

SUMMARY: The FHWA is issuing this notice to advise the public that an environmental impact statement will be prepared for a proposed highway project in Gaston and Mecklenburg Counties, North Carolina.

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) 856-4346.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The FHWA, in cooperation with the North Carolina Department of Transportation (NCDOT) and the North Carolina Turnpike Authority (NCTA), will prepare an environmental impact statement (EIS) addressing proposed improvements to east-west transportation mobility in the area around the City of Gastonia and other municipalities in southern Gaston County. As part of this proposed action, the NCDOT also proposes to improve mobility, access and connectivity between southern Gaston County and Mecklenburg County. The proposed project study area consists of the following general boundaries: I-85 to the north, the South Carolina State line to the south, the Charlotte-Douglas International Airport to the east, and the I-85 and US 29-74 junction to the west. The proposed action is consistent with the thoroughfare plans approved by the Gaston Urban Area Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) and the Mecklenburg-Union MPO.

Alternatives to be studied in detail include:

1. No-Build.
2. Construction of a new location highway. Sixteen detailed study alternatives or corridors will be studied in the Draft EIS.

The proposed project is being developed as a candidate toll road. Accordingly, in conjunction with development of the Draft Environmental Impact Statement and other on-going project development activities, NCTA is conducting a study to evaluate the feasibility of developing the proposed highway as a toll road and funding it, in whole or in part, through the issuance of "revenue bonds."

Letters describing the proposed action and soliciting comments have been sent to appropriate Federal, State and local agencies. Citizens' informational workshops, meetings with local officials, and a public hearing will be held. Information on the dates, times and locations of the citizens' informational workshops and public hearings will be advertised in the local news media, and newsletters will be

mailed to those on the project mailing list. The Draft EIS will be available for public and agency review and comment prior to the public hearing.

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.)

Issued on: April 20, 2006.

Clarence W. Coleman,

Operations Engineer, Raleigh, North Carolina.

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DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Federal Highway Administration

Notice of Final Federal Agency Actions on Proposed Highway in Alaska

AGENCY: Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), DOT.

ACTION: Notice of limitation 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 East Lynn Canal Highway, Alaska Route Number 7, from Echol Cove to Katz Point in the Haines and Juneau Boroughs, State of Alaska. Those actions grant licenses, permits, and approvals for the project.

DATES: By this notice, the FHWA is advising the public of final agency action 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 October 24, 2006. 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: Tim Haugh, Environmental and Right-of-Way Programs Manager, FHWA Alaska Division, P.O. Box 21648, Juneau, Alaska 99802-1648; office hours 7 a.m.-4:30 p.m. (AST), phone (907) 586-7418;

e-mail Tim.Haugh@fhwa.dot.gov. You may also contact Reuben Yost, Special Projects Manager, Alaska Department of Transportation and Public Facilities DOT&PF, 6860 Glacier Highway, P.O. Box 112506, Juneau, Alaska 99811-2506; office hours 8 a.m.-5 p.m. (AST), phone (907) 465-1774, e-mail Reuben_Yost@dot.state.ak.us.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Notice is hereby given that the FHWA and other Federal agencies have taken final agency actions by issuing approvals for the following highway project in the State of Alaska: FHWA Alaska Division Project Number STP-000S(131) titled the Juneau Access Improvements Project, involves construction of approximately 51 miles of two lane highway from the end of Glacier Highway at Echo cover in the City and Borough of Juneau to a point two miles north of the Katzechin River in the Haines Borough. A ferry terminal will be constructed at the north end of the highway, and new shuttle ferries will be constructed to run from Haines and Skagway. Three major rivers will be bridged as well as several streams. The actions by the Federal agencies, and the laws under which such actions were taken, are described in the Final Environmental Impact Statement (FEIS) for the project, approved on January 18, 2006, in the FHWA Record of Decision (ROD) issued on April 3, 2006, and in other documents in the FHWA administrative record. The FEIS, ROD, and other documents in the FHWA administrative record file are available by contacting the FHWA or the DOT&PF at the addresses provided above. The FHWA FEIS and ROD can be viewed and downloaded from the project Web site at <http://dot.alaska.gov/juneauaccess> or viewed at public libraries in the project area.

