

§ 393.6

invited to assist in the coordination process.

(4) Consult with Federal Highway Administration, Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration, Federal Railroad Administration, Federal Transit Administration and other entities within DOT, as appropriate, for support and to evaluate costs and benefits of proposed Marine Highway Corridors and Projects.

(d) *Short-Term Incentives.* The Department will develop proposed short-term incentives to encourage the use, initiation, or expansion of Marine Highway services in consultation with shippers and other participants in transportation logistics, and government entities, as appropriate.

(e) *Impediments and Solutions.* The Department will either establish a board, or modify an existing body, in accordance with the Federal Advisory Committee Act (FACA), whose role is to identify impediments that hinder effective use of the Marine Highways and recommend solutions. The Board will meet regularly and report its findings and recommended solutions to the Maritime Administrator. Board membership will include, among others, representation by Federal Departments and Agencies, State Departments of Transportation, Metropolitan Planning Organizations and other local public

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entities including Tribal governments and private sector stakeholders. The Department will take actions, as appropriate, to address impediments to the Marine Highways.

§ 393.6 Research on Marine Highway Transportation.

(a) *Summary.* The Department will work in consultation with the Environmental Protection Agency and other entities as appropriate, within the limits of available resources, to conduct research in support of America's Marine Highway or in direct support of designated Marine Highway Corridors and Projects.

(b) *Objectives.* The primary objectives of selected research Projects are to:

(1) Identify and quantify environmental and transportation-related benefits that can be derived from utilization of the Marine Highways as compared to other modes of surface transportation.

(2) Identify existing or emerging technology, vessel design, and other improvements that would reduce emissions, increase fuel economy, and lower costs of Marine Highway transportation and increase the efficiency of intermodal transfers.

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