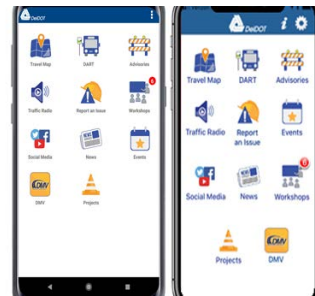
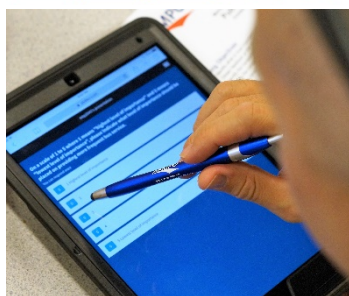


Center for Accelerating Innovation



Virtual Public Involvement

Welcome!



Emily Biondi

Director, FHWA Office of Project Development and Environmental Review



Carolyn Nelson, P.E.

FHWA Office of Project Development and Environmental Review



Camille Bonham

FHWA Office of Planning

Poll Question

What type of organization do you represent?

- State DOT
- Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO)
- Regional Transit Agency
- Local Public Agency (e.g., city, county)
- U.S. DOT
- Other

What is “*Every Day Counts*”(EDC)?

State-based model to identify and rapidly deploy proven but underutilized innovations to:

- ✓ shorten the project delivery process
 - ✓ enhance roadway safety
 - ✓ reduce congestion
 - ✓ improve environmental sustainability
-
- EDC Rounds: two year cycles
 - Initiating 5th Round (2019-2020) - 10 innovations
 - To date: 4 Rounds, over 40 innovations

For more information: <https://www.fhwa.dot.gov/innovation/>

FAST Act, Sec.1444



Virtual Public Involvement (VPI)

Agenda:

- Public involvement challenges
- What is VPI?
- Benefits
- Tools, techniques, and examples
- Next steps
- Questions and discussion

We know public involvement is critical



Sometimes it is a struggle to be effective



Why change traditional approaches?

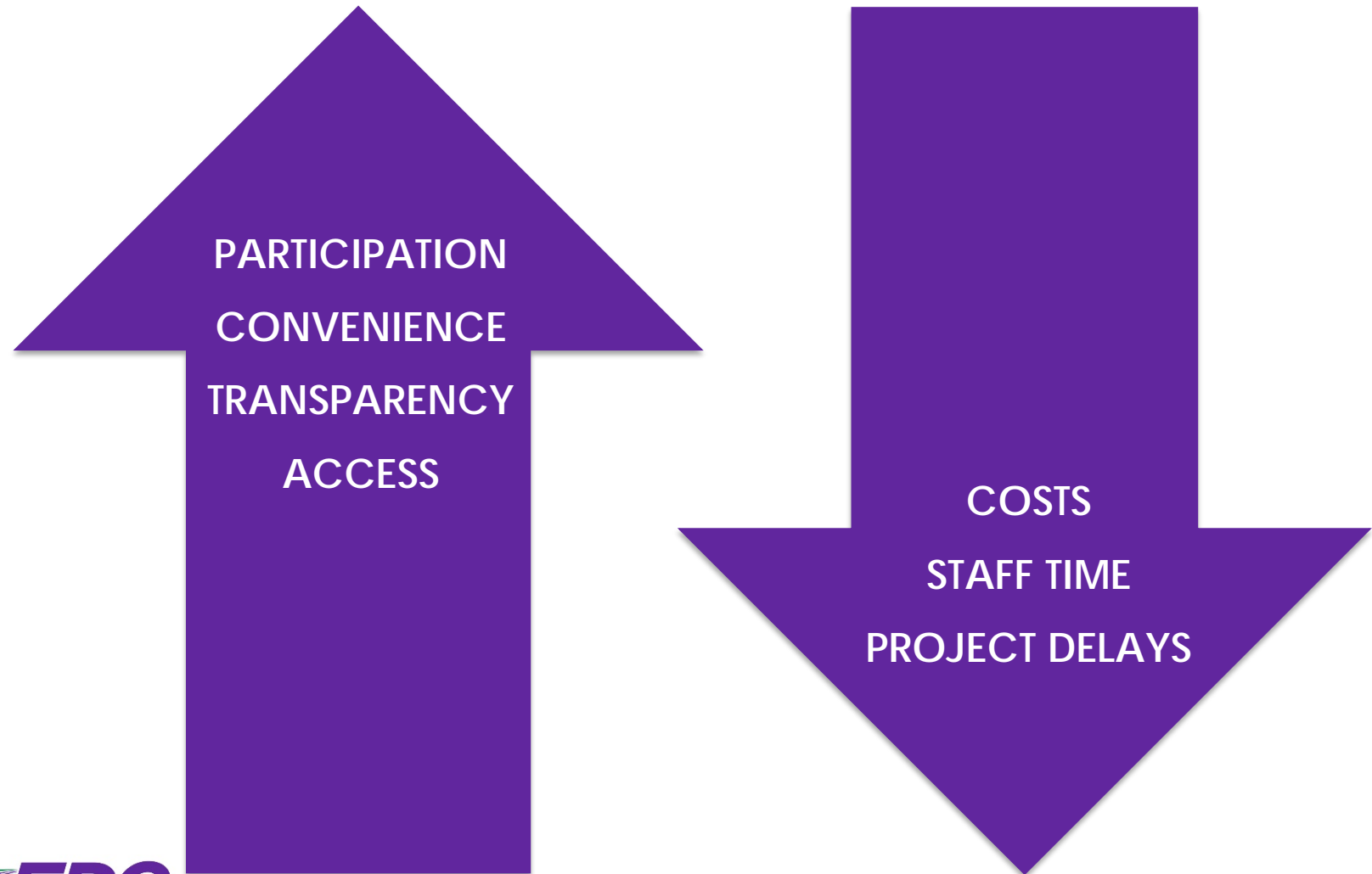
- × Low or inconsistent participation early on
- × Lack of diverse viewpoints among participants
- × Language and cultural barriers
- × Work, family, and social schedules
- × Expensive and time-consuming for agencies
- × Changing expectations of 21st Century population

