



**Washington State
Department of Transportation**

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March 5, 2026

Dockets Management Facility
U.S. Department of Transportation
West Building Ground Floor, Room W12-140
1200 New Jersey Avenue SE
Washington, DC 20590-0001

Re: Federal Register – Docket Number FHWA-2026-0133 (Agency Information
Collection Activities: Request for Comments for a New Information Collection
Title: Transportation Alternatives (TA) and Recreational Trails Annual Report)

Dear Administrator McMaster:

The Washington State Department of Transportation (WSDOT) appreciates FHWA's request for comments for a New Information Collection. WSDOT is submitting the following comments for consideration due to the impacts to both WSDOT and FHWA and to identify a more efficient way to gather the information moving forward.

WSDOT has the following comments for the Office of Management and Budget's (OMB) and FHWA to consider:

- (1) Whether the proposed collection is necessary for the FHWA's performance;
 - The Information provided does not reflect program performance. It only provides information regarding applications and selections. The information being collected is of little value and relevance to the public or the programs performance. Relevant information on the program is readily available in the FHWA Fiscal Management Information System (FMIS).
- (2) the accuracy of the estimated burdens;
 - Estimated Average Burden per Response: 40 hours
 - Estimated Total Annual Burden Hours: 2,040 hours
 - The time it takes to gather this information requires a number of hours at least double what is estimated due to the level of detail and the required work to detail information, much of which is already included in FHWA system FMIS.
 - Estimated Average Burden per Response: 80 hours
 - Estimated Total Annual Burden Hours: 4,080 hours
- (3) ways for the FHWA to enhance the quality, usefulness, and clarity of the collected information; and
 - We suggest FHWA utilizes the FMIS system to compile actual delivery information of projects authorized (by phase as applicable), types of projects, and completed projects for projects utilizing both the TA program and Recreational Trails program funds.

(4) ways that the burden could be minimized, including the use of electronic technology, without reducing the quality of the collected information.

- We suggest FHWA develop a report that is generated from details within the FMIS system to compile the information. This would reduce the burden on States to further gather information on projects that are approved by FHWA and currently in FMIS that are moving forward to deliver and/or completed.

Utilizing information that is readily available to FHWA through FMIS will not only reduce the burden on states, but it also allows FHWA to develop a more efficient way to gather the data with their limited resources. Developing a uniform report from data already required by FHWA in FMIS maintains the integrity of the data.

If you have any questions about the comments included in this document, feel free to reach out to Jay Drye, PE, WSDOT Local Programs Director, at jay.drye@wsdot.wa.gov or (360) 705-7871.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Julie Meredith".

Julie Meredith, PE
Secretary of Transportation
Washington State Department of Transportation