

Integrating Planning & NEPA in North Carolina

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Integration Process and Project Purpose

To develop a well-documented, integrated planning process

- Seamless transfer of information
- Allows appropriate decisions to be upheld
- Meets legal requirements
- Consistent with the spirit of the Merger 01 process.

Integration Project Plan and Deliverables

Phase 1
(Complete)

Transportation Planning Process

- Current planning process map
- Customer expectations
- Key issues

Project Development Process

Phase 2
(Complete)

Comprehensive Transportation Planning Process

- CTP process map
- Recommendations for implementation of CTP
- Sub-process maps

Project Development Process

- Sub-process maps
- Gap analysis of relevant information available from Merger 01 and PMii documentation

Phase 3

Comprehensive Transportation Planning Process

- Data flows
- Inputs and outputs
- Legal barriers to integration
- Existing roles and responsibilities

Project Development Process

- Data flows
- Inputs and outputs
- Legal barriers to integration
- Existing roles and responsibilities

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Phase 4

Integrated Transportation Planning and Project Development Process

- Integrated process map with detailed data flows
- Procedures manual(s)
- Key measures
- A recommendation regarding automation support for integrated process

Scoping

- NCDOT senior and mid-managers
- NCDOT TPB and PDEA staff
- MPO and RPO representatives
- Resources agency representatives
- FHWA management and staff
- Consultants

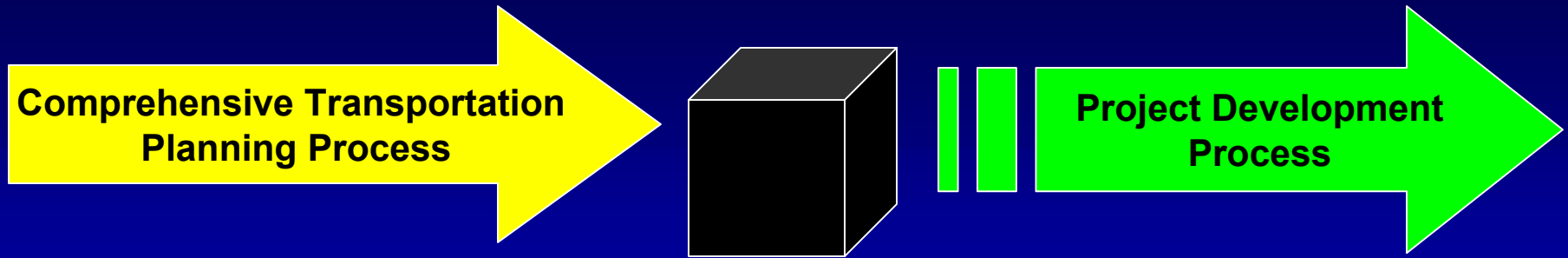
Key Issues

- Lack of understanding of systems planning
- Failure to use information and decision developed during systems planning
- Lack of understanding and documentation for roles and responsibilities in systems planning processes
- NCDOT has not clearly articulated its role with regard to land use planning.

Key Issues *(continued)*

- Lack of clear expectations and process about public involvement
- Lack of clear transportation planning process performance measures and standards
- The legal barriers to integrating systems planning and project development are not clearly understood.

Common Concerns



- Stakeholder
- Environmental
- Land Use
- Multi-Modal Options
- Community Impacts
- Transportation Deficiencies
- Alternatives Analysis

Integrated Considerations



Integrated Comprehensive Transportation Planning and Project Development Process

- Stakeholder
- Environmental
- Land Use
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- Community Impacts
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Sponsor Expectations

- Well-documented process
- Definition of systems level purpose and need
- Identification of fatally flawed alternatives
- Consistent tool for data transfer and GIS screening
- Development of performance goals
- Electronically accessible procedures manual

Deliverables

- Well-documented, integrated planning process
- Customer-driven CTP products for value-added input to project development
- Electronically accessible procedures manual
- Systems level purpose and need framework
- Recommendation for automation
- Process to identify fatally flawed alternatives
- Performance goals

Integration Approach

9 integrating processes:

- **Problem statement**
- **Land use/indirect and cumulative impacts**
- **Mitigation needs & opportunities**
- **Community impact assessment**
- **Alternatives analysis**
- **Fatally flawed alternatives**
- **Locally preferred alternatives**
- Multi-modal options
- Stakeholder involvement

Integration Team

- Transportation Planning Branch
- PD & EA
- Resource agencies
- Metropolitan Planning Organizations
- Rural Planning Organizations
- FHWA

Integration Approach

- Two day workshop for each linkage topic
- Project development as customer of long range planning
- Do we need to enhance the CTP?
 - Indirect and cumulative impacts
 - Community impact assessment
- Identification of “customer expectations”
 - Data
 - Decisions
 - Stakeholder involvement
 - Documentation

Integration Approach

Workshop deliverables:

- Details for linkage
- Identification of issues for sponsors or CTP Team
- Implementation plan
- Workshop booklet

Integration Project

NCDOT contacts

Website

[www.ncdot.org/environment/development/
improvement/integration.html](http://www.ncdot.org/environment/development/improvement/integration.html)

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