But, this doesn't mean the public isn't interested in participating!

Technology Can Expand Our Reach

**Virtual Public Involvement
is the use of digital technology to
engage individuals or to
visualize projects and plans.**

Benefits of Virtual Public Involvement



Poll Question

What do you think are the biggest needs and opportunities to improve public involvement?

[Short Answer]

- Type your thoughts in the poll pod
- Jot down notes and questions for later

VPI Draft Implementation Plan

Ideas for what FHWA can do to help:

- Peer Exchange Workshops
- Hands-On Technical Assistance
- Database of Policies, Contracts, and more...
- State-of-Practice Resources w/ Case Studies, Video Demonstrations, and more



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VPI Tools and Techniques

Virtual Public Involvement Tools

1. Mobile Applications
2. Project Visualizations
3. Do-It-Yourself Videos
4. Crowdsourcing Tools
5. Virtual Town Halls
6. Mapping Tools
7. All-in-One Tools
8. Digital Tools to Enhance In-Person Events

Virtual Public Involvement Tools



What are the 8 different types of VPI tools and techniques?



Why would an agency use these tools?



Where is VPI in the field?

Mobile Apps

- Often used for sharing information about projects
- Crowdsourcing and all-in-one tools sometimes provide app options
- Can gather location-based information from commenters automatically
- Provide additional platform to get project-level input



Mobile Apps

- Suitable for larger or on-going efforts
- Reduces barriers to engagement as individuals may participate from anywhere
- Users can submit comments, photos as they experience transportation system
- Built in location technology allows for easy geotagging of comments



Mobile Apps



Download the DelDOT App

Recently Added Features:



EV Charge Stations
See What's New!



Report an Issue
See What's New!



DMV Home Screen
See What's New!

Popular Features:



Travel Map



DART



Projects



Mobile Apps



Project Visualizations

- Illustrate and visualize proposed projects
- May include still or video renderings, 3D visualizations, virtual and augmented reality
- Effectively communicate project development and design to stakeholders



Project Visualizations

- Easily spread through a variety of media channels
- Increases and enhances engagement during live meetings
- Improves the climate for conversation at in-person events
- Can explain a project to anyone regardless of background or prior knowledge



Project Visualizations



Project Visualizations



U.S. Department of Transportation
Federal Highway Administration

Courtesy of Federal Highway Administration, Eastern Federal Lands Highway Division

Poll Questions

What is your level of interest in using mobile applications or project visualizations in planning or project development?

- Very High – we are already using
- High
- Medium
- Low
- Not at all interested

Do-It-Yourself Videos

- Brief videos to inform the public or gather input
- Low-budget production – often self-produced on mobile phones
- Effectively communicate content to diverse audiences
- Can incorporate visualizations or other digital content about proposed projects



Do-It-Yourself Videos

- Easily disseminated through a variety of media channels
- Help to reach a broader audience
- Videos often get more engagement and interest than static materials





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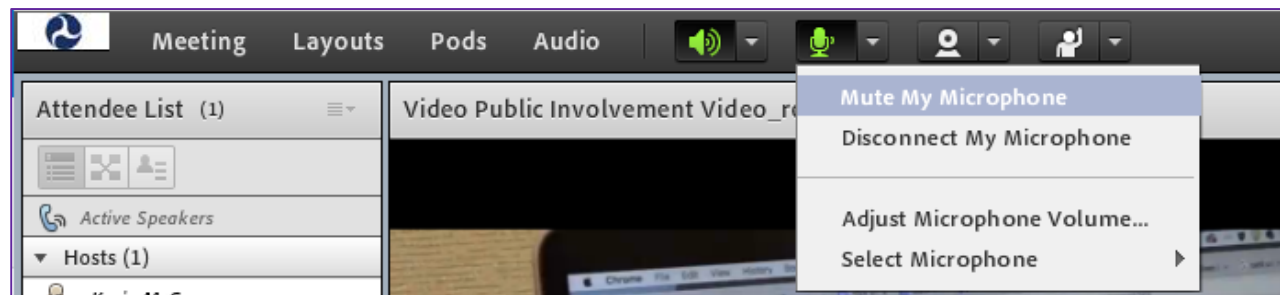
Center for Accelerating Innovation



