

# CHAPTER 8 DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT

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## 8. DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT

### 8-1 OVERVIEW

The preparation of the Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS) begins after the completion of the **Final Programming Screen Summary Report** in the Efficient Transportation Decision Making (ETDM) Process. This includes early scoping with the Environmental Technical Advisory Team (ETAT) and an approved environmental class of action determination from the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) or other Lead Federal Agency, which indicates a DEIS is to be prepared. Whenever FHWA is referenced in this chapter it may be exchanged with the Lead Federal Agency.

Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ) regulations (**40 CFR 1500**) require lead agencies to “rigorously explore and objectively evaluate all reasonable alternatives.” Each alternative should be treated in an unbiased manner so that the related benefits and impacts can be estimated and compared across alternatives. For EISs, the regulations go on to say the study “shall provide full and fair discussion of significant environmental impacts and shall inform decision-makers and the public of the reasonable alternatives which would avoid or minimize adverse impacts or enhance the quality of the human environment.” In addition, the regulations say the alternatives analysis is “the heart of an environmental impact statement.”

A project file is to be maintained during the **NEPA** process to compile an Administrative Record of decisions made during the process. The Districts should maintain accurate and up-to-date project files throughout the project and include all decision making materials.

After the Environmental Determination is approved, and agreement is reached on a project schedule, the FHWA Division Office publishes in the **Federal Register (FR)** a **Notice of Intent** to prepare an EIS. Concurrent with the preparation of the DEIS, a public involvement program is developed and subsequently administered in accordance with procedures in **Part 1, Chapter 11, Public Involvement**. **Figure 8.1** shows the Draft Environmental Impact Statement process. For Local Agency Program (LAP) projects FDOT provides oversight and is the liaison with FHWA.

A DEIS is prepared following the procedures in this chapter. After the District has completed a quality control review, the District submits the DEIS to the Central Environmental Management Office (CEMO) for technical and procedural review. CEMO coordinates its review with the District and upon CEMO approval, the District submits the DEIS to FHWA for their review and approval. If the project involves a cooperating agency, a copy of the DEIS is forwarded to that agency by the District for review and comment. All submittals of documents to the Lead Federal Agency must come from the FDOT.

The FHWA Division Office will conduct a document review for compliance with its various rules and regulations. Comments from the cooperating agency and the FHWA Division Office are evaluated and incorporated into the DEIS by the District, and the DEIS is resubmitted to FHWA for approval for public availability.

Upon approval, the District publishes a notice of public availability for the document in a local newspaper and sends the DEIS to the Florida State Clearinghouse and all interested State and Federal agencies utilizing the Environmental Screening Tool (EST). The District files the approved DEIS with the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) for publication of availability in the *FR* as required by **23 CFR 771.123**. Upon publication, a 45-day comment period is provided for the review of the DEIS.

After the public hearing, the Final EIS is prepared according to procedures in **Part 1, Chapter 9, Final Environmental Impact Statement**.

## **8-2 PROCEDURE**

### **8-2.1. Compliance with Title VI, Section 6002 of SAFETEA-LU**

In 2005 the President signed into law the new surface transportation act, the **“Safe, Accountable, Flexible, Efficient Transportation Equity Act: A Legacy for Users” (SAFETEA-LU) (Pub. L. 109-59, 119 Stat. 1144)**. Florida’s ETDM Process was approved by FHWA to meet the statutory requirements of **Title VI, Section 6002(b) (Letter December 13, 2005)** of the **Act**.

The following requirements are met during project screening through the EST or before the initiation of the PD&E phase. These are required for all EISs.

1. Project Initiation Notification, which is met by FDOT’s Programming Screen Notification/Advance Notification.
  - a. Begins the consultation process and provides notification to agencies that the project is beginning
  - b. Provides status of project as it relates to inclusion in the cost feasible element of the Long Range Transportation Plan (LRTP), Transportation Improvement Plan (TIP), and State Transportation Improvement Plan (STIP) and provides opportunity for comment
2. Lead Agency Determination
3. Identification of Participating and Cooperating Agencies
4. Beginning of Scoping Process (ETAT commentary)
  - a. Determination of Methodology and Level of Detail
5. Scoping Identification of Purpose and Need
6. Scoping Definition of Range of Alternatives
7. Class of Action (COA) Determination

## 8. Development of Coordination Plan

- a. Fulfilled by ETDM Process through agency agreements, project screening, preparation of preliminary project schedule and by preparation of the **Public Involvement Plan (PIP)** as memorialized in the **ETDM Agreement between FDOT and FHWA** as approved.

