

# NEPA and Transportation Decisionmaking

This course considers FHWA's policies and procedures for applying the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) to the project development and decisionmaking processes related to transportation facilities. The course examines the evolution of environmental policy and the integration of social, environmental, and economic factors into the framework of laws, regulations, policies, and guidance, which assist in achieving a decision on a transportation project that is in the best overall public interest.

The course emphasizes using the Council on Environmental Quality and FHWA's regulations and guidance for implementing NEPA and Section 4(f) of the Department of Transportation Act, as well as initiatives for interagency coordination and streamlining the project development process. Also emphasized are public involvement, Title VI/ Environmental Justice, FHWA's policy for mitigation and enhancement, and the role of transportation in achieving sustainable development.

We recommend participants take the Web-based FHWA-NHI-142052 Introduction to NEPA and Transportation Decisionmaking course in advance of this offering. While not a prerequisite, the Web-based training is offered at no cost and provides a general overview of NEPA that would be helpful to those taking FHWA-NHI-142005.

## **OUTCOMES**

Upon completion of the training, participants will be able to:

- Describe the NEPA principles in the development of transportation projects
- Describe the NEPA umbrella concept in transportation decisionmaking
- Explain the roles and responsibilities of participants in the NEPA process
- Describe the importance of a reasoned, collaborative process when developing and evaluating alternatives
- Discuss balancing an array of interests and values in making transportation decisions
- List the milestones in transportation planning that link to the NEPA project development process
- Describe documentation requirements of the NEPA process
- Discuss environmental streamlining, leadership, and stewardship in managing the NEPA process

#### TARGET AUDIENCE

FHWA, State departments of transportation (including consultants acting on behalf of the State), Federal and State environmental resource agencies, local governments, and metropolitan planning organizations who participate in the transportation decisionmaking process. We strongly encourage the sponsoring organization to invite a mix of planning and environmental staff from these agencies.

#### **TRAINING LEVEL:** Intermediate

FEE: \$420 Per Person

LENGTH: 3.0 DAYS (CEU: 1.8 UNITS)

CLASS SIZE: MINIMUM: 20; MAXIMUM: 35

NHI Training Information: (703) 235-0534 • nhitraining@dot.gov Subject Matter Contact: Keith Moore • (202) 366-0524 • keith.moore@fhwa.dot.gov NHI Training Program Manager: Mila Plosky • (703) 235-0527 • mila.plosky@fhwa.dot.gov COURSE NUMBER FHWA-NHI-142036

# COURSE TITLE

# Public Involvement in the Transportation Decisionmaking Process

Public involvement is much more than public hearings. It involves creative thinking as well as the willingness and ability to interact openly and sensitively to the public's preferred forms of communication and participation. Public involvement is about reaching out to and involving the public in transportation decisionmaking. The public should have a role in every phase of decisionmaking, including the design of the participation plan itself. Successful public involvement addresses the public's procedural, psychological, and substantive needs while gathering useful information. By focusing on interests rather than positions, public involvement can become more meaningful as well as useful.

## OUTCOMES

Upon completion of the training, participants will be able to:

- Describe U.S. DOT transportation decisionmaking processes, including those that trigger the National Environmental Policy Act
- Describe the relationship between public involvement and decisionmaking
- Develop a public involvement plan with stakeholder assistance that includes attention to non-traditional populations as an evaluation component
- Describe interest-based problem solving and the values that underlie it
- Identify ways to enhance public involvement plans

# TARGET AUDIENCE

Federal, State, and local transportation agency staff, metropolitan planning organization personnel, transit operators, consultants, and others who are responsible for planning, implementing, or participating in any phase of the public involvement process.

