U.S. Department of Transportation Planning Certification Review

St. Louis, MO-IL Transportation Management Area
January 21-29, 2021

What are Certification Reviews?

- FHWA / FTA jointly complete a risk-based review and evaluation of the metropolitan transportation planning process for each Transportation Management Area (no less than once every four years) to determine if the process meets the requirements of 23 CFR 450.336(b). These reviews include seeking the public's input.

Why are Reviews Conducted?

- Required by Law (23 USC 134 and 49 USC 5303)
- Verify compliance with current transportation law and planning regulations
- Opportunity to enhance and refine planning processes

Where Are Reviews Conducted?

- Transportation Management Areas (TMAs)
  - Areas With Population Greater Than 200,000 Persons
    - Missouri
      - St. Louis, MO-IL
      - Kansas City, MO-KS
      - Springfield
    - Illinois
      - Chicago
      - St. Louis, MO-IL
      - Rockford
      - Quad Cities, IA-IL
      - Peoria

Who Is Involved With These Reviews?

- Federal Highway Administration
- Federal Transit Administration
- U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
- Metropolitan Planning Organizations
- State Departments of Transportation
- Public Transit Providers

What is Reviewed?

- Metropolitan Transportation Planning Process

  A process by which transportation decisions are made and projects are planned, selected and prioritized for implementation within the region.

Planning Regulations

- Organization
- Boundaries
- Agreements
- Continuing, Coordinated, Comprehensive (3C) Process
- Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP)
- Fiscal Constraint
- Public Participation
- Congestion Management Process (CMP)
- Regional Transportation Plan
- Management and Operations
- Environmental Consultation and Mitigation
- Performance Based Planning and Management
- Transportation Improvement

Federal Planning Emphasis (Factors)

- Safety for all Motorized and Non-Motorized Users
- Economic Vitality including Global Competitiveness
- Homeland Security and Personal Security
- Accessibility and Mobility of Users and Freight
- Resiliency and reliability of transportation system
- Environment, Energy Conservation, and Quality of Life
- Connectivity Across and Between Modes
- Efficient System Management and Operation
- Preservation of Existing System
- Enhance travel and tourism

Phases of the Review

- Ongoing Oversight
- Federal Actions Taken
- Desk Review
  - Review of Planning Products
  - Questionnaire
- Public Participation (Virtual Meeting)
- Site Visit (Virtual Meetings)
- Final Review Report with Federal Findings

Potential Outcomes

- Full Certification
  - Recommendations for Future Improvement
  - Commendations for Progress or Best Practices
- Conditional Certification
  - Resolution of Corrective Action(s)
- Partial Certification
  - i.e. ITS Architecture Incomplete
- De-Certification

2021 Review Schedule

- Thursday (1/21)– Staff Interviews, Public Meeting
- Tuesday (1/26) – Staff Interviews
- Thursday (1/28) – Staff Interviews
- Friday (1/29) - Closeout Meeting
- Mid February – Preliminary Draft Report Circulated
- Early March – Release of Final Report
- April – Presentation to EWG Board of Directors

Public Comment Period until 1/28

- Leave Comments in the chat box of this meeting

-or-

- Email the federal team your comments before Thursday 1/28

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