## 9. Development of Project Schedule

- a. Developed in consultation with Lead Federal, cooperating and participating agencies
- b. Sets comment deadlines for technical reports (30 days based on ETDM agreements)
- c. Enter/update project schedule within the EST and make available on the project website (keep up to date throughout the life of the project)

## 10. Lead Federal Agency issues Notice of Intent (NOI) – Begins **NEPA** Process

Any planning documentation that is used to assist with decision making related to establishing purpose and need, range of alternatives, or methodology and level of detail must be included in the **Programming Screen Summary Report** at the end of the programming phase of the ETDM process. All public involvement and outreach which takes place before and during the EST screening events must be documented in the **Programming Screen Summary Report**. The information gathered during the Programming Screen is used to develop the EIS.

### 8-2.2 Scoping

Scoping is a formal process for projects requiring an EIS. Scoping is required by and described in **40 CFR Section 1501.7 (CEQ Regulations)**. **23 CFR 771** directs scoping to begin early in the project development process. Within the ETDM Process scoping begins with ETAT agency reviews during the EST screening events. Scoping continues throughout the project development process. A formal scoping meeting (which is optional) may be held early in the project development process. To determine whether or not a formal scoping meeting should be held, information from the ETDM screening process and input/comments from the agencies, as well as coordination with the Lead Federal Agency, should be considered. Details on the scoping process and how to conduct a scoping meeting are included in **Part 1, Chapter 11, Public Involvement** of this manual.

The environmental document must provide a good discussion of the scoping process, including all meetings held, coordination with participating and cooperating agencies, issues raised, and the District's response and commitments. This would be contained in the Comments and Coordination section of the EIS. The results of the ETDM Programming Screen and scoping should be used to identify the affected environment and to focus the environmental analysis in the EIS to the relevant issues.

### 8-2.3 Preparation of the Notice of Intent

A **Notice of Intent (NOI)** is prepared when the Department is directed to prepare an EIS by FHWA after approval of the Environmental Class of Action Determination and project schedule. A **NOI** is a notice for publication in the **FR** which informs stakeholders of the scope of the project and that an EIS is being prepared. (A sample **NOI** is shown in **Figure 8.2**). Based on federal guidelines the official beginning of the **NEPA** process for an EIS is the **NOI**. As stipulated in the current **ETDM Agreement between FDOT and FHWA** the EIS timeline for performance measures begins with the **NOI**. The format and content of the **NOI** are provided in the following sections.

When completed, the notice is forwarded to the FHWA Division Office for publication in the **FR**. **Figure 8.3** is an example of a transmittal letter for a **NOI**. A copy of the published **NOI** in the **FR** is also to be included in the Appendix of the Final EIS.

FHWA sends the **NOI** to the Office of the Federal Register, National Archives and Records Service for publication in the **FR**. A copy of the notice, once published, is sent to the District for inclusion in the project file. FHWA will not publish the **NOI** in the **FR** until the project schedule has been approved.

#### 8-2.3.1 Notice of Intent Format

The **NOI** must be prepared on 8 ½" X 11" white paper and typed in black ink. The margins must be 1 ½" for the left and 1" for all other margins. The text must be double-spaced (except heading title), and the heading must contain the following four items:

1. Billing Code No. 4910-22 (typed in brackets or parentheses)
2. DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION (all in upper case letters)
3. Federal Highway Administration
4. ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT; COUNTY OR CITY, STATE  
(all in upper case letters and single spaced)

The body of the **NOI** must contain five (5) sections: AGENCY, ACTION, SUMMARY, FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT, and SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION. (Each section title is in upper case letters followed by a colon).

The closing section of the Notice must specify:

1. Issued on: (indent 5 spaces and type or stamp in date when document is signed).
2. Signature line (begin in middle of page; type name, title, and City under the signature; use name and title of the FHWA Division Administrator).