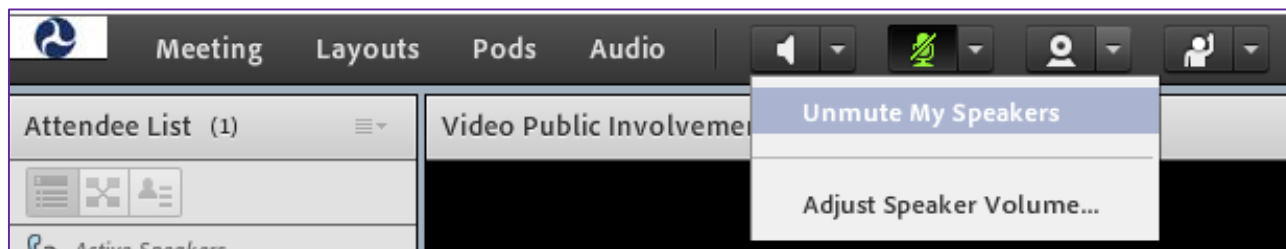
Utah DOT Video

Instructions to Prepare For Video

- Mute Phones and Microphones



- Turn Computer Speakers On – in Web Room and PC



- Adjust Volume and Prepare Headphones





Center for Accelerating Innovation



VPI Tools and Techniques (cont.)

Poll Questions

What kind of support does your agency need to expand the use of videos for public involvement?

[Short Answer]

- Type your thoughts in the poll pod
- Jot down notes and questions for later

Crowdsourcing Tools

- Gather and accumulate qualitative information from stakeholders
- Stakeholders can interact with one another's ideas and submissions with voting or rating systems



Crowdsourcing Tools

- Allows for a larger volume of input over time
- Reduces labor burden of transcribing meetings or reviewing written submissions
- Internet users already familiar with information-sharing forums
- Staff have an opportunity to respond to or interact with ideas as they are submitted
- Creates a climate for conversation






Crowdsourcing Tools

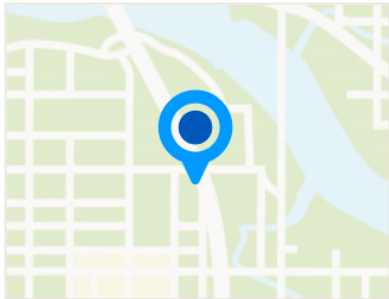


Topics

Join the discussion and add to current topics. [View All Topics](#)

**Statewide Vision**

Posted Apr 25 6001 Interactions  Topic is now closed 





What is your vision to improve transportation in Connecticut?


Description

Imagine getting around in Connecticut in 10 or 20 years. What do you think should change over the course of time to make it easier to get from here to there?

Where applicable, please feel free to use the map to pinpoint the location of your ideas.

 Ideas 546

 Comments 605

 Reviewed Ideas 4

[See the Ideas](#)

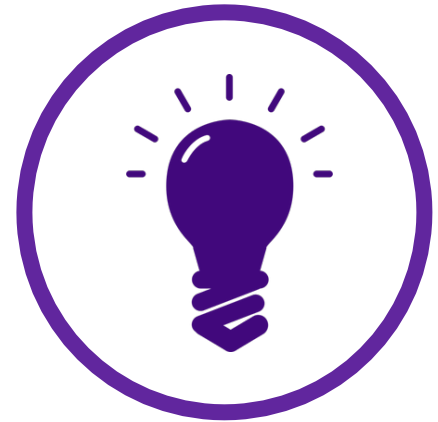
Poll Questions

What is your level of interest in using Do-It-Yourself Video or crowdsourcing tools?

- Very High – we are already using
- High
- Medium
- Low
- Not at all interested

Virtual Town Halls

- Allow stakeholders to participate online or by telephone
- Allow stakeholders to engage in live polling and other dynamic information sharing at a live public meeting
- Conferencing staff can manage and monitor technical aspects