## TRAINING LEVEL: Beginner

FEE: \$420 Per Person

LENGTH: 3.0 DAYS (CEU: 1.8 UNITS)

## CLASS SIZE: MINIMUM: 20; MAXIMUM: 30

NHI Training Information: (703) 235-0534 • nhitraining@dot.gov Subject Matter Contact: Brenda Kragh • (202) 366-2064 • brenda.kragh@dot.gov NHI Training Program Manager: Mila Plosky • (703) 235-0527 • mila.plosky@fhwa.dot.gov



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# Fundamentals of Title VI/Environmental Justice

Environmental justice and Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 apply to every stage of transportation decisionmaking. The U.S. Department of Transportation (USDOT) and its partners are committed to integrating the nondiscrimination principles of environmental justice and Title VI into all Federal-aid programs. Through these and other transportation programs, many opportunities exist to establish partnerships with other public and private organizations to create livable communities that meet the needs of all people. This course presents participants with a framework for using a variety of approaches and tools for accomplishing environmental justice goals in Federal-aid programs and other transportation projects.

## OUTCOMES

Upon completion of the training, participants will be able to:

- Define environmental justice and describe its relationship to Title VI
- Explain the fundamental principles of environmental justice
- Apply the principles of environmental justice to transportation decisions
- Identify how environmental justice applies to each stage of transportation decisionmaking
- Describe the benefits of environmental justice in transportation decisionmaking
- Develop proactive strategies, methods, and techniques to implement environmental justice in transportation programs and projects

## TARGET AUDIENCE

Federal, State, and local transportation agency transit or planning personnel (including consultants acting on their behalf) who interact with minority and low-income communities; State and local agency personnel providing community services; and elected officials and their representatives.

#### **TRAINING LEVEL:** Beginner

FEE: \$320 Per Person

LENGTH: 2.0 DAYS (CEU: 1.2 UNITS)

CLASS SIZE: MINIMUM: 20; MAXIMUM: 30

NHI Training Information: (703) 235-0534 • nhitraining@dot.gov Subject Matter Contact: Jocelyn Jones • (410) 962-2486 • jocelyn.jones@fhwa.dot.gov NHI Training Program Manager: Mila Plosky • (703) 235-0527 • mila.plosky@fhwa.dot.gov



This course can be taught via video-conferencing. Contact Mila Plosky for more details.



# Implications of Air Quality Planning for Transportation

The Clean Air Act (CAA), as amended, the Intermodal Transportation Efficiency Act of 1991 (ISTEA), the Transportation Equity Act for the 21st Century (TEA-21), and the Safe, Accountable, Flexible, Efficient Transportation Equity Act: A Legacy for Users (SAFETEA-LU) reinforced the close linkage between clean air goals and transportation investments. These statutes also specify requirements that apply to transportation and air quality agencies throughout the United States. However, after more than ten years of implementation, it is clear that more educational opportunities are needed to explain how clean air, transportation rules, and regulations interrelate. In particular, this training was developed to explain the linkages to transportation in the air quality planning process.

The training goes beyond the statutes to explain how the integrated transportation and air quality planning process has been defined and reinforced over the past decade by regulations, guidance, and litigation. It provides a context for the various statutory and regulatory requirements, including a comprehensive review of the CAA requirements, Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) policies related to transportation, and the process of developing State Implementation Plans (SIPs). It also provides information on emission trends, forecasting techniques, technology improvements, emerging issues, and demonstrates how transportation planning and air quality planning fit together under the Transportation Conformity Rule. Finally, it includes hands-on information based upon practitioners' experiences, a review of key court cases, and practical exercises which enable participants to reinforce the classroom instructional materials by addressing real-life challenges they may face within their organizations or agencies.

This training was recently updated to conform with SAFETEA-LU and the implementation of the 8-hour ozone and PM2.5 National Ambient Air Quality Standards.

#### OUTCOMES

Upon completion of the training, participants will be able to:

- Explain to agency officials, elected officials, and others why clean air requirements exist
- Identify key Federal laws, regulations, and policies related to transportation and air quality planning activities in order to collaborate effectively with State and local transportation and air quality agencies
- Describe how vehicle emission budgets and transportation control strategies are developed and their relationship to the SIP
- Identify how to contribute to the development of realistic motor vehicle emissions, budgets, and transportation control strategies
- Identify agency conformity responsibilities
- Explain how key conformity objectives relate to other transportation and air quality planning processes
- Describe key components of the transportation planning and project development processes related to air quality planning
- Describe how stakeholder interactions affect transportation and air quality planning

## TARGET AUDIENCE

The training is intended for transportation and air quality planners and engineers from State and local departments of transportation (DOT), metropolitan planning organizations (MPO), transit agencies, Federal agencies (Federal Highway Administration, Federal Transit Administration, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, U.S. Department of Energy, etc.), and State and local environmental agencies. Others include transportation and environmental consultants, public officials and staff members, community and interest groups, as well as other stakeholders in the planning process (Clean Cities, environmental organizations, chambers of commerce, fleet managers, etc.).



