

National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) and the Transportation Decision Making Process

DESCRIPTION:

This BASIC course is designed to develop an awareness of NEPA principles. The course focuses on an overview of the essential elements of the NEPA as they apply to the decision making process and the fostering of stewardship and environmental streamlining in transportation project development. This course is intended for planning, environmental and engineering staff which use or are affected by the NEPA process.

TOPICS:

- Evolution of NEPA and Transportation Project Development
- Essential Elements of NEPA Decision Making
- NEPA Project Analysis—Purpose and Need, Project Impacts, Alternatives and Mitigation
- Public Involvement and Interagency Coordination
- NEPA Documents—Categorical Exclusion, Environmental Assessment, and Environmental Impact Statement
- Associated Environmental Laws
- Streamlining
- A Case Study

LEARNING OBJECTIVES:

Use the NEPA principles in the development of transportation projects
Use the NEPA umbrella concept in transportation decision making
Explain the roles and responsibilities of the participants in the NEPA process
Employ a reasoned, collaborative process when developing and evaluating alternatives
Practice balancing an array of interests and values in making transportation decisions
List the milestones in transportation planning that link to NEPA project development process
Describe documentation requirements of the NEPA process
Employ environmental streamlining concepts of leadership, stewardship and conflict resolution in managing the NEPA process

TARGET AUDIENCE:

This is a very basic course intended to inform people that are not familiar with the NEPA process.

INSTRUCTOR:

Paul Tufts

Paul Tufts is an Environmental Program Specialist in the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) Resource Center at Olympia Fields, IL. (just south of Chicago). He has a BS in Civil Engineering and a Masters Degree in Public Administration. He has worked for the FHWA as a Highway Engineer and as a Research Program and Technology Transfer Engineer for several years during his career. Paul has been involved in the environmental field for over 30 years, working as an Environmental Specialist, in several FHWA Division offices and the Region office/Resource Center in Illinois. Paul is responsible for providing expertise and assistance on the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), Historic and Archaeological issues (Section 106), Section 4(f) and Section 6(f) Issues, and Native American Consultation and coordination issues. Mr. Tufts has extensive experience in all phases of environmental involvement on transportation projects and has worked on many complicated projects with numerous Federal and State Agencies. He is an instructor for several Environmental Courses being presented Nationwide.

Registration Procedure

- 1) Please contact Gail Ikeda at 956-8367, 956-8851 (FAX) or gail@eng.hawaii.edu by **Friday, September 1, 2006**
- 2) Attendance is limited, and preference is given to local government employees.
- 3) Private company participation is on a space available basis at a fee of \$75 (includes parking pass).

Cancellations

Please contact us if you must cancel your registration or if someone will be substituting for you. Refunds will be made if notice of cancellations is received at least 3 workdays prior to the workshop date.

Parking

Parking for the East West Center is \$4/day (**total \$8**). If you would like a parking pass please contact us by September 1, 2006. Make checks payable to **Research Corporation of the University of Hawaii (RCUH)** and mail to:

Hawaii LTAP
University of Hawaii
Dept. of Civil & Environmental Engineering
2540 Dole St., Holmes 383
Honolulu, HI 96822
Attn: Gail Ikeda

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September 12-13, 2006

East West Center, Jefferson Hall,
Asia Room
1777 East West Road
8:00 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.

Workshop sponsored by the
Federal Highway Administration
and the
**Hawaii Local Technical Assistance
Program**
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*Hawaii State Department of Transportation and the
University of Hawaii's Department of Civil and
Environmental Engineering*

Hawaii Local Technical Assistance Program

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