



U.S. Department
of Transportation
**Federal Transit
Administration**

REGION VIII
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North Dakota,
South Dakota,
Utah and Wyoming

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REGION 8 BULLETIN NO: 2016-12

Subject: FTA Standard Operating Procedures for Managing the Environmental Review Process

Date: August 29, 2016

Dear Grantees:

Please be advised that FTA has updated the [Environmental Standard Operating Procedures \(SOPs\)](#). The SOPs reflect changes made by MAP-21 and the FAST Act to environmental regulations and procedures. They are intended to help increase consistency, transparency, and to assist you in understanding FTA's process and expectations for the environmental review process.

The SOPs outline FTA staff roles and responsibilities in managing the environmental review process, including development of all levels of environmental documentation (categorical exclusions, environmental assessments, findings of no significant impacts, environmental impacts statements, and records of decision) and consideration of other environmental requirements where appropriate.

Please refer to the SOPs when preparing environmental documentation for FTA funded projects. Use of the SOPs should improve the ability to comply efficiently and effectively with environmental review requirements for FTA-funded transit projects.

If you have any questions, please contact Tracey MacDonald, Region 8 Environmental Protection Specialist, at tracey.macdonald@dot.gov or (303) 362-2392.

Sincerely,

/David Beckhouse/

David L. Beckhouse
Deputy Regional Administrator