TRAINING LEVEL: Intermediate FEE: \$420 Per Person LENGTH: 3.0 DAYS (CEU: 1.8 UNITS) CLASS SIZE: MINIMUM: 20; MAXIMUM: 30

NHI Training Information: (703) 235-0534 • nhitraining@dot.gov
Subject Matter Contact: Kathy Daniel • (202) 366-6276 • kathy.daniel@fhwa.dot.gov
NHI Training Program Manager: Mila Plosky • (703) 235-0527 • mila.plosky@fhwa.dot.gov

NHI courses can be hosted by any organization - including transportation professional associations. Instructions for hosting a course can be found on page 8. Or visit the NHI Web site for more information.



# Pedestrian Facility Design

This training was developed to provide information and application opportunities to those involved in the design of pedestrian facilities. The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) requires newly constructed and altered sidewalks to be accessible and usable by people with disabilities, and accessibility improvements need to be implemented for existing facilities. To emphasize the importance of planning for pedestrians, the course focuses on case examples involving corridor and intersection design issues. Participants are engaged through lecture, discussion, video demonstrations of problem areas in corridors and intersections, small group problem identification, and the development of design alternatives.

The training fee includes a copy of the AASHTO Guide for the Planning, Design, and Operation of Pedestrian Facilities for each participant.

## OUTCOMES

Upon completion of the training, participants will be able to:

- List the characteristics of pedestrians and motorized traffic that influence pedestrian facility design
- Apply the concepts of universal design and applicable design reference material to redesigning an existing location and/or designing a new location that meets the needs of motorized and nonmotorized users
- Use the reference manual provided in the course to support design decisions for the case example
- Given a case example, identify potential conflicts between pedestrians and other traffic and propose design options that improve access and safety
- Given a case example, analyze the network for improvement options to meet the needs of pedestrian and other traffic

#### TARGET AUDIENCE

Engineers with planning, design, construction, or maintenance responsibilities; pedestrian and bicycle specialists, disability and orientation specialists, transportation planners, architects, landscape architects, as well as decisionmakers at the project planning level.

**TRAINING LEVEL:** Intermediate

FEE: \$330 Per Person

LENGTH: 1.5 DAYS (CEU: 0.9 UNITS)

CLASS SIZE: MINIMUM: 20; MAXIMUM: 30

NHI Training Information: (703) 235-0534 • nhitraining@dot.gov

Subject Matter Contact: Gabe Rousseau • (202) 366-8044 • gabe.rousseau@dot.gov

NHI Training Program Manager: Mila Plosky • (703) 235-0527 • mila.plosky@fhwa.dot.gov

Visit our NHI Store for course materials online!

Simply go to the NHI Web site and browse the NHI Store under the Training tab for available course materials.



# **Bicycle Facility Design**

Bicycle facility design is an emerging subject in the transportation industry. The availability of Federal, State, and local transportation funding for bicycle facilities that serve transportation and recreational users is resulting in a dramatic increase in the number of facilities being planned and built. Although there are no Federal design standards for bicycle facilities, the AASHTO Guide for the Development of Bicycle Facilities, or a modification thereof, serves as a design guide. However, designing bicycle facilities often requires not only the use of the AASHTO guide and other documents, but designers also need to apply engineering judgment where specific information is not provided. This training will assist planners and designers in learning how to apply the existing standards and how to deal with other technical issues involved. The training fee includes a copy of the AASHTO Guide for the Development of Bicycle Facilities.