This notice applies to all Federal agency decisions as of the issuance date of this notice and all laws and Executive Orders 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].
4. Wildlife: Endangered Species Act [16 U.S.C. 1531-1544 and section 1536], Marine Mammal Protection Act [16 U.S.C. 1361], Fish and Wildlife Coordination Act [16 U.S.C. 661-667(d)], Migratory Bird Treaty Act [16 U.S.C. 703-712]; Magnuson-Stevens

Fisheries Conservation and Management Act 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.*].

6. **Social and Economic: Civil Rights Act of 1964** [42 U.S.C. 2000(d)–2000(d)(1)].

7. **Wetlands and Water Resources:** Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF) [16 U.S.C. 4601–4604]; Wild and Scenic Rivers Act [16 U.S.C. 1271–1287].

8. **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. 13186 Migratory Birds.

(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: April 18, 2006.

David C. Miller,

Division Administrator, Juneau, Alaska.

[FR Doc. 06–3989 Filed 4–26–06; 8:45am]

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DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Federal Highway Administration

Notice of Final Federal Agency Actions on Proposed Highway in Ohio

AGENCY: Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), DOT.

ACTION: Notice of Limitation 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, U.S. Route 24, from east of the IR469 bypass in New Haven, Indiana, Allen County, Indiana to SR424 west of Defiance, Ohio. 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 October 24, 2006.

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: Mr. Mark Vonder Embse, Senior Transportation Engineer, Federal Highway Administration, 200 North High Street, Columbus, Ohio 43215; telephone: (614) 280–6854; e-mail: Mark.Vonderembse@fhwa.dot.gov. FHWA Ohio Division Office's normal business hours are 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. (eastern time). You may also contact Mr. Tim Hill, Ohio Department of Transportation, 1980 West Broad Street, Columbus, Ohio 43223; telephone: (614) 644–0377.

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 Ohio: U.S. Route 24, from east of the IR469 bypass in New Haven, Indiana, Allen County, Indiana to SR424 west of Defiance, Ohio. The project will be a 40 mile long, four-lane divided expressway in Ohio and freeway in Indiana. The proposed highway will be on new alignment. The alignment is south of and parallel to the Maumee River and existing US24. West of the City of Defiance, the proposed highway overlaps with the existing US24 alignment prior to crossing the Maumee River. The actions by the Federal agencies, and the laws under which such actions were taken, are described in the Final Environmental Impact Statement (FEIS) for the project, approved on October 26, 2005, in the FHWA Record of Decision (ROD) issued on December 9, 2005, and in other documents in the FHWA administrative record. The FEIS, ROD, and other documents in the FHWA administrative record file are available by contacting the FHWA or the Ohio Department of Transportation at the addresses provided above. The FHWA FEIS and ROD can be viewed at the Paulding County Carnegie Library–Antwerp and Payne Branches, Defiance Public Library, Defiance County Engineer's Office, Allen County (IN) Engineer's Office. For additional locations to view the FEIS and/or ROD, please call the aforementioned contacts.

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; Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF), 16 U.S.C. 4601–4604.

4. **Wildlife:** Endangered Species Act [16 U.S.C. 1531–1544 and Section 1536], Marine Mammal Protection Act [16 U.S.C. 1361], Fish and Wildlife Coordination Act [16 U.S.C. 661–667(d)], Migratory Bird Treaty Act [16 U.S.C. 703–712].

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:** Clean Water Act, 33 U.S.C. 1251–1377 (Section 404, Section 401, Section 319); Safe Drinking Water Act (SDWA), 42 U.S.C. 300(f)–300(j)(6); Rivers and Harbors Act of 1899, 33 U.S.C. 401–406; 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. **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).