

Beyond Compliance: Historic Preservation in Transportation Project Development

Course Description:

A series of revisions to the regulations implementing Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA) has fundamentally changed the way in which Federal agencies consider and address the potential effects of transportation planning and project development on places of historical and cultural importance. The current Section 106 regulation strongly encourages close coordination between Section 106 activities and National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) requirements, as well as consultation with Native American and Native Hawaiian Organizations, local communities, and the public. It also gives agencies greater flexibility and streamlines the Section 106 consultation process.

This training is specifically designed to help transportation professionals in Hawaii meet the requirements of Section 106 and take advantage of the greater flexibility and autonomy offered by the recent revisions. The training focuses on the fundamentals of Section 106, placing it in the context of NEPA, and Section 4(f) of the Department of Transportation Act, and provides techniques for coordinating transportation planning, project development, and compliance with these three laws. The emphasis is on practical approaches for real-world situations and the importance of balancing stewardship and project delivery, and coordinating environmental review with project planning.