The **NOI** must be neat and in a form suitable for public inspection. Two or more notices of intent can be included in a single document by making appropriate revisions to the heading and text of the notice. This should be coordinated with FHWA prior to development of such a **NOI**.

### 8-2.3.2 Notice of Intent Content

The **NOI** should be written in plain English for ease in understanding. Avoid the use of technical jargon. The project should always be referred to as the proposed action or proposed project and if any abbreviations are used in the text, they should be clarified. The Lead Federal Agency should always be listed first when other agencies (Federal, State, or local) are listed as being involved in the preparation of the EIS.

The following information must be contained in a **NOI**:

1. AGENCY: Enter -

Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), DOT

2. ACTION: Enter -

Notice of Intent

3. SUMMARY: Begin this section with the following statement:

*"The FHWA is issuing this notice to advise the public that an Environmental Impact Statement will be prepared for a proposed highway project in..."*

4. FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: This section should name persons within the FHWA Division Office or Lead Federal Agency who can answer questions about the proposed action and the EIS as it is being developed.

This is usually the Environmental Coordinator. State and/or local officials may also be listed, but always following the FHWA contact person.

5. SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: This section should contain the following:

- a. A brief description of the proposed action, (e.g., location of the action, length of project, purpose and need of the action, type of construction);
- b. A brief description of possible alternatives to accomplish the goals of the proposed action, (e.g., upgrade existing facility, do nothing - should always be listed), construction on new alignment, mass transit, multi-modal design;

- c. A brief description of the proposed scoping process for the particular action including whether or not, when, and where any scoping meeting will be held; and
- d. The website address (on the EST or otherwise) for additional project information; and
- e. A brief statement placed in parentheses directly above the signature and date of issuance, as follows:

*"(Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance Program Number 20.205, Highway Research, Planning and Construction. The regulations implementing Executive Order 12372 regarding intergovernmental consultation on Federal programs and activities apply to this program.)"*

The notice is transmitted by the District to FHWA or other Lead Federal Agency who then submits it to EPA for publication in the **FR**.

#### **8-2.4 Project Status Fact Sheet**

Once the PD&E process has begun by issuance of the **NOI**, the project **is not** required to go back through the Programming Phase. However, if the following conditions apply the District submits a project status fact sheet:

1. Four years have passed after the project has been initiated and no environmental document has been approved for public availability.
2. The project termini have changed (expanded) after PD&E has begun.
3. The project concepts have changed (e.g., number of lanes, adding interchanges, etc.) after PD&E has begun.

The project status fact sheet is sent to the same recipients as the Programming Screen Notification/Advance Notification and includes:

1. Details about the project (project title, ETDM number, Financial Project Number)
2. Brief project description including reference to Class of Action
3. Brief statement regarding current status of project, including any changes which have occurred since the original submittal
4. Current schedule of the project
5. Contact Information

## 8-2.5 Format and Sequence of Topics

**Table 8.1** lists those topics which are relevant content for the DEIS, and presents a standard format. The topics are divided into two (2) subcategories based on federal laws and regulations and are listed as Standard and Optional (**T6640.8A**). Standard categories are those topics that must be discussed in the DEIS regardless of the Degree of Effect provided by the ETAT during EST screenings and the degree of impact determined during the preparation of the EIS. Optional categories are those that must be presented and discussed in the DEIS, only if applicable.

Reference chapters in **Part 2 of the PD&E Manual** are identified in **Table 8.1**. Preparation of the document entails following the procedures in each of the referenced chapters for all standard topics and those optional topics deemed relevant to the project.

The formatting of the DEIS provided in **Table 8.1** is flexible. However, the content of the DEIS is not. The DEIS must include a cover sheet, summary, table of contents, list of preparers, list of agencies, organizations, and persons to whom copies of the statement are sent, and an index. The DEIS must also include the substance of the purpose of and need for action, alternatives, affected environment, environmental consequences, and appendices sections. The DEIS document should include information as to the project's fulfillment of FHWA's planning consistency requirements (LRTP, STIP, and TIP). All consistency requirements must be met prior to requesting Location Design Concept Acceptance. In addition to these requirements any commitments and recommendations made to date should be documented (**Part 2, Chapter 32** of this manual). This information may be presented in a different format per **40 CFR 1502.10**. It is important to coordinate with the Lead Federal Agency when considering the use of an alternative format.