## OUTCOMES

Upon completion of the training, participants will be able to:

- List the needs of bicyclists as transportation facility users
- Identify common roadway and traffic conditions that affect bicyclists
- Describe the characteristics of a roadway and a shared-use path that are designed to accommodate bicyclists
- List the benefits to the transportation system of accommodating bicyclists with different abilities
- Recognize opportunities to accommodate bicyclists during the planning, design, construction, and operational phases of a project

## TARGET AUDIENCE

Federal, State, or local engineers with planning, design, construction, or maintenance responsibilities; bicycle specialists, transportation planners, landscape architects, as well as decisionmakers at the project planning level.

**TRAINING LEVEL:** Intermediate

FEE: \$280 Per Person

LENGTH: 1.5 DAYS (CEU: 0.9 UNITS)

CLASS SIZE: MINIMUM: 20; MAXIMUM: 30

NHI Training Information: (703) 235-0534 • nhitraining@dot.gov

Subject Matter Contact: Gabe Rousseau • (202) 366-8044 • gabe.rousseau@dot.gov

NHI Training Program Manager: Mila Plosky • (703) 235-0527 • mila.plosky@fhwa.dot.gov

COURSE NUMBER FHWA-NHI-142047

## COURSE TITLE

# Water Quality Management of Highway Runoff

In reaction to the impact of human activity on water quality, the Clean Water Act was passed in 1972 in order to restore and maintain the chemical, physical, and biological integrity of the Nation's waters. The act regulates discharges to U.S. waters through permits issued under the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System permitting program and places requirements on State transportation agencies for managing runoff water quality. Understanding the legal responsibilities, terminology, and the general roles of players in the regulatory process is critical in order to properly plan for, budget, and implement water quality management.

The intent of this course is to provide a basic understanding of water quality parameters, processes, requirements, and best management practices (BMPs) in order to provide the transportation community with guidance on how to mitigate impacts and protect water quality. The course shares approaches and technologies for the water quality management of highway stormwater runoff, including the effective maintenance, inspection, and performance evaluation of BMPs.

Participants need to bring a calculator to class.

## OUTCOMES

Upon completion of the training, participants will be able to:

- Identify and characterize the quantity and quality of highway runoff
- Describe how highway runoff can affect ecosystems
- List major Federal requirements that apply to management of highway runoff
- Explain how to select a mitigation strategy from a watershed perspective
- Describe design concepts and considerations in selecting and siting appropriate BMPs for controlling highway runoff
- Develop conceptual designs for various BMPs considering treatment targets, design requirements, BMP performance goals, siting and maintenance considerations, etc.
- Explain how to integrate mitigation of highway runoff impacts into the project development process
- Discuss the importance of BMP inspection, performance evaluation, monitoring, and maintenance

## TARGET AUDIENCE

This course is designed for State department of transportation staff who negotiate permit conditions with the appropriate State agency; design engineers who must be cognizant of permit requirements; construction personnel who implement the highway designs; inspectors who ensure that water quality management features (BMPs) are functioning as designed; biologists who identify habitat for wildlife and potential ecosystem impacts; landscape architects and botanists who ensure that vegetation is preserved to the maximum extent practicable and that appropriate vegetation is used to provide water quality benefits after construction; and environmental scientists who monitor and evaluate water quality.

#### **TRAINING LEVEL:** Intermediate

FEE: \$320 Per Person

LENGTH: 2.0 DAYS (CEU: 1.2 UNITS)

CLASS SIZE: MINIMUM: 20; MAXIMUM: 30

NHI Training Information: (703) 235-0534 • nhitraining@dot.gov

Subject Matter Contact: Patricia Cazenas • (202) 366-4085 • patricia.cazenas@fhwa.dot.gov NHI Training Program Manager: Mila Plosky • (703) 235-0527 • mila.plosky@fhwa.dot.gov



# Managing Road Impacts on Stream Ecosystems: An Interdisciplinary Approach

Managing Road Impacts on Stream Ecosystems: An Interdisciplinary Approach is a 3-day course that is intended to introduce and discuss the basic concepts related to the impacts that roadways have on streams and stream ecosystems. The course will be structured to first address the ecological and physical characteristics of stream ecosystems, discuss the impacts that roadways can have on those ecosystems, and then turn to tools that the practitioner can use to help avoid and mitigate those effects. Through the use of Case Examples, discussion, and other application techniques, the participants will be afforded an opportunity to use critical thinking to identify solutions and preventative measures related to the impacts of roads on streams and their riparian communities.

