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DIME BANCORP INC
Form 425
June 25, 2001

Filed by Washington Mutual, Inc.

Pursuant to Rule 425 under the Securities Act of 1933
and deemed filed pursuant to Rule 14a-12 under
the Securities Exchange Act of 1934

Subject Company: Dime Bancorp, Inc.
Commission File No. 001-13094

Date: June 25, 2001

Except for historical information, all other information in this filing consists of forward-looking statements within the meaning of the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995. These forward-looking statements include, but are not limited to, statements about (i) the benefits of the merger between Washington Mutual and Dime, including future financial and operating results, cost savings, enhancements to revenue and accretion to reported earnings that may be realized from the merger; (ii) Washington Mutual's plans, objectives, expectations and intentions and other statements contained in this presentation that are not historical facts; and (iii) other statements identified by words such as "expects," "anticipates," "intends," "plans," "believes," "seeks," "estimates" or words of similar meaning. These forward-looking statements are based upon the current beliefs and expectations of Washington Mutual's and Dime's management and are inherently subject to significant business, economic and competitive uncertainties and contingencies, many of which are beyond our control. In addition, these forward-looking statements are subject to assumptions with respect to future business strategies and decisions that are subject to change. Actual results may differ materially from the anticipated results discussed in these forward-looking statements.

The following factors, among others, could cause actual results to differ materially from the anticipated results or other expectations expressed in the forward-looking statements: (1) the businesses of Washington Mutual and Dime may not be combined successfully, or such combination may take longer, be more difficult, time-consuming or costly to accomplish than expected; (2) the expected growth opportunities and cost savings from the merger may not be fully realized or may take longer to realize than expected; (3) operating costs, customer losses and business disruption following the merger, including adverse effects on relationships with employees, may be greater than expected; (4) governmental approvals of the merger may not be obtained, or adverse regulatory conditions may be imposed in connection with governmental approvals of the merger; (5) the stockholders of Dime may fail to approve the merger; (6) adverse governmental or regulatory policies may be enacted; (7) the interest rate environment may further compress margins and adversely affect net interest income; (8) the risk of continued diversification of assets and adverse changes to credit quality; (9) competition from other financial services companies in Washington Mutual's and Dime's markets; (10) the concentration of Washington Mutual's operations in California may adversely affect results if the California economy or real estate market declines; and (11) the risk of an economic slowdown that would adversely affect credit quality and loan originations. Additional factors that could cause actual results to differ materially from those expressed in the forward-looking statements are discussed in Washington Mutual's and Dime's reports (such as Annual Reports on Form 10-K, Quarterly Reports on Form 10-Q and Current Reports on Form 8-K) filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission and available at the SEC's Internet site (<http://www.sec.gov>).

Washington Mutual cautions that the foregoing list of factors is not exclusive. All subsequent written and oral forward-looking statements concerning the proposed transaction or other matters attributable to Washington Mutual or any person acting on its behalf are expressly qualified in their entirety by the cautionary statements above. Washington Mutual does not undertake any obligation to update any forward-looking statement to reflect circumstances or events that occur after the date the forward-looking statements are made.

The proposed transaction will be submitted to Dime's stockholders for their consideration. Washington Mutual and Dime will file a registration statement, a joint proxy statement/prospectus and other relevant documents concerning the proposed transaction with the SEC. Stockholders are urged to read the registration statement and the joint proxy statement/prospectus when it becomes available and any other relevant documents filed with the SEC, as well as any amendments or supplements to those documents, because they will contain important information. You will be able to obtain a free copy of the joint proxy statement/prospectus, as well as other filings containing information about Washington Mutual and Dime, at the SEC's Internet site (<http://www.sec.gov>). Copies of the joint proxy statement/prospectus and the SEC filings that will be incorporated by reference in the joint proxy statement/prospectus can be obtained, without charge, by directing a request to Washington Mutual, Investor Relations, 1201 Third Avenue WMT2140, Seattle, Washington 98101 (206-461-3187) or to Dime, Investor Relations, 589 Fifth Avenue, New York, New York 10017 (212-326-6170).

Dime and its directors and executive officers may be deemed to be participants in the solicitation of proxies from the stockholders of Dime in connection with the merger. Information about the directors and executive officers of Dime and their ownership of Dime common stock is set forth in the proxy statement, dated March 10, 2001, for Dime's 2001 annual meeting of stockholders, as filed with the SEC on a Schedule 14A. Additional information regarding the interests of these participants may be obtained by reading the joint proxy statement/prospectus regarding the proposed transaction when it becomes available.