A reader-friendly format may be used as long as the required information is included. For suggestions on reader-friendly environmental documents see the **Improving the Quality of Environmental Documents** report by American Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials (AASHTO) and FHWA.

## 8-2.6 Intradepartmental and FHWA Review Process

After preparation of the DEIS, the District conducts a quality control review and sends the DEIS to CEMO. CEMO provides a technical and procedural review of the document and technical support documents and coordinates its comments and the review schedule with the District. The Districts should allow sufficient time in their schedules for potential subsequent reviews. After the CEMO has completed their review and comments have been satisfactorily incorporated or addressed, CEMO will email their approval to the District. The DEIS is then submitted by the District to the FHWA Division Office for their review and approval. The Districts must contact the FHWA Division Office to determine the number of copies needed. All materials requiring an action from the Lead Federal Agency should be sent by the FDOT such as submittal of the DEIS and all supporting documentation. The FHWA Division Office may request a legal review of the DEIS, in such cases the DEIS is submitted by the Division for legal review by the Atlanta Regional Office. Depending on the magnitude of

the project, the Division may also ask for review by the FHWA office in Washington DC. These additional reviews may impact the project schedule.

If there are cooperating agencies, the District submits two (2) copies to each agency for their review and comment. In addition, FHWA is sent two (2) copies each of supporting reports that led to the decision and required coordination with another agency such as the **Conceptual Stage Relocation Plan (CSR)**, **Noise Study and Air Quality Reports**, **Contamination Screening Evaluation Report (CSER)**, **Preliminary Engineering Report**, **Wetland Evaluation Report**, the **Endangered Species Biological Assessment**. For a complete list of technical documents see the Project Development Chapter (**Part 1, Chapter 4, Project Development**) of the **PD&E Manual**. The cooperating agencies are sent only the technical documents that pertain to their jurisdiction. A sample transmittal letter from the District to FHWA that should accompany the DEIS and related reports is provided in **Figure 8.4**.

Within thirty (30) days of receipt of the DEIS, FHWA and the cooperating agencies will provide comments to the District. The FHWA Division Office will issue one of the following three comments:

1. Review with comments,
2. A statement that the document is not ready for review, or
3. Approval of the document.

If comments are submitted by FHWA, or the cooperating agency, appropriate revisions are made by the District. This resets the intradepartmental and FHWA review process, therefore the revised DEIS is sent to CEMO and once approved is sent to FHWA for their approval.

### **8-2.7 Actions Taken After Approval of the DEIS**

One (1) copy of the approved DEIS and a transmittal letter are forwarded by FHWA to the District. An example transmittal letter is shown in **Figure 8.5**. Then, the District provides two dates on the front cover page of the DEIS. One is the date of approval of the DEIS for public availability. The second date indicated at the bottom of the cover page is the date for which the formal review period of the document is complete. This date is affixed by the District and determined by calculating 45 calendar days from the date of the published **FR** notice of document availability provided by EPA in compliance with **23 CFR 771.123**.

The District makes copies of the DEIS for public availability and inspection. **Part 2, Chapter 34, List of Agencies, Organizations, and Persons to whom Copies of the Statement are Sent** contains the names and addresses of all agencies to whom the DEIS is sent including the appropriate number of copies. The approved DEIS is then uploaded to the EST by the ETDM Coordinator or Project Manager. When the document is uploaded into the document review tool, the EST automatically sends an electronic copy of the DEIS to the Florida State Clearinghouse and other contacts to which the Advance Notification was originally sent. The ETDM Coordinator or Project

Manager may also send the document to other interested State and Federal agencies. Email and physical addresses can be stored and organized in the EST. This feature will allow documents to be sent electronically, or they may be printed out and mailed to other State and Federal agencies, local agencies, Native American tribes, or public interest groups upon request. The ETDM Coordinator or Project Manager may also copy the DEIS onto a CD for distribution. Copies must be sent to the cooperating agencies (e.g., U.S. Coast Guard, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers).