#### OUTCOMES

Upon completion of the training, participants will be able to:

- Describe the characteristics and functions of a stream ecosystem
- Describe and evaluate how roads interact with and impact stream ecosystems
- Describe and recognize restoration techniques (e.g., tool box, case studies, etc.), and identify appropriate tools and techniques for stream restoration and mitigation
- List major State and Federal requirements that apply to roadway impacts on stream ecosystems
- Develop monitoring protocols
- Identify and involve stakeholders in a project environmental review process
- Describe the benefits of collaboration among disciplines in assessing and mitigating road impacts to stream ecosystems

#### TARGET AUDIENCE

This course has been developed for FHWA, State department of transportation (DOTs), Federal and State environmental resource agency staff and consultants involved in the design, construction, operation, and maintenance of roadway facilities. The course is intended to address the issues of and be of benefit to both the engineers and the environmental specialists involved in highway design, planning, and maintenance.

Participants should have some general knowledge of stream dynamics and ecological considerations. However, an extensive background is neither required nor assumed.

**TRAINING LEVEL:** Intermediate

FEE: \$400 Per Person

LENGTH: 3.0 DAYS (CEU: 1.8 UNITS)

CLASS SIZE: MINIMUM: 20; MAXIMUM: 30

NHI Training Information: (703) 235-0534 • nhitraining@dot.gov Subject Matter Contact: Carol Adkins • (202) 366-2054 • carol.adkins@dot.gov NHI Training Program Manager: Mila Plosky • (703) 235-0527 • mila.plosky@fhwa.dot.gov Course Number FHWA-NHI-142049

# COURSE TITLE

# Beyond Compliance: Historic Preservation in Transportation Project Development

A series of revisions to the regulations implementing Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA) has fundamentally changed the way in which Federal agencies consider and address the potential effects of transportation planning and project development on places of historical and cultural importance. The current Section 106 regulation strongly encourages close coordination between Section 106 activities and National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) requirements, as well as consultation with Native Americans, local communities, and the public. It also gives agencies greater flexibility and streamlines the Section 106 consultation process.

This training is designed to help transportation professionals meet the requirements of Section 106 and take advantage of the greater flexibility and autonomy offered by the recent revisions. The training focuses on the fundamentals of Section 106, placing it in the context of NEPA, and Section 4(f) of the Department of Transportation Act, and provides techniques for coordinating transportation planning, project development, and compliance with these three laws. The emphasis is on practical approaches for real-world situations and the importance of balancing stewardship and project delivery, and coordinating environmental review with project planning.

This highly rated NHI course was developed in partnership with the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation and representatives from State departments of transportation.

## OUTCOMES

Upon completion of the training, participants will be able to:

- Identify key historic preservation laws and other authorities
- Describe the Section 106 process
- Define the roles and responsibilities of all parties in the Section 106 process
- Describe the NEPA transportation decisionmaking process
- Describe the relationship among Section 106, NEPA project development, and Section 4(f)
- Identify principles and opportunities for environmental streamlining and stewardship

## TARGET AUDIENCE

Those involved in or affected by the Federal-Aid Highway program, including staff of State DOTs, MPOs, FHWA headquarters and field offices, city and county governments, tribal governments, consultants, State and tribal Historical Preservation Offices (SHPO/THPO), and other Federal and State resource agencies that deal with transportation issues.

