

Highlights of the July 2006 ILT-MPO Workshop



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Jill Stark, FHWA - NC Division
Coordinated Transportation Planning Workshop
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Overview

- Workshop Purposes
- Workshop Participants
- SAFETEA-LU Implications
- General Next Steps for Collaboration
- Near-term Steps for Consultation, Cooperation, and Environmental Mitigation
 - MPOs
 - Resource Agencies
 - DOT/FHWA
- Challenges
- Workshop Follow-up



Workshop Purposes

- Communicate & educate MPOs on:
 - ILT Goal 2
 - CTP/Integration project
 - SAFETEA-LU requirements
- Develop approaches and “near term” steps for data sharing and coordinated planning among MPOs and ILT agencies



Workshop Attendees

- Interagency Leadership Team (ILT)
- ILT Membership Agencies
- NCDOT Transportation Planning Branch
- NCDOT Division Engineers
- FHWA – Planning Unit
- MPOs

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SAFETEA-LU Implications

- Implementation date: July 1, 2007

- New Partners

Consultation, Cooperation, and
Involvement with:

- Resource agencies
- “Interested” parties
- Land-use decision makers

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SAFETEA-LU Implications (cont.)

Transportation Planning includes:

- Consideration of resource maps, plans, and inventories
- Potential environmental mitigation activities
- Consistency between transportation improvements and local/state (land-use) development patterns

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Identified Next Steps (General) to Create a More “Collaborative” Process

- Communication
- Identify, organize, categorize, and integrate resources
- Education and training

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“Near-Term” Steps for Consultation, Cooperation, and Environmental Mitigation: **MPOs**

- Identify and involve agencies
- Identify GIS layers
 - Maintain a centralized database for hosting data
- Workshop on Ecosystem Enhancement Program (EEP) and mitigation

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“Near-Term” Steps for Consultation, Cooperation, and Environmental Mitigation: **Resource Agencies**

- Identify roles and responsibilities of partners
- Convert non-digitized data into GIS shape files
- Gain education in the transportation planning process
- Provide training to partners on available data and how to incorporate it



“Near-Term” Steps for Consultation, Cooperation, and Environmental Mitigation: **NCDOT/FHWA**

- Facilitate and maintain partner contacts
- Provide clear guidance on SAFETEA-LU requirements
- Innovative financing
- Host courses on mitigation

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Identified Challenges

- Identifying missing data and verifying data accuracy
- How to “engage” partners
- Software (GIS) compatibility
- Limited resources
- Documentation



Workshop Follow-up

- July workshop began the dialogue, but didn't include all of the right audience (resource agency leadership was included, but not staff level)
- Final Planning Rule Published (Feb. 2007)
- This afternoon we will develop more detailed "approaches" to coordination