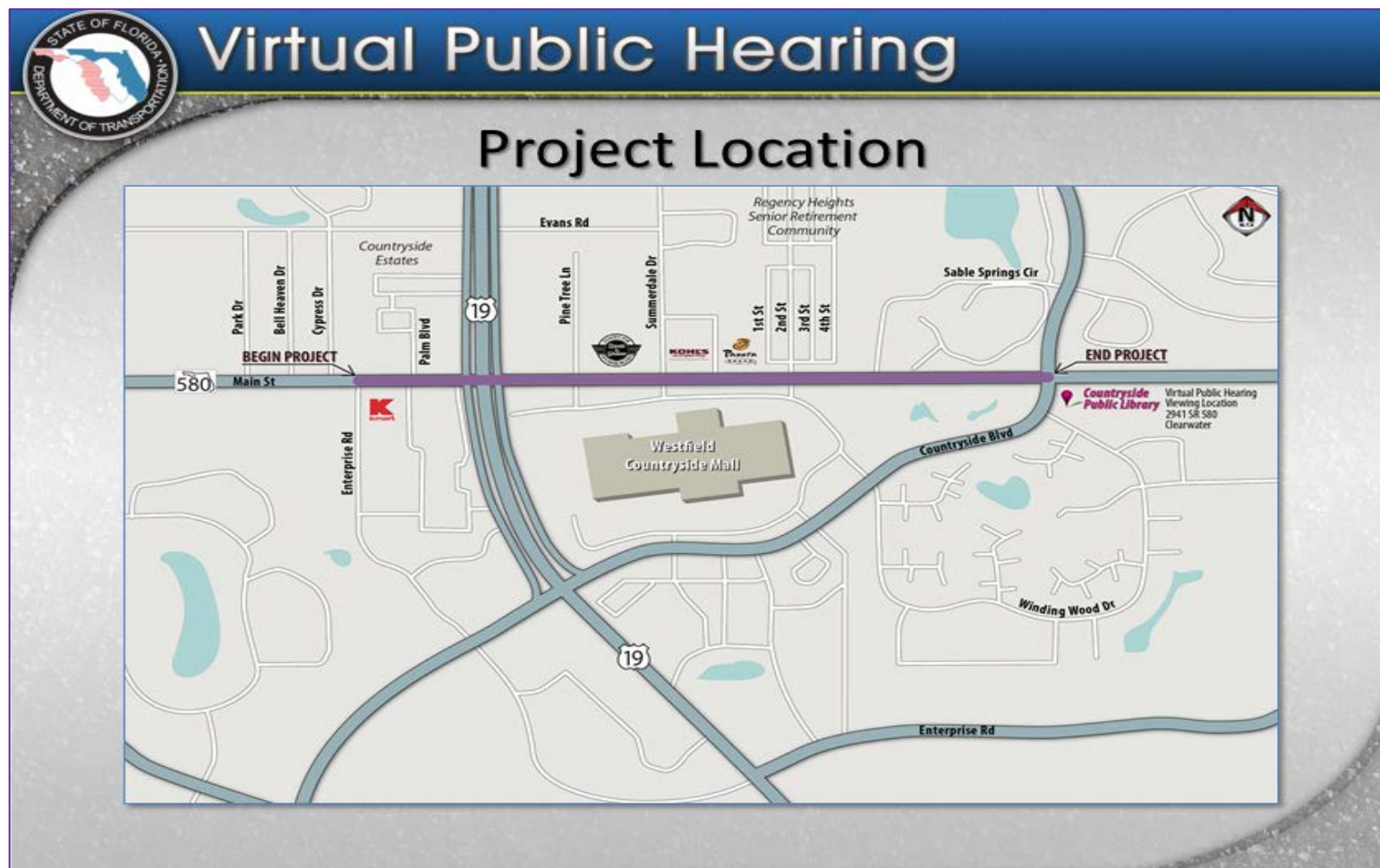


Virtual Town Halls

- Accessible to stakeholders unable to participate in person
- Increases engagement during live meetings
- Low-tech alternative, does not require internet access
- Can reach LEP and other populations with simulcasts




Virtual Town Halls



Virtual Town Halls





#YOURMOVE

Help us prioritize transportation projects for the region.

Welcome to our online public meeting!

¡Bienvenidos!

Haga clic aquí para participar en español.

Welcome to our online public meeting. If you found your way here, that means you know we need your feedback on 48 transportation projects competing for federal funding. You can participate in person at one of four [public meetings](#), or online using the links below.

On this page, you will find everything you need to participate in the development of our 2019-2022 Transportation Improvement Program, or short-range plan. That includes providing feedback on projects hoping to receive Surface Transportation Program-Metropolitan Mobility funding, or MPO discretionary funding.

The 48 projects total over \$400 million and our Transportation Policy Board will be making a funding decision in March 2018 to program approximately \$180-170 million worth of projects.

Help our board make these difficult decisions by:

1. Watching the presentation given at the in-person meetings.
2. Reviewing an interactive Story Map that highlights information about each of the projects as well as the applications submitted.
3. Evaluating the technical scores assigned to each of the projects
4. Participating by completing an online comment form to voice your support and concerns about any of the projects.

Questions? Get in touch with Linda Alvarado-Vela at Alvarado-vela@alamoareaampo.org.

1 WATCH	2 REVIEW	3 EVALUATE	4 PARTICIPATE
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Narrated Presentation Video (.mp4) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Learn about each of the submitted projects by using this handy map application! 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • STP-MM Submitted Projects Scoring Sheet (.xls) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Comment Card

Other Resource Information:

