Federal Highway Administration
Environmental Justice and Title VI Initiatives

AASHTO Center for Environmental Excellence
Environmental Justice Peer Exchange

February 18, 2016
FHWA EJ Focus Areas

- Ensure communities have a meaningful voice in the transportation decision-making process.

- Ensure that impacts to communities and citizens are recognized early and addressed throughout the transportation decision-making process.

- Identify and prevent discriminatory effects through active administration of programs, policies, and activities.

- Prevent the denial of, reduction in, or significant delay in receipt of benefits by minority populations and low-income populations.
Why EJ is important

"Transportation can be both a means and a barrier to economic development, employment, housing, education and social opportunities… "

Diagram: Transportation intersects with Economic Development, Social Services, Education, Employment, and Housing.
EJ Workgroups

- Federal Interagency Working Group on EJ
- US DOT EJ Implementation Workgroup
- FHWA EJ Implementation Workgroup
EJ Activities

- References
  - EJ Reference Guide
  - Other EJ Publications
  - Case Studies
  - NEPA Toolkit
  - Human Environment Digest

- Training
  - Workshops
  - Webinars
  - Courses
Public Involvement Techniques for Transportation Decisionmaking

2015 Update

FHWA-HEP-15-044

Also available as Adobe PDF (1.5 MB)

PDF files can be viewed with the Acrobat® Reader®

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EJ References

Case Studies

MPO Environmental Justice Report

Mid-Ohio regional planning commission

Introduction

In the wake of new Federal guidelines on environmental justice that amplify Title VI of the Civil Rights Act, growing attention has been placed on the need to incorporate environmental justice principles into the processes and products of transportation planning. In response to this important challenge, Metropolitan Planning Organizations (MPOs) around the country have begun developing methods to assess the impacts of their transportation plans and planning processes on low-income and minority populations. One such agency is the Mid-Ohio Regional Planning Commission (MORPC), the MPO for the greater Columbus, Ohio, region.

Regional Job Access and Reverse Commute Planning: North Jersey Transportation Planning Authority and New Jersey Workfirst Program

Introduction

The Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunity Reconciliation Act of 1996 (PRWORA) replaced the former Federal welfare program with the Temporary Assistance to Needy Families (TANF) program. A hallmark of the legislation was imposed time limits and mandatory work requirements for welfare recipients. Commonly known as the welfare-to-work (WtW) program, TANF's goals include reducing welfare rolls and providing job skills for welfare recipients and opportunities for steady employment.
# NEPA Toolkit

## Environmental Review Toolkit

### Search results for: Title VI & Environmental Justice

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### Legislation, Regulation, Policy and Guidance

- Guidance on Environmental Justice and NEPA
- FHWA Environmental Justice Website
- Nondiscrimination: Title VI and Environmental Justice
- FHWA Actions to Address Environmental Justice, December 1998
- Executive Order 12898, February 1994
- Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964

### Related Information

**FHWA**

- Federal Highway Administration (FHWA)/Federal Transit Administration (FTA) Environmental Justice information
- Capacity Building Program: Title VI/Environmental Justice Peer Exchanges, FHWA/FTA
- FHWA Planning, Environment, and Reality GIS Website
- Environmental Justice Case Studies
- Community impact Assessment website
- Environmental Justice: Effective Practices, April 2003
- Performing Crosstabulations for Environmental Justice Analysis with Census Transportation Planning Package, May 2002
- Use of Data Sources, Analytical Techniques and Public Involvement—MPO Environmental Justice Report, 2001
EJ Workshops and Webinars

Workshops

- Dec 15, 2015 - FHWA Regional Models of Cooperation and EJ in Planning Peer Exchange Workshop, Columbus, OH.
- February 25 - 26, 2016 – FHWA EJ Analysis in Planning and NEPA, Lansing, MI

Webinars

- June 4, 2015 – Environmental Justice Reference Guide
- Dec 7, 2015 – Environmental Justice and Title VI: The Power of Good Data and Analysis, Part I
- January 25, 2016 – Environmental Justice and Title VI Data Collection and Analysis, In Practice, Part II
EJ Courses and Technical Assistance

- Fundamentals of Environmental Justice (NHI #142042). This course is being converted to a web-based training.

- Environmental Justice Analysis (NHI) Under Development

- Public Involvement in Transportation Decision-making (NHI/NTI #142036).

- NEPA and the Transportation Decision-making Process (NHI #142005)

- Environmental Justice Technical Assistance Workshops for DOTs and MPOs (Resource Center)

- Title VI: Nondiscrimination In the Federal-aid Highway Program (Resource Center)
Upcoming EJ References

- Fact Sheets – Tolling, Climate Change, and Automation (connected and automated vehicles).
- FHWA EJ website Updates
- *Public Roads* EJ Article March/April 2016 Issue
- NCHRP EJ and Tolling Report (June 2016)
Title VI Initiatives

Title VI Action Plan

- September 2015: Transportation Secretary Anthony Foxx asked all DOT modes to create Action Plans to strengthen Title VI compliance.

- FHWA created a 5-point Plan for FY2016-2018 to meet the Secretary’s call and improve the Title VI Program.

12/7/2015

2. **Technical Assistance/Guidance**: assess all existing Title VI documents from FHWA Headquarters and the Resource Center to create practical, plain-language resources for all internal and external stakeholders.
3. **Compliance Training**: deliver practical, interdisciplinary, and compliance-oriented Title VI training to emphasize State/Division actions, data analysis, and internal controls, with real-world examples.

4. **Internal Review**: Program Management Improvement Team (PMIT) will analyze both the programmatic and the on-the-ground implementation of Title VI.

5. **Data Collection**: acquire or develop a system for capturing and analyzing Title VI impacts, collecting standard reports, and coordinating national performance measures.
Summary

- FWHA is committed to fully integrating EJ into its activities, programs, planning and project development.

- FHWA strives to continued strengthened partnerships with State DOTs and MPOs to promote and advance Environmental Justice.
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Questions