http://www.gpoaccess.gov/nara/index.html>.

A. Background

Rural roads account for approximately 40 percent of the vehicle miles traveled in the U.S., but almost 55 percent of fatalities. According to the latest data, 23,339 people were killed in rural crashes in 2006 and the fatality rate for rural crashes is more than twice the fatality rate in urban crashes. Over 75 percent of all U.S. road miles are rural, and of the over 3 million miles of rural roads, almost 80 percent are owned and operated by local entities. Head-on collisions are more frequent in rural areas, occurring about twice as often as in urban areas. Rural collector roads account for 31 percent of all rural road deaths, whereas urban collector roads account for only 8 percent of urban road deaths. Speeding is a common contributor to rural road deaths. Over 70 percent of the fatal crashes on high speed roadways (speed limit of 55 mph or higher) occurred in rural areas. The fatality rate per vehicle miles travel

(VMT) on local roads is more than twice that of Interstates.

Getting infrastructure safety information and more effective countermeasure tools to State and local officials is critical to improving national rural road safety. There are over 3,000 counties and more than 16,000 towns and township governments in the U.S. that vary widely in the size of the engineering staff and their ability to design and implement infrastructure safety countermeasures on rural roads. Rural safety continues to be a significant national problem in the effort to reduce highway fatalities. Successful efforts to combat the rural safety problem require an interdisciplinary approach including engineering, enforcement, education and emergency medical services.

B. Funding

Currently, FHWA is proposing to use FY 2008 funds, drawn from available portions of the Delta Region Transportation Development Program, as well as the U.S. Department of Transportation Intelligent Transportation System (ITS) program for the Rural Safety Innovation Program. Each Federal funding source has unique criteria for eligible activities, eligible facilities/locations, and cost sharing that must be met. Awards will be made to rural projects that meet the eligibility criteria under one or both of these funding sources. Potential Applicants should review the eligibility requirements for each of the potential Federal funding sources described below before submitting an Application.

The FHWA's Delta Region Transportation Development Program supports and encourages multi-State transportation planning and corridor development, provides for transportation project development, facilitates transportation decisionmaking, and supports transportation construction on Federal-aid highways in the portions of the eight States comprising the Delta Regional Authority's region (Alabama, Arkansas, Illinois, Kentucky, Louisiana, Mississippi, Missouri, and Tennessee). Eligible projects must have the endorsement of the State Department of Transportation. Detailed information on Delta Region Transportation Development Program requirements can be found at <http://www.fhwa.dot.gov/planning/1308drtdp.htm>.

The U.S. Department of Transportation Intelligent Transportation Systems Program focuses on intelligent vehicles, intelligent infrastructure and the creation of an intelligent transportation system through integration with and between