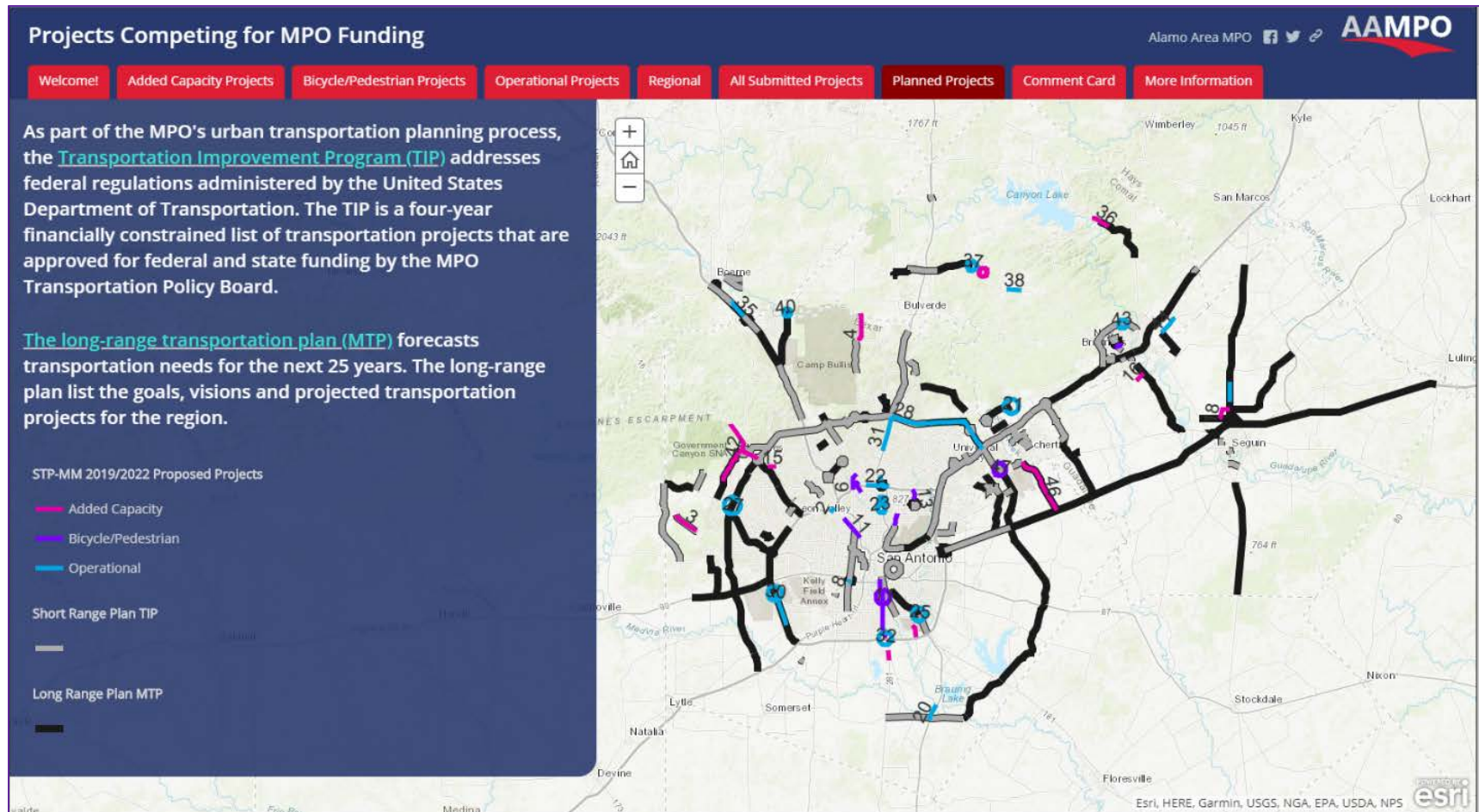
- [DRAFT FY2019-2022 TIP Roadway Project Listing \(.pdf\)](#)
- [DRAFT FY2019-2022 TIP Transit Project Listing \(.pdf\)](#)
- [DRAFT FY2019-2022 TIP Transit Project Detail \(.pdf\)](#)

Online Mapping Tools

- Web-based platforms
- Display information in familiar map format
- Stakeholders provide comments and input on digital maps, marking up suggested changes or areas of concern



