SHRP2 SOLUTIONS
TOOLS FOR THE ROAD AHEAD

PlanWorks: Better planning. Better projects. (C01)

Systematic web-based resource that supports collaborative decision making to deliver projects that meet environmental, community, and mobility needs

Save Lives

Save Money

Save Time

Challenge

Transportation agencies should be stewards of environmental and community concerns while delivering transportation projects in ways that support a community's vision. Integrating economic, environmental, and community needs can be time-consuming, and requires effective and collaborative decision making in order to keep projects on schedule. Transportation planners could use a systematic decision support tool that integrates the community's needs into the analysis, planning, and design of transportation improvement projects.

Solution

PlanWorks is a Web resource that supports collaborative decision making in transportation planning and project development. PlanWorks is built around key decision points in long-range planning, programming, corridor planning, and environmental review. PlanWorks suggests when and how to engage cross-disciplinary partners and stakeholder groups. This system can help build consensus throughout these processes.

PlanWorks has four major components:

- Decision Guide - A troubleshooting guide describing the common decision points and opportunities for cooperation in the transportation planning and environmental review process. For each of the key decision points, PlanWorks provides policy and stakeholder questions, data needs, case studies and examples, and links to tools that can help support the decision.
- Assessments - Interactive assessment tools that enable project stakeholders to identify opportunities to work together, improve interagency cooperation, and expedite project delivery. Assessments can be taken online or downloaded and used offline collaboratively.
- Applications – A series of special topics that provide specific information and approaches for how these topics can be considered in the collaborative decision-making framework. Applications include performance measures, visioning, freight, and many other emerging and complex topics.
- Library - A resource library containing relevant case studies and reports of successful interagency cooperation in the transportation planning and environmental review process.

PlanWorks is available online at https://fhwaapps.fhwa.dot.gov/planworks/.

Benefits

PlanWorks can help you:

- Identify and overcome barriers when plans and projects of all scales hit roadblocks.
- Access detailed information about decisions made in long range planning, corridor planning, programming, or environmental review.
- Diagnose specific barriers and strategies to address those through improved collaboration.
- Integrate new and emerging topics into the decision-making process.

CAPACITY

One of four SHRP2 focus areas, Capacity products help transportation organizations to systematically integrate environmental, economic, and community requirements into the analysis, planning, and design of new highway capacity.

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Visit: www.fhwa.dot.gov/GoSHRP2
Learn more about products, case studies, and implementation assistance.

The Implementation Assistance Program

Implementation assistance is available to help State departments of transportation (DOTs), metropolitan planning organizations (MPOs), and other interested organizations deploy SHRP2 Solutions. A range of opportunities is available to raise awareness of SHRP2 Solutions and to encourage early adoption of these products. Application periods are offered approximately twice per year. Each product selected for implementation assistance has the potential to deliver more efficient, cost-effective programs to meet the complex challenges facing transportation today.

How can you learn more?

Visit: www.fhwa.dot.gov/GoSHRP2

- Additional product information
- Information about how this product is being used in the field
- Contact information for peers who are familiar with this product
- Links to research reports

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About SHRP2 Implementation

The second Strategic Highway Research Program (SHRP2) is a partnership of the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), the American Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials (AASHTO), and the Transportation Research Board (TRB). TRB completed the research, and now FHWA and AASHTO are jointly implementing the resulting SHRP2 Solutions that will help the transportation community enhance productivity, boost efficiency, increase safety, and improve the reliability of the Nation's highway system.