ADDRESSES: Interested persons are invited to submit comments regarding this proposal. Comments must be received within seven (7) working days from the date of this notice. Comments should refer to the proposal by name and should be sent to: Joseph F. Lackey, Jr., OMB Desk Officer, Office of Management and Budget, New Executive Office Building, Washington, DC 20503.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Kay F. Weaver, Reports Management Officer, Department of Housing and Urban Development, 451 7th Street, SW, Washington, DC 20410, telephone no. (202) 708–0050. This is not a toll free number. Copies of the proposed forms and other available documents submitted to OMB may be obtained from Ms. Weaver.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: This notice informs the public that the Department of Housing and Urban Development has submitted to OMB, for expedited processing and information collection package for pre-testing of a Survey of Homeless Persons Who Use Services. HUD is requesting an review of this information collection pretest before or by February 10, 1995.

The pre-test of the Survey of Homeless Who Use Services will involve pilot testing three instruments: (1) a Government Contacts for Provider Questionnaire; (2) a Local Facility Contacts Questionnaire; and (3) a Service Users (Respondent) Questionnaire. The pre-tests will take place in just three areas: Atlanta, GA; Pittsburgh, PA, (includes Allegheny Fayette, Washington, and Westmoreland Counties); and the Armstrong County Community Action Agency Catchment area (a rural Community Action Agency service area outside Pittsburgh).

In each of the three areas, the Census Bureau will select a sample of three shelters, soup kitchens and/or homeless outreach programs to test the Local Facility Survey and at each facility they will conduct five Service Users Surveys, twice during a month, for a total of 90 homeless respondent interviews.

The Census Bureau sought substantial expert input over a two year period to develop the pre-test instruments. Following the pre-test, the Census

Bureau will make necessary revisions to the three surveys. Before the conduct of a national survey, the public will be given an opportunity to review of the proposed final survey instruments.

The national survey is planned to be conducted starting in February 1996 pending finalization of the Federal funding. An estimated 76 localities would be contacted to produce national figures on the characteristics of homeless persons and facilities assisting the homeless.

Use will also be made of the pre-test results to produce for local governments a guide on conducting local homeless surveys for planning local continuums of care to address homeless needs. As part of the pre-test, the Census Bureau will advise HUD on the development of a local homeless survey guide. Local governments will shortly have an immediate need for such a homeless survey guide under HUD's proposed consolidation of McKinney homeless programs. A key aspect of granting local governments more flexibility to use Federal homeless resources under McKinney consolidation is a requirement that local governments develop continuum of care plans for meeting the diverse needs of the homeless. The pre-test will produce a proven: (1) methodology to prepare a comprehensive list of all local homeless shelter and service providers, (2) survey of homeless providers, and (3) survey of homeless service users (no such standard instruments now exist). A guide on conducting local homeless surveys would be provided as a technical assistance document.

The Department has submitted the proposal for the collection of information, as described below to OMB for review, as required by the Paperwork Reduction Act (44 U.S.C. Chapter 35):

(1) The title of the information collection proposal;

- (2) The office of the agency to collect the information;
- (3) The description of the need for the information and its proposed use;
- (4) The agency form number, if applicable;
- (5) What members of the public will be affected by the proposal;
- (6) How frequently information submission will be required;

- (7) An estimate of the total number of hours needed to prepare the information submission including numbers of respondents, frequency of response, and hours of response;
- (8) Whether the proposal is new or an extension, reinstatement, or revision of an information collection requirement; and
- (9) The names and telephone numbers of an agency official familiar with the proposal and of the OMB Desk Officer for the Department.

Authority: Section 3507 of the Paperwork Reduction Act, 44 U.S.C. 3507; Section 7 (d) of the Department of Housing and Urban Development Act, 42 U.S.C. 3535(d).

Dated: January 23, 1995.

Michael A. Stegman,

Assistant Secretary, Office of Policy Development and Research.

Notice of Submission of Proposed Information Collection to OMB

Proposal: Pretest of Survey of Homeless Persons Who Use Services (HPWUS).

Office: Policy Development and Research.

Description of the Need for the Information and its Proposed Use: This is a pretest of a national survey that would provide up-to-date information about the characteristics of today's homeless population who use services and data on how this population has changed since 1987 in urban areas. Included in the survey would be the first national examination of the characteristics of homelessness in rural America, fulfilling a Congressional mandate for a report on this subject. The data will assist in developing public policy responses and leveraging appropriate resources to break the cycle of homelessness. The pretest of the HPWUS is needed to ensure that the methodology and field materials meet the operational requirements of the national survey.

Form Number: None.

Respondents: Individuals, Service Providers, and Local Government Employees.

Frequency of Submission: One-Time. Reporting Burden:

Number of respondents

Frequency of response Hours per response Burden hours

See Attachment

Total Estimated Burden Hours: 184. Status: New Survey.

Contact: James Hoben, HUD, (202) 708–0574, Ext. 132; Joseph F. Lackey,

Jr., OMB, (202) 395–7316; Marsha A. Martin, HUD/ICH, (202) 708–1480.

Date: January 23, 1995.