Online Mapping Tools

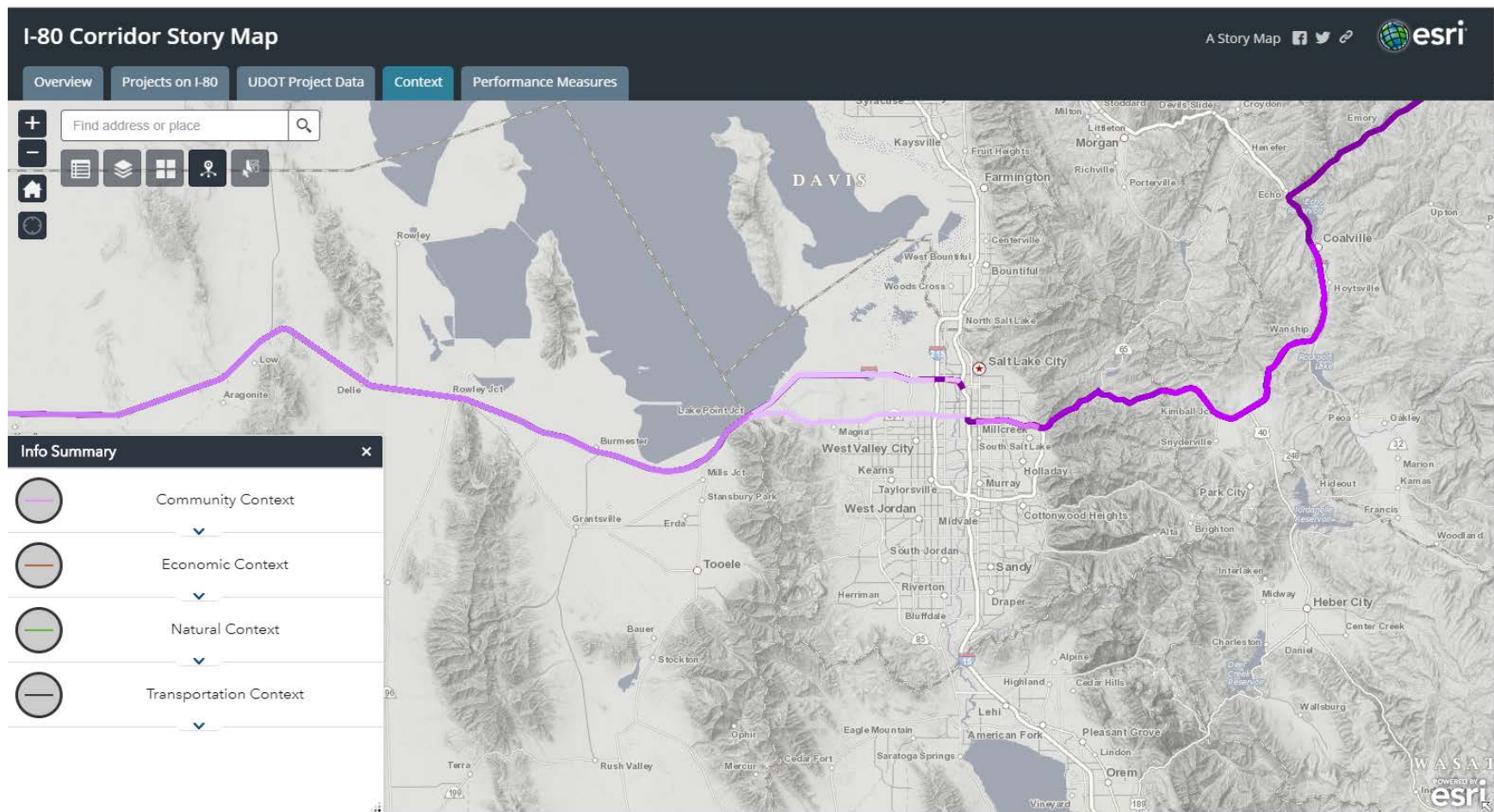


Online Mapping Tools

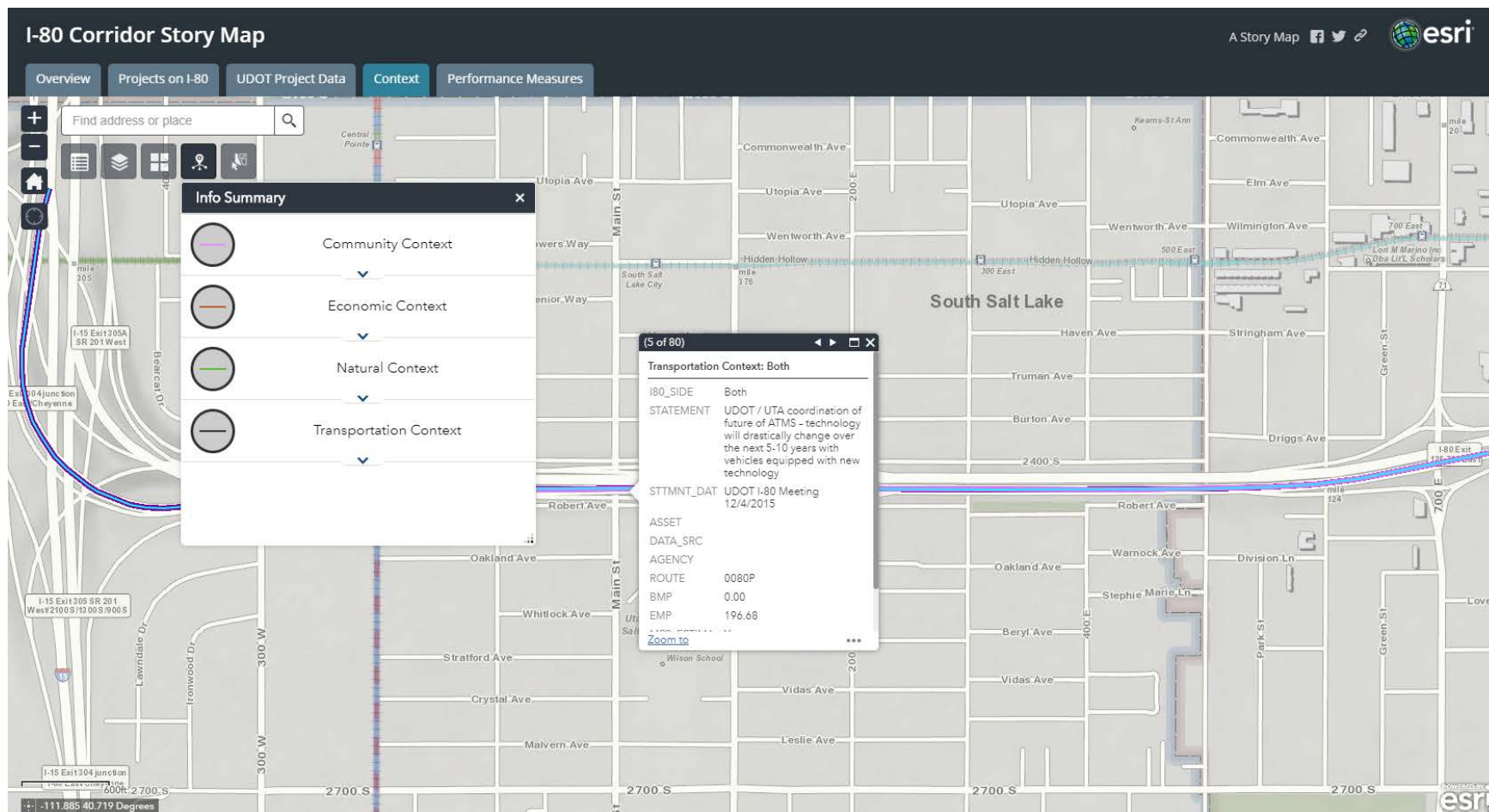
- Provides geographic context
- Project information is less abstract
- Can be paired with narratives, videos, and other digital information
- Saves staff time and labor collecting public input on hard copy maps