* * *

THE FOLLOWING IS A JOINT PRESS RELEASE ISSUED BY WASHINGTON MUTUAL AND DIME ON JUNE 25, 2001.

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

WASHINGTON MUTUAL TO EXTEND NATIONAL BANKING FRANCHISE
WITH \$5.2 BILLION MERGER WITH DIME BANCORP

TRANSACTION PROVIDES GROWTH PLATFORM IN NATION'S TOP BANKING MARKET

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SOLIDIFIES NATIONAL LEADERSHIP POSITION IN MORTGAGE ORIGINATION AND SERVICING

SEATTLE AND NEW YORK - JUNE 25, 2001 - In a major extension of its national banking franchise, Washington Mutual, Inc. (NYSE: WM) today announced a definitive agreement to merge with Dime Bancorp, Inc. (NYSE: DME) in a transaction currently valued at \$5.2 billion in stock and cash. The transaction, approved by the directors of both companies, creates a broad-based platform for Washington Mutual's banking operations as it enters the greater New York metropolitan area, the nation's largest urban banking market.

"The opportunity to deliver Washington Mutual's unique, customer-focused banking model to the largest concentration of middle-market consumers in the nation is tremendously exciting," said Kerry Killinger, Chairman, President and Chief Executive Officer of Washington Mutual. "We look forward to serving this broad market with great service, a good deal, and a friendly environment through the outstanding platform provided by Dime.

"Our two franchises are highly compatible, each distinguished by excellent financial performance and a shared commitment to the customer and community," continued Killinger. "This transaction extends our reach as one of the nation's top banks serving the middle-market consumer, while the addition of North American Mortgage Company

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further solidifies our position as the nation's leading mortgage franchise. The merger also helps diversify our sources of revenue and re-mix our balance sheet over time. Simply put, the combination of Washington Mutual and Dime is an excellent fit. It is tailor-made to deliver solid results to our customers, our communities, and our shareholders."

"Dime stockholders win as they receive both attractive value today, and the opportunity to own currency in a company that has generated solid growth and outstanding returns for shareholders over the past 10 years," said Tony Terracciano, Chairman of Dime. "Combining Washington Mutual's considerable growth potential with its potential for multiple expansion creates a currency that is very attractive for Dime stockholders."

"We are delighted to join forces with Washington Mutual, a company that shares Dime's commitment to serving customers and building both strong local communities and shareholder value," said Larry Toal, Chief Executive Officer of Dime. "Our customers benefit because of Washington Mutual's broader product line coupled with its focus on the consumer and small-to-medium sized businesses. Employees of the combined company benefit because they become part of a large and growing organization with a track record as an excellent employer. This transaction is the right way to ensure that the deeply rooted values and culture of Dime are sustained, renewed, and extended."

TERMS OF THE TRANSACTION

Based on the average five-day price of \$38.89 for Washington Mutual's common stock prior to today's announcement, the transaction represents total consideration of \$5.2 billion or \$40.84 per Dime share, an exchange ratio of 1.05 Washington Mutual shares for each Dime share. Total consideration is fixed at \$1.4 billion in cash and 92.3 million Washington Mutual shares. The total

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value at closing may rise or fall based on the average per share price of Washington Mutual stock for a ten day period prior to closing. Each shareholder may choose cash or stock, subject to pro-ration if either cash or stock is oversubscribed.

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The transaction will be accounted for as a purchase. In addition, common stock received by Dime stockholders is expected to qualify as a tax-free exchange.

Assuming no revenue enhancements, the transaction is expected to be earnings neutral to Washington Mutual in the first year after closing and \$0.01 per share accretive in year two under the expected new GAAP accounting standards for business combinations. In addition, the transaction is expected to be accretive to Washington Mutual by \$0.05 cents on a cash earnings per share basis in 2002 and by \$0.06 cents in 2003.

Dime's Litigation Tracking Warrants (TM) will become exercisable for Washington Mutual shares upon settlement or final judgment of the claim and will remain in accordance with their terms.

Pre-tax restructuring charges are anticipated to be \$308 million. This includes a \$77 million charge related to the termination of the Hudson United Bancorp merger, payable at the time of closing.

