




May 31, 2017

**ACTION MEMORANDUM TO THE ASSISTANT SECRETARY FOR
ADMINISTRATION**

From: Walter C. Waidelich, Jr.
Acting Deputy Administrator X62242 

To: Bryan Slater
Assistant Secretary for Administration, OST
X62419

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Associate Administrator for Infrastructure
X60370

Subject: Concurrence with OMB's Approval of FHWA's Transportation
Performance Management Information Collection Request

ACTION REQUIRED

I request your concurrence with the Office of Management and Budget's (OMB) approval of the Federal Highway Administration's (FHWA) Transportation Performance Management (TPM) Information Collection Request (ICR) to administer the "Assessment of Transportation Performance Management (TPM) Needs, Capabilities and Capacity" survey.

SUMMARY

Before issuing the final approval of FHWA's ICR for the survey, OMB is asking for concurrence from a policy official at the Department of Transportation to ensure that the ICR does not conflict with the new Administration's agenda. At the suggestion of FHWA Liaison Mark Sanborn, we are seeking concurrence from the Assistant Secretary for Administration with OMB's decision to approve the ICR.

BACKGROUND

Under the approved ICR, FHWA will collect information on the state of the practice, data, methods, and systems used by States, metropolitan planning organizations (MPO), and other relevant transportation entities to support their TPM and Performance-based Planning and Programming (PbPP) processes. Underpinning this effort is a strategic focus on enhancing the professional capacity of FHWA's partners to nurture a skilled workforce and support systems that better equip them to implement TPM practices in accordance with new Title 23 performance

requirements. The ICR also consolidates several smaller subject matter-specific surveys into a single and granular TPM, Asset Management, and PbPP survey.

The ICR has been revised to address stakeholder input received during the comment periods for a June 23, 2015, 60-day *Federal Register* notice and a follow-up notice in the *Federal Register* March 30, 2016, with a 30-day comment period. The responses we received from the 60-day comment notice asked FHWA to be engaged with States and MPOs as we designed and developed the survey. During the 30-day *Federal Register* notice, we posted a total of 14 comment letters, representing 17 unique commenters, to the docket. We received additional feedback via two stakeholder webinars outlining the purpose of the ICR.


The OMB has agreed that the ICR is not a significant regulatory action nor does it meet any of the criteria outlined in Executive Order 13771 (“Reducing Regulation and Controlling Regulatory Costs”) issued on January 30, 2017, to reduce regulations and is thus not impacted by the freeze on regulatory actions. Hence, no further steps requiring OMB approval are necessary to administer the survey.

The final survey will be sent to all States and MPOs and will include questions that will help us identify where they need support and assistance. Survey results, which will be presented in aggregate at a national level, will be available in the fall. In addition to allowing FHWA to pursue a more data-driven approach to developing and deploying TPM implementation resources, the information collected will supplement two statutorily required reports to Congress that are due in October 2017.

RECOMMENDATION

The FHWA recommends that the Assistant Secretary for Administration concur with OMB’s approval of FHWA’s TPM ICR to administer the “Assessment of TPM Needs, Capabilities and Capacity” survey.

Assistant Secretary for Administration

APPROVED: _____ 

DISAPPROVED: _____

COMMENTS: _____

DATE: _____ 9/28/17