#### **TRAINING LEVEL:** Beginner

FEE: \$420 Per Person

LENGTH: 3.0 DAYS (CEU: 1.8 UNITS)

CLASS SIZE: MINIMUM: 20; MAXIMUM: 30

NHI Training Information: (703) 235-0534 • nhitraining@dot.gov

Subject Matter Contact: MaryAnn Naber • (202) 366-2060 • maryann.naber@fhwa.dot.gov NHI Training Program Manager: Mila Plosky • (703) 235-0527 • mila.plosky@fhwa.dot.gov



# Introduction to Context Sensitive Solutions

Among the Federal Highway Administration's (FHWA) key strategies, is working with partners to ensure that highway facilities balance local, regional and national concerns with the scenic, aesthetic, historic, and natural environment. Context Sensitive Solutions (CSS) or Context Sensitive Design is a collaborative, interdisciplinary approach to a transportation project, involving stakeholders in the development of a transportation facility that equally addresses safety; mobility; and the preservation of scenic, aesthetic, historic, and environmental resources, while respecting community values.

This introductory training covers the principles of CSS; design and environmental considerations; collaborative stakeholder involvement; group facilitation and conflict resolution; risk management and tort liability; as well as structured decisionmaking and alternatives development.

## OUTCOMES

Upon completion of the training, participants will be able to:

- Explain the philosophy of CSS and its associated benefits
- Discuss why aesthetics and community values are an integral part of a good transportation project design
- Explain the linkages among transportation planning, safety, design, operations in relation to CSS
- Identify stakeholders and their role in the CSS process
- Describe the tools and techniques available to obtain consensus among stakeholders

#### TARGET AUDIENCE

This is an introductory course and those seeking an overall explanation of the philosophy and principles inherent in Context Sensitive Solutions are encouraged to attend. The target audience is broad and includes staff from Federal, State, and local highway and transportation agencies; consulting firms, private industry, universities, and other national and international entities engaged in any aspect of the planning, design, construction or management of transportation projects. Specific disciplines include transportation planners; environmental specialists; highway, bridge, construction and design engineers; as well as agency managers and supervisors.

#### **TRAINING LEVEL:** Beginner

FEE: \$420 Per Person

LENGTH: 3.0 DAYS (CEU: 1.8 UNITS)

CLASS SIZE: MINIMUM: 20; MAXIMUM: 40

NHI Training Information: (703) 235-0534 • nhitraining@dot.gov Subject Matter Contact: Keith Harrison • (415) 744-2657 • keith.harrison@fhwa.dot.gov Subject Matter Contact: Keith Moore • (202) 366-0524 • keith.moore@fhwa.dot.gov NHI Training Program Manager: Mila Plosky • (703) 235-0527 • mila.plosky@fhwa.dot.gov

NHI Training is available 24/7 with online Web-based trainings. Go to the NHI Web site for more information.

Course Number FHWA-NHI-142051

# COURSE TITLE

# **Highway Traffic Noise**

This comprehensive, introductory training incorporates a customized version of the FHWA Interactive Sound Information System (ISIS) into the training presentation. Additionally, this course was designed to address State highway traffic noise policies, procedures and practices. Therefore, it is imperative that the State transportation department Traffic Noise Specialist is involved in a scheduled session. Please contact your FHWA Division office or FHWA Noise Team Leader Mark Ferroni (Mark.Ferroni@dot.gov) for the Noise specialist's contact information.

This training will help educate engineers, environmental specialists, designers, planners, and consultants about traffic noise and ways to reduce the impacts. Shaped by a technical panel of FHWA noise specialists, environmental specialists at State departments of transportation, and the chair of the Transportation Research Board's Committee on Transportation-Related Noise and Vibration, the training is an introductory- yet comprehensive- overview of highway traffic noise.

Topics covered include the basic principles of acoustics, how to determine when a noise analysis is required, and typical strategies to mitigate noise in highway projects. The training also provides an overview of the FHWA Traffic Noise Model (FHWA TNM), which was developed to predict noise levels and evaluate mitigation options.

In addition to a presentation on Federal noise regulations and policies, the noise specialist from the host State is invited to present his or her State's policies and procedures to ensure that this training is relevant to those attending. Participants also will learn about noise-compatible planning, which encourages State and local governments to prohibit noise-sensitive land uses adjacent to highways.

And NHI commissioned a customized version of the Interactive Sound Information System (ISIS) as part of the training design. ISIS is a noise simulation software program that employs high-quality digital recordings, precise sound control, and graphic imagery to present noise from various traffic loads, and demonstrates the noise-reducing impacts of various barriers.