The District places a notice in the local newspaper(s) which advertises a public hearing, that the approved document is available for public review, and provides a list of places where the approved document can be inspected by the public (**Part 1, Chapter 11, Public Involvement**). The public hearing is held after a minimum of 21 days after notification of public availability is placed in the local newspapers.

All organizations and agencies have a comment period of 45 days. Distribution of the DEIS must take place no later than submission of the DEIS to EPA, Washington, D.C. for publication in the **FR**.

The **Notice of Availability** is initiated when the District files the DEIS with the Office of Federal Activities, EPA, Washington, D.C. (**Figure 8.6**). Upon receipt of the document, EPA publishes notification of availability of the DEIS in the **FR** for a 45-day comment period. **Figure 8.7** is an example of a **Notice of Availability** in the **FR**.

In order for EPA to publish a notice of document availability in the **FR**, the District has to insure that EPA receives the DEIS copies by Wednesday noon of the week prior to publication of the notice in the **FR** on the following Friday (10 days ahead). It is suggested that the five (5) copies of the approved DEIS sent to EPA, Washington, D.C. be mailed overnight express requiring a signature by the addressee (EPA) verifying receipt. Use of overnight mail will insure that the last day of the 45-day comment period stamped on the bottom of the DEIS will be correct based on the **FR** notice date. Depending on delivery method to EPA, there are two different mailing addresses:

For deliveries in-person or by commercial express mail services, e.g., Federal Express or UPS, copies should be sent to:

US Environmental Protection Agency  
Office of Federal Activities  
EIS Filing Section  
Ariel Rios Building (South Oval Lobby), Room 7220  
1200 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW  
Washington,DC 20004

For deliveries by US Postal Service (e.g., USPS Express Mail) copies should be sent to:

US Environmental Protection Agency  
Office of Federal Activities  
EIS Filing Section  
Ariel Rios Building (South Oval Lobby), Mail Code 2252-A

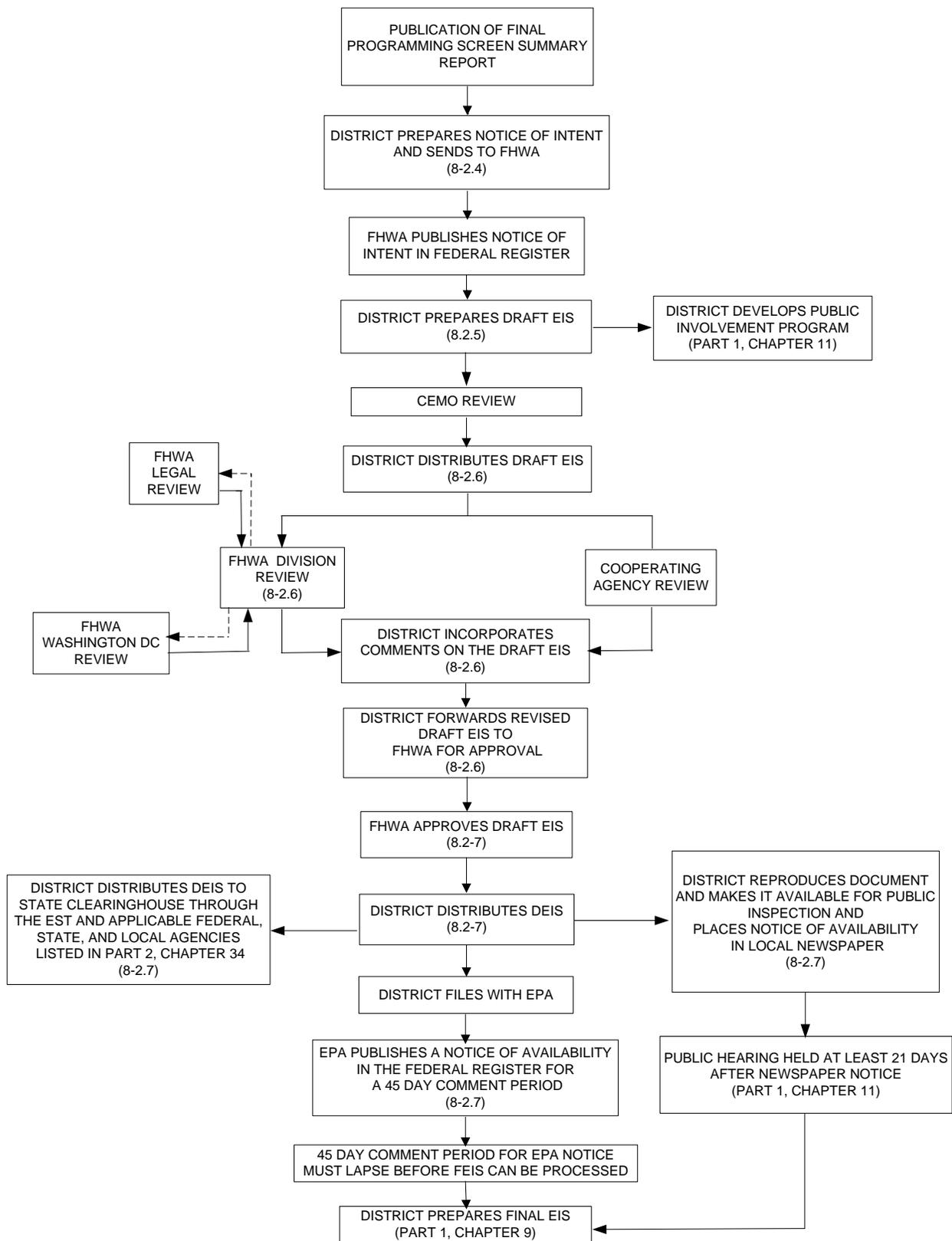
1200 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW  
Washington, DC 20460

