



2016 Tools of the Trade
*Interagency Coordination in Long
Range Transportation Planning*

Alena R. Cook, PE, CPM



Interagency Coordination Protocol

Purpose



Describe best practices for data sharing and coordination between long range planners and other agencies during transportation plan development



Interagency Coordination Protocol

Goals

- ❖ Improve quality of transportation planning decisions
- ❖ Enhanced usefulness of transportation planning products
- ❖ Potential benefits & efficiencies for all agencies from sharing data and coordination



Interagency Coordination Protocol



What agencies do you think may want/ need to be engaged in long range transportation planning?



Interagency Coordination Protocol

Agencies

- NC Dept. of Environmental Quality
 - Division of Water Resources
 - Division of Coastal Management
 - Division of Marine Fisheries
- NC Dept. of Natural & Cultural Resources
 - State Archaeology Office
 - State Historic Preservation Office
- NC Wildlife Resources Commission
- US Army Corps of Engineers
- US Fish and Wildlife Service
- EPA
- US Forest Service
- National Park Service
- NOAA- National Marine Fisheries
- NC Dept. of Agriculture- NC Forest Service, Farmlands
- NC DHHS
- NC Dept. of Commerce
- Tennessee Valley Authority



Interagency Coordination Protocol

Process to Develop (with ITRE)

- ❖ Identified agencies & representatives (contact list)
- ❖ Gathered information by telephone interviews, etc.
- ❖ Used Informational Webinar, Workshop, Meetings to determine data sharing and coordination
- ❖ Drafted Interagency Coordination Protocol document & associated tools based on input received
- ❖ Reviewed, Finalized Protocol recommendations
- ❖ Share, Educate staff about best practices in Protocol



Interagency Coordination Protocol

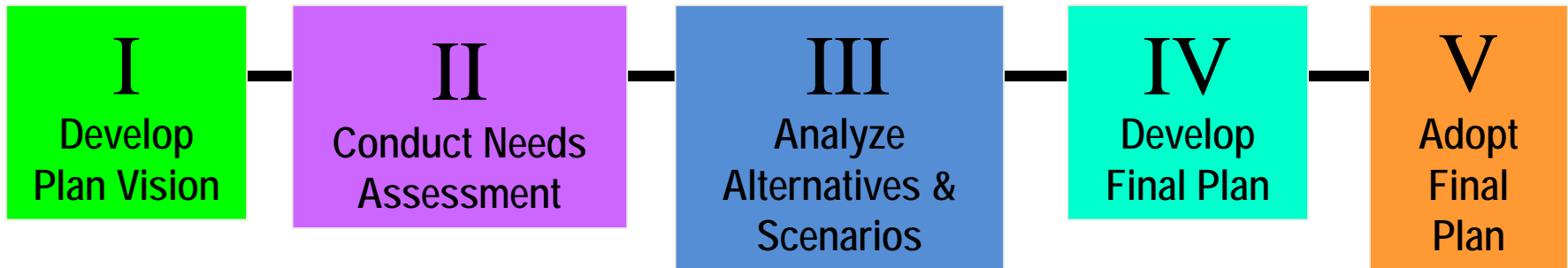
Key Points

- ❖ Contacts for each agency, spreadsheet tool
- ❖ At what points in the transportation planning process to coordinate
- ❖ What types of information & data to share,
What questions to ask
- ❖ Updates throughout the process
- ❖ Seeking input, not agreement or approval



Interagency Coordination Protocol

Transportation Planning Process



Interagency Coordination Protocol



When (at what point) in the process do you think it's most critical for agencies to be engaged?



Interagency Coordination Protocol

Protocol 1- Initiate Contact

- ❖ Send notification that planning process is being initiated
- ❖ Share information about planning process
- ❖ Develop email distribution list for regular updates

WHEN?

I

Develop
Plan Vision

WHY?

- ★ *Let agencies know study starting*
- ★ *Find correct contacts*
- ★ *Educate about process*



Interagency Coordination Protocol

Protocol 2- Coordinate on Data & Goals

- ❖ Planners share study information, Community Understanding Report, GIS data layers, etc.
- ❖ Resource agencies share plans, data, and tools
- ❖ Feedback on all data & Measures of Effectiveness
- ❖ Develop Environmental Features Map

WHEN?

I

**Develop
Plan Vision**

WHY?

- ★ *Ensure have best/ complete data*
- ★ *Select appropriate MOEs & have right data to support*



Interagency Coordination Protocol

Protocol 3- Validate Priorities

- ❖ Planners share transportation deficiencies
 - ❖ Resource agencies share information on resources and may provide input on priorities
- >Possible workshop in the study area

WHEN?

II

Conduct Needs
Assessment

WHY?

- ★ *Learn about resources/ deficiencies*
- ★ *Understand issues/ concerns*
- ★ *Identify priorities: areas to serve and areas to protect*



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Protocol 4- Coordinate on Project Proposals

- ❖ Planners: Problem Statements, Draft Alternatives, etc.
 - ❖ Resource agencies share information and give input
- >Opportunity to attend 1 of 2 meetings
(one central, one in study area)

WHEN?

III

Analyze
Alternatives &
Scenarios

WHY?

- ★ *Understand draft proposals and potential impacts*
- ★ *Get input on alternatives*
- ★ *Discuss possible options*



Interagency Coordination Protocol

Protocol 5- Review Draft Plan

- ❖ Planners distribute draft plan & seek final comments

WHEN?

IV
Develop
Final Plan

Protocol 6- Distribute Final Plan

- ❖ Planners distribute final plan & survey on the process

WHEN?

V
Adopt
Final
Plan

WHY?

- ★ Obtain final input & communicate how input was used
- ★ Get feedback for future improvements to the process



Interagency Coordination Protocol



What hurdles or challenges do you experience (or would you anticipate) with agency engagement in planning?



Interagency Coordination Protocol

Challenges ➡ *Critical Success Factors*

- ❖ Continuous changes to GIS data layers/ contacts ➡
Need maintenance/ update plan
- ❖ Limited Time ➡ Engage in way desired & most efficient
- ❖ Reluctance to Comment ➡ Emphasize seeking input,
not agreement or approval
- ❖ Sharing information with others ➡ Document well
- ❖ Trust ➡ Establish good relationships



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llane@louisberger.com

Adrienne Heller- (formerly) ITRE- NCSU

aheller@louisberger.com

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Questions



NCDOT- Transportation Planning Branch

Alena R. Cook, PE, CPM
919-707-0910
arcook@ncdot.gov

<https://connect.ncdot.gov/projects/planning/Pages/default.aspx>

Click Integration Project, See 'Interagency Coordination Protocol'