## **OUTCOMES**

Upon completion of the training, participants will be able to:

- Explain the basic principles of acoustics
- Describe/review all necessary documentation to fulfill FHWA noise requirements, as codified in 23 CFR 772
- Explain applicable State noise policies
- Determine when a noise study is required
- Explain applicable Federal noise abatement policies/regulations

## TARGET AUDIENCE

FHWA staff; State department of transportation environmental specialists, designers, planners or engineers; city or county environmental engineers, coordinators or specialists; consultants.

TRAINING LEVEL: Beginner

FEE: \$420 Per Person

LENGTH: 3.0 DAYS (CEU: 1.8 UNITS)

CLASS SIZE: MINIMUM: 20; MAXIMUM: 30

NHI Training Information: (703) 235-0534 • nhitraining@dot.gov

Subject Matter Contact: Mark Ferroni • (202) 366-3233 • mark.ferroni@fhwa.dot.gov

NHI Training Program Manager: Mila Plosky • (703) 235-0527 • mila.plosky@fhwa.dot.gov



# Introduction to NEPA and Transportation Decisionmaking

This Web-based training is a basic introduction to FHWA's National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) transportation decisionmaking process. It provides an overview of the environmental process, including the integration of social, environmental, and economic factors within the framework of existing laws, regulations, policies, and guidance for transportation project decisions. The training covers the requirements of NEPA as implemented by the Council on Environmental Quality, as well as FHWA's regulations and guidance for NEPA implementation and project decisionmaking. Separate lessons address such topics as purpose and need, alternatives development and analysis, impact analysis, public involvement, interagency coordination, mitigation, and documentation.

We recommend completion of this training prior to enrolling in FHWA-NHI-142005.

# OUTCOMES

Upon completion of the training, participants will be able to:

- Relate the origin, evolution, and context of NEPA
- Describe the intent, goals, and basic requirements of NEPA
- Describe the NEPA umbrella concept in transportation decisionmaking
- Identify the NEPA principles in the development of transportation projects
- Explain the roles and responsibilities of the lead agency, applicant, and cooperating agencies in the NEPA process
- List documentation requirements of the NEPA process

## TARGET AUDIENCE

Staff from FHWA, State DOT (including consultants acting on behalf of the State), Federal and State environmental resource agencies, local government, and MPOs who participate in the transportation decisionmaking process.

**TRAINING LEVEL**: Beginner

FEE: FREE

LENGTH: 6.5 HOURS (CEU: 0.6 UNITS)

CLASS SIZE: MINIMUM: 1; MAXIMUM: 1

NHI Training Information: (703) 235-0534 • nhitraining@dot.gov Subject Matter Contact: Lamar Smith • (202) 366-8994 • lamar.smith@fhwa.dot.gov NHI Training Program Manager: Mila Plosky • (703) 235-0527 • mila.plosky@fhwa.dot.gov



Need help with the NHI Web site or enrolling in a Web-based training? Call (703) 235-0556 or e-mail nhiwebmaster@dot.gov. Course Number FHWA-NHI-142054

# **COURSE TITLE**

# Design and Implementation of Erosion and Sediment Control

This training is the result of a joint effort between the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), and reflects the agencies' commitment to providing education and training on planning, design, implementation, enforcement, inspection, and maintenance strategies to control erosion and sediment on highway construction projects. The agencies also are committed to ensuring that regulatory issues are addressed accurately and uniformly. Each discipline involved in a highway construction project has a different set of priorities. Reflecting the National Highway Institute's (NHI) commitment to learner-centered training, the course offers participants opportunities for discussion and joint problem solving, enabling participants to gain information about the roles and responsibilities of other team members.