After the public hearing has been held and all issues have been resolved, where possible, the District prepares a Final EIS according to procedures in ***Part 1, Chapter 9, Final Environmental Impact Statement.***

### **8-3 REFERENCES**

1. Safe, Accountable, Flexible, Efficient Transportation Equity Act: A Legacy for Users (SAFETEA-LU), Section 6002.
2. Letter titled "SAFETEA-LU, Section 6002(b)", from David Gibbs, FHWA Division Administrator to Denver Stutler, FDOT Secretary of Transportation, December 13, 2005.
3. Florida Department of Transportation. 2006. Efficient Transportation Decision Making (ETDM) Planning and Programming Manual.
4. Florida Department of Transportation. .Federal Highway Administration and Federal Transit Administration Agency Operating Agreement.
5. Federal Register. August 28, 1987. "Environmental Impact and Related Procedures." FR Vol. 52, No 167.
6. Federal Highway Administration. Technical Advisory T6640.8A. "Guidance for Preparing and Processing Environmental and Section 4(f) Documents". October 30, 1987.
7. Council of Environmental Quality. 1978. Regulation for Implementing the Procedural Provisions of the National Environmental Policy Act. 43 CFR 55978-56007 and 40 CFR 1500-1508.
8. Memorandum titled, "Florida-Meeting with U.S. Coast Guard", from FHWA Highway Safety and Environmental Coordinator to FHWA Assistant Division Administrator (Copy to C.L. Irwin), September 2, 1988.
9. Memorandum of Agreement Between the Department of Transportation and the Department of the Army, U.S. Corps of Engineers. 1983.
10. Federal-Aid Policy Guide, 23 CFR 771, Subchapter H - Right-of-Way and Environment, Part 771 - Environmental Impact and Related Procedures, December 9, 1991, Transmittal 1.
11. Federal Register. May 26, 1999. FRA Procedures for Considering Environmental Impacts. 64 FR 28545.

12. American Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials (AASHTO). May 2006. Improving the Quality of Environmental Documents: A Report of the Joint AASHTO/ACEC Committee in Cooperation with the Federal Highway Administration.



**FIGURE 8.1 Draft Environmental Impact Statement Process**

## Environmental Impact Statement

(4910-22)

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Federal Highway Administration

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT; \_\_\_\_\_ COUNTY, FLORIDA

AGENCY: Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), DOT

ACTION: Notice of intent

SUMMARY: The FHWA is issuing this notice to advise the public that an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) will be prepared for a proposed highway project in \_\_\_\_\_ County, Florida.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: (Name), Environmental Coordinator, Federal Highway Administration, 545 John Knox Road, Suite 200, Tallahassee, Florida 32303, Telephone:

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The FHWA, in partnership with the Florida Department of Transportation will prepare an EIS for a proposal to improve SR XX in \_\_\_\_\_ County, Florida. The proposed improvement would involve the reconstruction of SR XX from Interstate Route XX to SR XX, a distance of X miles. Improvements to the corridor are considered necessary to provide for the existing and projected traffic demand.