Online Mapping Tools



Online Mapping Tools



Poll Questions

What is your level of interest in using virtual town halls or online mapping tools?

- Very High – we are already using
- High
- Medium
- Low
- Not at all interested

All-in-One Tools

- Combination of crowdsourcing, mapping and survey functions
- Allows staff to inform the public about a project and engage stakeholders through polls, surveys, etc.
- Can offer both desktop and mobile apps in same platform



All-in-One Tools

- Easy for staff to manage project-based public involvement on a single platform
- Can increase public participation by removing barriers to involvement



All-in-One Tools



All-in-One Tools



Kinston Bypass

Progress

1 Resource Impacts 2 What to do 3 Next Task 4 5

WELCOME

PRIORITY OF NEEDS

RESOURCE RATING

Natural Resources

Economic Resources

Community Resources

Rate your concern for potential impacts to the following resources. 1= Not Important; 5= Very Important.

More about this

Displacing Businesses

Effects to local businesses due to increased travel time or displacement.

Distance to Downtown

Travel distance

Disrupted Agriculture

Effects to farmlands, agricultural operations, and distribution of goods.

Distance to Employment

Access or changed routes to jobs.

Suggest another

Next Category

MAPPING CONCERNS

WRAP UP

Digital Tools to Enhance In-Person Events

- Virtual tools and techniques add value to traditional public engagement
- Live-polling and tech-equipped street teams can solicit live feedback and input
- Agencies bring project plans directly into communities to create a physical presence