## OUTCOMES

Upon completion of the training, participants will be able to:

- Describe the components of an erosion and sediment control (ESC) plan
- List the sources of information for the ESC plan
- Identify management practices and related measures that are appropriate for typical situations and for a case example
- List typical construction and inspection problems. Describe both suitable prevention strategies and remedies for failures
- Link Federal and State environmental regulations to the components of the ESC plan

## TARGET AUDIENCE

The training targets Federal, State, and local highway design, construction, inspection, and maintenance staff. In addition, environmental agency representatives, as well as consultants and members of the construction industry, are encouraged to attend to provide their perspectives, learn each other's responsibilities, and explore an array of options to control erosion and sedimentation.

**TRAINING LEVEL:** Intermediate

FEE: \$320 Per Person

LENGTH: 2.0 DAYS (CEU: 1.2 UNITS)

CLASS SIZE: MINIMUM: 20; MAXIMUM: 30

NHI Training Information: (703) 235-0534 • nhitraining@dot.gov Subject Matter Contact: Patricia Cazenas • (202) 366-4085 • patricia.cazenes@fhwa.dot.gov NHI Training Program Manager: Mila Plosky • (703) 235-0527 • mila.plosky@fhwa.dot.gov



Create your own NHI Web site User ID and password to get access to NHI's online services at www.nhi.fhwa.dot.gov.



# New Training

# Advanced Seminar on Transportation Project Development: Navigating the NEPA Maze

Building upon demonstrated knowledge and understanding of the NEPA project development process, this advanced training provides practical tools and approaches to successfully resolve complex environmental issues and challenges. Designed in seminar format, this training is highly interactive and guides participants through the NEPA decisionmaking process, pointing out potential pitfalls and providing the skills and knowledge to apply critical thinking to reach defensible decisions.

## OUTCOMES

Upon completion of the training, participants will be able to:

- Manage and deliver projects and programs more effectively
- Apply tools and techniques to their jobs
- Apply principles of environmental stewardship and streamlining to complex projects
- Employ integrated coordination of related laws and regulations, as well as coordination among all stakeholders
- Identify strategies to manage controversial projects
- Formulate solutions to complex environmental challenges
- Apply lessons learned from relevant case law
- Identify solutions to emerging issues
- Build a defensible administrative record
- Identify solutions to emerging issues

## TARGET AUDIENCE

Experienced environmental practitioners and project development managers (i.e. planning, design, legal, and technical specialists) involved in the NEPA and transportation decisionmaking process. We encourage a mix of experienced staff from FHWA, State DOTs, resource and permitting agencies, and local governments, as well as consultants.

**TRAINING LEVEL:** Intermediate

FEE: \$420 Per Person

LENGTH: 3.0 DAYS (CEU: 1.8 UNITS)

CLASS SIZE: MINIMUM: 20; MAXIMUM: 30

NHI Training Information: (703) 235-0534 • nhitraining@dot.gov Subject Matter Contact: Lamar Smith • (202) 366-8994 • lamar.smith@fhwa.dot.gov NHI Training Program Manager: Mila Plosky • (703) 235-0527 • mila.plosky@fhwa.dot.gov



COURSE NUMBER FHWA-NHI-142059

## **COURSE TITLE**

# Effective Communications in Public Involvement



This training presents learners with an introduction to the strategies and techniques for planning and conducting effective public meetings and their associated campaign activities. Topics include: why public involvement campaigns tend to be emotionally charged; strategies to gain public trust and credibility; how to integrate a communications plan into overall public involvement campaigns; ways to improve communications at public meetings.

# OUTCOMES

Upon completion of the training, participants will be able to:

- Explain the key factors that contribute to public involvement campaigns becoming emotionally charged
- Construct strategies for gaining public trust and credibility
- Specify how to integrate a communications plan
- Identify at least three techniques for improving communications at public meetings

## TARGET AUDIENCE

Federal, State and local transportation agency staff, metropolitan planning organization personnel, transit operators, consultants, and others who are responsible for planning, implementing, or participating in the public involvement process. Other target job titles are: engineers, planners and environmental specialists.

#### **TRAINING LEVEL:** Beginner

FEE: FREE

LENGTH: 6.0 HOURS (CEU: 0.6 UNITS)

## CLASS SIZE: MINIMUM: 20; MAXIMUM: 30

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See the inside back cover of the catalog for a list of NHI contacts.