Alternatives under consideration include (1) taking no action; (2) widening to a six or eight lane divided roadway; (3) widening to a six lane plus frontage roads on the portion of the project west of SR XX; and (4) alternate corridors.

Letters describing the proposed action and soliciting comments will be sent to appropriate Federal, State, and local agencies, and to private organizations and citizens who have expressed interest in this proposal.

A series of public meetings will be held in \_\_\_\_\_ City, \_\_\_\_\_ County between (month) and (month), (year). In addition a public hearing will be held. Public notice will be given of the time and place of the meetings and hearing. The Draft EIS will be made available for public and agency review and comment. A formal scoping meeting is planned at the project site during the early part of (year). Additional project information can be found at the following web address: \_\_\_\_\_

### FIGURE 8.2 Example Notice of Intent

To ensure that the full range of issues related to the proposed action are addressed and all significant issues identified, comments and suggestions are invited from all interested parties. Comments or questions concerning this proposed action and the EIS should be directed to the FHWA at the address provided above.

(Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance Program Number 20.205, Highway Research, Planning and Construction. The regulations implementing Executive Order 12372 regarding inter-governmental consultation on Federal programs and activities apply to this program.)

Issued On: (Month Date, Year)

---

Transportation Supervisor  
Tallahassee, Florida

**Figure 8.2 Example Notice of Intent (concluded)**

(DATE)

Division Administrator  
Federal Highway Administration  
545 John Knox Road, Suite 200  
Tallahassee, Florida 32303

Dear Mr./Ms.:

Subject: Notice of Intent  
Financial Project Number XXXXX-XXXX  
Federal-Aid Project. No. X-XXX(X)-X  
Any County, Florida

Attached is a Notice of Intent to prepare an Environmental Impact Statement for the subject project. Please publish this notice in the Federal Register as required by 23 CFR 771.

Sincerely,

District Environmental Management Office

Attachment

**FIGURE 8.3 Example Transmittal Letter for Notice of Intent**

(DATE)

Division Administrator  
Federal Highway Administration  
545 John Knox Road, Suite 200  
Tallahassee, Florida 32303

Dear Mr. /Ms.

Subject: Draft Environmental Impact Statement  
Financial Project Number XXXXX-XXXX  
Federal-Aid Project No. X-XXX(X)-X  
Any County, Florida

Enclosed are \_\_\_\_ copies of a Draft Environmental Impact Statement for the subject project as required by the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 and submitted in compliance with 23 CFR Part 771.

In addition, copies of the Preliminary Engineering Report, Contamination Screening Evaluation Report, Conceptual Stage Relocation Plan, and Noise and Air Study Reports (and any other supporting reports) are enclosed as reference material.

Please advise us of your actions so that we may proceed with the project.

Sincerely,

District Environmental Management Office

Enclosures

cc: Manager, Environmental Management Office / with enclosure  
Federal-Aid Programs Coordinator

**FIGURE 8.4 Example Transmittal Letter to FHWA for DEIS and Associated Reports**

(DATE)

District Secretary  
Florida Department of Transportation  
Any City, Florida

Attention : Mr. /Ms.

Subject: Florida - Federal-Aid Project Number X-XXX(X)-X  
Financial Project Number XXXXX-XXXX  
Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS)  
FHWA-FL-EIS-06-01-D  
Any County

In accordance with Mr./Ms. \_\_\_\_\_'s (Date) request, we have reviewed the subject document and are returning one signed copy approved for public availability on this date.

Please furnish us \_\_\_\_\_copies of the document so that we may make distribution to our Regional Office.