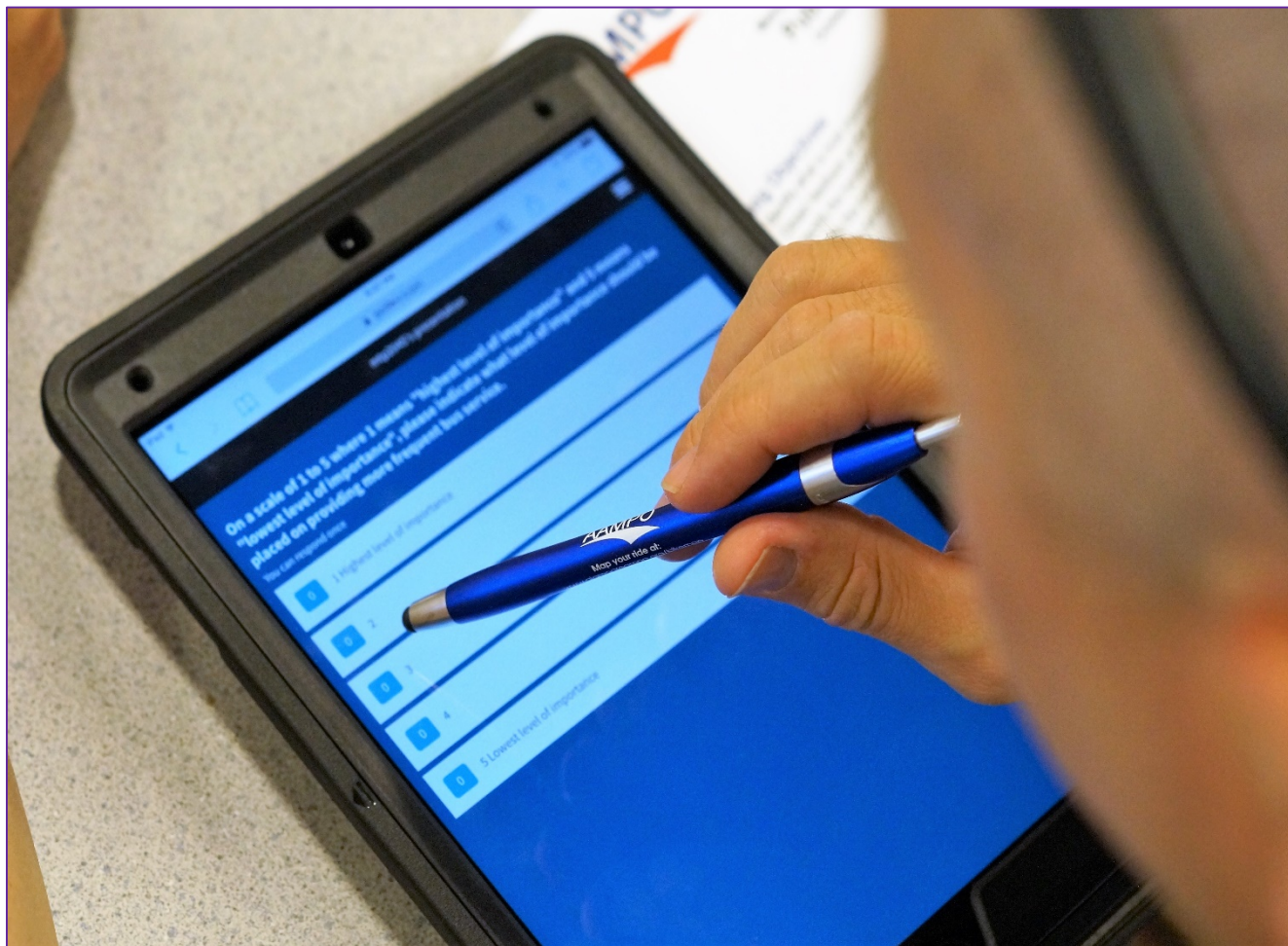


Digital Tools to Enhance In-Person Events

- Significantly improve the quality of engagement
- Bridge the digital divide and help reach underserved populations
- Establish a balance between virtual tools and physical interaction



Digital Tools to Enhance In-Person Events



Poll Questions

What is your level of interest in All-In-One tools or VPI tools to enhance in-person engagement?

- Very High – we are already using
- High
- Medium
- Low
- Not at all interested



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How can FHWA help you with Virtual Public Involvement?

EDC-5 Funding Opportunities:

❑ ***State Transportation Innovation Council (STIC) Incentive***

- ✓ Up to \$100,000 per STIC per year to standardize an innovation
- ✓ <https://www.fhwa.dot.gov/innovation/stic/>

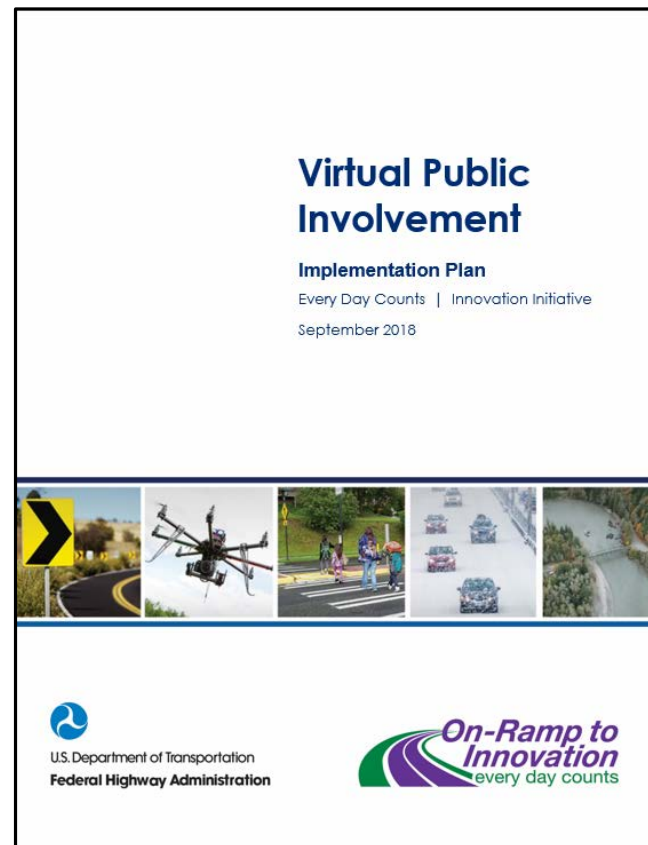
❑ ***Accelerated Innovation Deployment (AID) Demonstration***

- ✓ Up to \$1 million available per year to deploy an innovation not routinely used
- ✓ <https://www.fhwa.dot.gov/innovation/grants/>

VPI Draft Implementation Plan

Ideas for what FHWA can do to help:

- Peer Exchange Workshops
- Hands-On Technical Assistance
- Database of Policies, Contracts, and more...
- State-of-Practice Resources w/ Case Studies, Video Demonstrations, and more





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Questions/Discussion

Discussion Topics

1. Your Experiences with VPI
2. Barriers to Using VPI?
3. FHWA Implementation Assistance
4. General Q&A

Your Experiences with VPI

Please tell us about your successes or challenges integrating VPI into planning and project development

- What has really worked well?
- Where have you struggled the most?

Barriers to Using VPI?

If you aren't already using VPI tools or you would like to be using them more...

- Is there something holding you back from trying VPI?
- What are the technical barriers?
- Are there institutional or organization challenges you need help with?

FHWA Implementation Assistance

What kinds of assistance would be most beneficial to your agency?

- Peer Exchanges
- Technical Assistance
- Database of Policies and Contracts
- State of Practice Research/Case Studies
- **Other Ideas?**

Poll Questions

Which implementation assistance ideas are you most interested in?

- Peer Exchanges
- Technical Assistance
- Database of Policies and Contracts
- State of Practice Research/Case Studies
- Other (tell us your idea in short answer pod)

General Q&A

Any general questions?

Anything else you would like us to know about?



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Wrap Up

Innovation Deployment News



Weekly newsletter



Bi-monthly magazine

To Subscribe:

Email: <https://www.fhwa.dot.gov/innovation/>

Text: Send "FHWA Innovation" to 468311



Thank You!

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