



Welcome

Welcome to Washington! Thank you all for participating in this important conference. It is vital that we in the transportation profession consider the effects of our projects on a community and its quality of life. The community impact assessment process must become an integral part of project planning and development that shapes the outcome of a project. Its information is used continuously to mold the project and provide documentation of the current and anticipated social environment of a geographic area with and without the action. The assessment should include all items of importance to people, such as mobility, safety, employment effects, relocation, isolation, and other community issues.

This workshop brings together experts in Community Impact Assessment from all around the country as well as case studies from Idaho, Washington, Oregon, and Utah. Topics will include effective public involvement techniques and tools, innovative ways to reach low income and minority communities, developing community visions to help guide transportation projects, and new developments in Context Sensitive Solutions.

I ask you to challenge the way we've always done it in the past and be open to new ideas. Envision a new way of doing business that meets the communities' needs while enhancing mobility and safety for the traveling public. Thank you for your commitment to this concept. I wish you much success.

Dan Mathis, FHWA Division Administrator