The transaction, which is expected to close early in the first quarter of 2002, requires the approval of Dime stockholders and banking and other regulators. Washington Mutual has executed a purchase and voting agreement with Warburg, Pincus Equity Partners, L.P. and affiliates, in which they have agreed to vote their shares in favor of this transaction.

"We are very pleased by this agreement between Washington Mutual and Dime," said Kewsong Lee, Managing Director of Warburg Pincus, a leading global private equity firm and the Dime's largest shareholder. "This transaction validates our view that the Dime and its management have created a franchise of considerable value. The Dime exemplifies Warburg Pincus' investment philosophy: partnering with strong management teams to build companies and drive shareholder value. Moving forward, Dime shareholders now have the opportunity to participate in the growth of Washington Mutual, a company with the capacity to realize the full potential of the Dime platform - and a financial institution that has delivered consistent, high-double-digit growth in

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earnings per share."

COMPATIBLE BUSINESS COMBINATION: A QUALITY FRANCHISE POISED FOR FURTHER GROWTH

The Dime, which has served the greater New York metropolitan area since its founding in 1859, has more than \$14 billion in deposits in the New York metropolitan area and serves approximately 1.0 million households through 123

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current branches and 250 ATMs. Washington Mutual's banking unit currently serves 5.4 million households in nine states.

The Dime, through North American Mortgage Company, its wholly-owned mortgage banking subsidiary, is a significant mortgage originator and servicer. On a pro-forma basis, including the effects of its recently completed acquisitions, Washington Mutual is the nation's largest mortgage originator and servicer. With Dime, the company would extend its lead, with \$42.3 billion in pro forma originations for the first quarter of 2001 and \$512 billion in loans serviced at March 31, 2001. The transaction also further diversifies the geographic reach of Washington Mutual's mortgage business, adding scale in a scale-driven business.

In recent years, Dime has moved successfully to diversify its asset base. At March 31, 2001, its consumer, multi-family, commercial real estate, and commercial and industrial lending lines of business represented more than 45 percent of the company's \$18.3 billion in outstanding loans and mortgage backed securities. Dime's ratio of nonperforming assets to total assets at March 31, 2001 was an exceptionally low 0.26 percent.

"Clearly, Dime's stable and attractive deposit base and its diversified asset mix will help Washington Mutual advance several of our key initiatives to enhance shareholder value: reducing interest rate risk by re-mixing the balance sheet over time, while sustaining excellent credit quality," said Killinger.

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NEW PLATFORM TO SERVE THE MIDDLE-MARKET CONSUMER

"With this move, Washington Mutual - already the second largest home lender in New York - acquires a broad retail footprint to complement our existing mortgage business," said Killinger. "We have worked hard in the recent past to establish a visible brand position in the greater New York metropolitan area. We're confident residents will be highly receptive to our broad product offerings and our commitment to continue the high quality personal customer service that Dime has delivered so well."

While Washington Mutual has assumed no revenue synergies in its financial modeling for this transaction, the company believes that the acquisition of Dime presents opportunities to drive new revenue growth. In addition to introducing its highly successful Free Checking(TM) program, Washington Mutual said that it plans to introduce Occasio(TM), its innovative, new financial store model to the greater New York metropolitan market to augment the Dime's platform. Occasio stores represent a dramatic redesign of the retail banking experience and are currently being rolled out in selected metropolitan markets throughout the United States. Occasio branches have generated deposit and checking account growth at nearly twice the pace of the traditional retail bank branch. They also can be opened more quickly than traditional retail branches.

"We have said consistently that we intend to use Occasio as a vehicle to enter new markets as well as to enhance our existing retail banking footprint," said Killinger. "The greater New York metropolitan market provides an opportunity to deploy this tool to its full capacity."

CAREFULLY PHASED INTEGRATION, COST SAVINGS PLANNED

Washington Mutual said that Dime's customers can expect seamless, uninterrupted

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service from the branch staff they know today, and that it currently plans to keep operating all of Dime's retail banking branches. Cost savings as a result of the

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transaction are estimated to total approximately \$150 million on a fully phased-in basis, or 25 percent of Dime's estimated operating expenses. The majority of the cost savings are expected to come from the elimination of duplicative corporate and administrative expenses.

The companies said that, while they expect duplicative positions to be eliminated as a result of the combination, normal attrition at The Dime coupled with Washington Mutual's anticipated company-wide growth and its customary practice of filling vacancies from within, means that fewer employees will be affected.

