



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

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Washington

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REGION 10 BULLETIN NO: 2016-07

Subject: NTI Managing the Environmental Review Process Seminar

Date: February 29, 2016

The National Transit Institute (NTI) is presenting a course (FREE for public employees; \$295 for contractors, consultants, and non-profits), **“Managing the Environmental Review Process Seminar,”** scheduled for April 19-20, 2016 in Seattle, Washington.

Description

The Federal Transit Administration (FTA) is continuing several initiatives to go "back to basics" and to increase the efficiency and effectiveness of the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) review process to expedite project delivery. This seminar will provide current information on federal requirements, identify best practices, and facilitate the sharing of information and insights among practitioners. In this unique forum with FTA Headquarters and Regional environmental protection specialists, community planners, and other project sponsors, you can discuss proven approaches and techniques to proactively manage the environmental review process. Topics to be covered include:

- Understanding FTA expectations in environmental review
- Fast Act provisions affecting environmental review
- Scoping and risk management
- Project definition and class of action
- Using Categorical Exclusions
- Developing purpose and need statements
- Developing and evaluating alternatives
- Creating effective and efficient environmental documents
- Assessing impacts to the human and natural environment, with special emphasis on cultural resources, parklands, environmental justice and biological resources
- Performing agency coordination and public participation to support solid environmental analysis

Audience

This course is intended for transportation professionals from transit agencies and metropolitan planning organizations with at least two years' experience in the environmental process relative to project development.

Objectives

At the end of this course, participants will:

- Have a comprehensive understanding of the major components of the federal environmental review process under NEPA
- Know how FAST Act requirements may affect environmental review
- Understand how to coordinate with FTA Regional offices during environmental review
- Determine agency roles and responsibilities to support decision-making
- Know the three classes of action under NEPA - categorical exclusions, environmental assessments and environmental impact statements - and what is required for each
- Be able to identify potential impacts associated with transit projects, and the major laws, regulations and guidance governing potential impacts
- Know how to develop appropriate environmental documentation
- Recognize agency coordination and public involvement requirements associated with environmental review

Please use the following link for more information and to register:

<https://ce-catalog.rutgers.edu/courseDisplay.cfm?schID=60494>. If you have questions, please contact Ginny Stern, Program Coordinator (848-932-6592; gstern@nti.rutgers.edu).

For further information, please contact Region 10's Dan Drais at 206-220-4465 or email daniel.drais@dot.gov.

Sincerely,

for R.F. Krochalis
Regional Administrator