Sincerely,

FHWA Division Administrator

Enclosures

**FIGURE 8.5 Example Transmittal Letter of Approval of DEIS from FHWA**

(DATE)

U. S. Environmental Protection Agency  
Office of Federal Activities  
Attn:EIS Filing Section  
Ariel Rios Building (South Oval Lobby)  
Mail Code 2252-A (or Room 7220)  
1200 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW  
Washington, D.C. 20460

Subject: Florida - Draft Environmental Impact Statement  
(PROJECT NAME)  
Financial Project Number XXXXX-XXXX  
Federal Aid Project No.:  
(NAME OF COUNTY), Florida

In accordance with the Council on Environmental Quality's "Regulations for Implementing the Procedural Provisions of the National Environmental Policy Act" (40 CFR Parts 1500-1508), we are transmitting five (5) copies of the Draft Environmental Impact Statement for your use. Please publish a notice of this Draft Environmental Impact Statement in the Federal Register per the provisions of 40 CFR 1506.10.

Sincerely,

District Environmental Management Office

Enclosures  
cc: FHWA/without enclosure

**FIGURE 8.6 Example Transmittal Letter to EPA for Publication of DEIS Notice of Availability**

[ER-FRL-2659-1]

**Availability of Environmental Impact  
Statements Filed August 13, 2005  
Through August 17, 2005**

Responsible Agency: Office of Federal Activities.  
General Information (202) 382-5073 or  
(202) 382-5075

EIS No. 840363. Draft. FS. WY.  
Bighorn National Forest Land and  
Resource Management Plan.  
Bighorn. Johnson. Sheridan and  
Washakie Cos. Due: November 26, 2005.  
Contact Elana Green (702) 447-4710.



**EIS No. 840384. Draft.  
FHWA. FL.FL-44 Upgrading.  
CR 581 to Eastern Intersection of  
FL 44/45 (US-41). Citrus County.  
Due: October 9, 2009.  
Contact: David Gibbs  
(904) 681-7223**

EIS No. 840385. Dsuppl. COE.  
NC. Manteo (Shallowbag) Bay  
Project. Navigation Improvement  
Dare County. Due: October 9, 2005.  
Contact Richard Jackson (919) 343-4745.

**FIGURE 8.7 Example Notice of Availability Published by EPA in the Federal Register**

CONTENT ITEMS IN DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENTS

TOPIC	STANDARD	OPTIONAL	CHAPTER (Part 2 of PD&E Manual)
COVER PAGE .....	X		2
TABLE OF CONTENTS .....	X		1
SUMMARY .....	X		3
PURPOSE AND NEED FOR ACTION.....	X		5
ALTERNATIVES INCLUDING PROPOSED ACTION .....	X		6
AFFECTED ENVIRONMENT.....	X		7
ENVIRONMENTAL CONSEQUENCES .....	X		8
Social and Economic Impacts.....	X		9
Sociocultural Effects Evaluation .....	X		9
(including social, economic, land use, aesthetics, relocation, and mobility)			
Utilities and Railroads .....		X	10
Cultural and Historical Resources			
Archaeological and Historical .....	X		12
Recreational / Parkland .....	X		13
Natural and Physical Impacts			
Pedestrian / Bicycle Facilities .....	X		14
Visual / Aesthetic .....	X		15
Air .....	X		16
Noise.....	X		17
Wetlands.....	X		18
Aquatic Preserves.....		X	19
Water Quality.....	X		20
Outstanding Florida Waters.....		X	21
Contamination.....	X		22
Wild and Scenic Rivers.....	X		23
Floodplains .....	X		24
Coastal Zone Consistency.....	X		25
Coastal Barrier Island Resources.....		X	26
Wildlife and Habitat.....	X		27
Essential Fish Habitat .....	X		11
Farmlands.....	X		28
Scenic Highways .....		X	29
Construction.....	X		30
Cumulative Impacts			

**TABLE 8.1 Content Items in Draft Environmental Impact Statements (continued)**

CONTENT ITEMS IN DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENTS

COMMENTS AND COORDINATION .....	X .....	31
COMMITMENTS AND RECOMENDATIONS .....	X .....	32
LIST OF PREPARERS .....	X .....	33
LIST OF AGENCIES, ORGANIZATIONS AND PERSONS.....	X .....	34
TO WHOM COPIES OF THE STATEMENT ARE SENT		
INDEX .....	X .....	35
APPENDICES .....	X .....	36

**TABLE 8.1 Content Items in Draft Environmental Impact Statements (concluded)**