"Our companies have similar cultures, a shared vision for the future of consumer banking, and a proven program for successful integration," said Killinger. "Washington Mutual's seasoned management team has successfully completed 28 acquisitions over the past 15 years, several of them substantially exceeding the size of Dime. Washington Mutual said that the integration of its acquisitions of Bank United, and the mortgage operations of PNC and Fleet, are expected to be nearly completed before the anticipated closing and integration with Dime.

"We are especially pleased to welcome the many talented Dime employees to the already strong team at Washington Mutual," said Killinger. "Under the outstanding leadership of Larry Toal, they have built an outstanding franchise and we look forward to working with them to create the leading consumer banking franchise in the greater New York metropolitan area." Mr. Toal will remain with Dime Bancorp through the consummation of the transaction in order to ensure a smooth and seamless transition of operations. In addition, one Dime board member will join Washington Mutual's board of directors.

"The people of Dime have helped transform our company in recent years as we've worked to meet our customers' needs," said Toal. "I am proud of them and their exceptional efforts."

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OUTSTANDING TRACK RECORD OF COMMUNITY COMMITMENT

Washington Mutual, which has an "Outstanding" Community Reinvestment Act rating, said that it plans to bring its commitment to affordable housing, community development, education, and other important community needs to the areas the Dime now serves. In 2000, Washington Mutual originated more than \$14 billion in single-family, shelter-based loans to low and moderate income and minority borrowers and communities - and more than \$2 billion of affordable multi-family lending. In addition, Washington Mutual's year 2000 charitable giving budget alone totaled more than \$41 million. Washington Mutual's charitable giving is

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ted to a formula of 2 percent of pretax earnings.

"We're a good corporate citizen and, maybe more importantly, we listen to our community partners," said Killinger. "We plan to continue to build upon Dime's long-standing commitment to the community and sustain a strong local presence that is sensitive to community needs."

Lehman Brothers and Goldman, Sachs & Co. acted as financial advisors to Washington Mutual. Credit Suisse First Boston and Merrill Lynch & Co. acted as financial advisors to Dime. Washington Mutual was advised by the law firms of Simpson Thacher & Bartlett and Heller Ehrman White and McAuliffe. Dime was advised by the law firm of Sullivan & Cromwell.

ABOUT DIME BANCORP, INC.

Dime Bancorp is the parent company of The Dime Savings Bank of New York, FSB, a regional bank serving consumers and businesses through 123 branches located throughout the greater New York City metropolitan area. Directly and through its mortgage banking subsidiary, North American Mortgage Company, Dime also provides consumer loans, insurance products and mortgage banking services throughout the United States.

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ABOUT WASHINGTON MUTUAL, INC.

With a history dating back to 1889, Washington Mutual, Inc. is a national financial services company that provides a diversified line of products and services to consumers and small- to mid-sized businesses. At March 31, 2001, Washington Mutual and its subsidiaries had consolidated assets of \$219.9 billion. Washington Mutual currently operates more than 2,300 consumer banking, mortgage lending, commercial banking, consumer finance and financial services offices throughout the nation.

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the SEC on a Schedule 14A.

NOTE TO EDITORS: A CONFERENCE CALL DISCUSSING THE TRANSACTION WILL BE HELD ON MONDAY, JUNE 25 AT 10:30 A.M. EDT. THE TOLL-FREE DIAL-IN NUMBER IS 888-849-9216 AND THE NUMBER FOR PARTICIPANTS LOCATED OUTSIDE THE U.S. IS 212-676-5193. THE U.S. REPLAY NUMBER IS 800-633-8284 (858-812-6440 FOR INTERNATIONAL PARTICIPANTS) AND FOR ALL PARTICIPANTS WISHING TO LISTEN TO THE REPLAY THE ACCESS CODE IS 19233919. THE CALL WILL BE AVAILABLE FROM 1:30 P.M. EDT ON JUNE 25, 2001 TO 1:30 P.M. EDT ON JULY 25, 2001.

A LIVE AUDIO WEBCAST OF THE CALL IS AVAILABLE ONLINE AT WWW.WAMU.COM. THE AUDIO WEBCAST WILL ALSO BE ARCHIVED ON THE COMPANY'S WEB SITE AT: AUDIO ARCHIVES UNDER INVESTOR RELATIONS - EVENTS.

TODAY'S NEWS RELEASE AND ADDITIONAL TRANSACTION DETAILS ARE AVAILABLE ON WASHINGTON MUTUAL'S WEB SITE, WWW.WAMU.COM

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