Introduction to NEPA and Transportation Decisionmaking - WEB-BASED

The National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (NEPA) requires, to the fullest extent possible, that the policies, regulations, and laws of the Federal Government be interpreted and administered in accordance with Federal environmental protection goals. NEPA also requires Federal agencies to use an interdisciplinary approach in planning and decisionmaking for any action that adversely impacts the environment.

This Web-based training is a basic introduction to FHWA’s NEPA transportation decisionmaking process that takes into account the potential impacts of transportation projects on the human and natural environment balanced with the public’s need for safe and efficient transportation. The training covers NEPA requirements as implemented by the Council on Environmental Quality, as well as FHWA’s regulations and guidance for NEPA implementation and project decisionmaking. Topics include purpose and need, alternatives development and analysis, impact analysis, public involvement, interagency coordination, mitigation, and documentation. We strongly recommend completion of this self-paced training prior to enrolling in FHWA-NHI 142005.

OUTCOMES

Upon completion of the course, 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 Departments of Transportation (DOT), Federal and State environmental resource agencies, local government, MPOs who participate in the transportation decisionmaking process, and consultants acting on behalf of State and local governments.

TRAINING LEVEL: Basic

FEE: 2020: $0 Per Person; 2021: N/A

LENGTH: 4 HOURS (CEU: .4 UNITS)

CLASS SIZE: MINIMUM: 1; MAXIMUM: 1

NHI Customer Service: (877) 558-6873 • nhicustomerservice@dot.gov