



U.S. Department  
Of Transportation  
**Federal Transit  
Administration**

Region X  
Alaska, Idaho, Oregon,  
Washington

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## DOCUMENTED CATEGORICAL EXCLUSION WORKSHEET

**Note: The purpose of this worksheet is to assist sponsoring agencies in gathering and organizing materials for environmental analysis required under the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), particularly for projects that may qualify as a documented Categorical Exclusion. Submission of the worksheet by itself does not meet NEPA requirements. FTA must concur in writing in the sponsoring agency's NEPA recommendation. Contact the FTA Region 10 office at (206) 220-7954 if you have any questions regarding this worksheet.**

### I. PROJECT DESCRIPTION

Sponsoring Agency	Date Submitted	FTA Project Number (if known)
Project Title		
Project Location (Include City and Street Address)		
Project Contact : Name	Phone	E-mail Address (if available)

### II. NEPA CLASS OF ACTION

Answer the following questions to determine the project's potential class of action.

**A. Will the project significantly impact the natural, social and / or economic environment?**

YES (Contact Regional FTA Office)                       NO (Continue)

Actions that will significantly impact the environment require preparation of an Environmental Impact Statement. These projects typically include construction or extension of fixed transit facilities (e.g., light rail, commuter rail, ferries, exclusive busways or HOV facilities).

**B. Is the significance of the project's social, economic or environmental impacts unknown?**

YES (Contact Regional FTA Office)                       NO (Continue)

**Do other Federal regulations, such as Section 4(f) (parklands, refuges, historic properties), require consideration of alternatives?**

YES (Contact Regional FTA Office)                       NO (Continue)

**Is the project likely to require detailed evaluation of more than a few potential impacts?**

YES (Contact Regional FTA Office)                       NO (Continue)

**Is the project likely to generate intense public discussion or concern, even though it may be limited to a relatively small subset of the community?**

YES (Contact Regional FTA Office)                       NO (Continue)

If the answer to any of these questions is "YES", contact the regional FTA office to determine whether the project requires preparation of an Environmental Assessment.

**C. Does the project appear on the following list of potential Categorical Exclusions?**

YES (Mark and Submit to Regional FTA Office)       NO (Continue)

- Activities not involving or directly leading to construction (e.g., technical studies, planning, preliminary engineering)
- Utility installations along or across a transit facility
- Construction of bicycle and pedestrian facilities excluding those requiring land acquisition and construction (such as new right-of-way)
- Resurfacing and Restriping
- Installation of noise barriers
- Landscaping
- Installation of fencing, signs, pavement markings, toll facilities, control centers, vehicle test centers, small passenger shelters, traffic signals, railroad warning devices, and signal controls with no substantial land acquisition or traffic disruption
- Emergency repairs under 23 USC 125
- Acquisition of scenic easements
- Ridesharing activities
- Bus, ferry, and rail car rehabilitation (including conversions to alternative fuels)
- Alterations to facilities or vehicles to make them accessible to elderly or handicapped persons
- Program administration (including safety programs), technical assistance, and operating assistance to continue existing service or increase service to meet routine changes in demand
- Routine maintenance
- Purchase and lease of vehicles and equipment for use on existing facilities or new facilities that are also a Categorical Exclusion (including the capital cost of contracts for transit services)
- Track, railbed, and wayside system maintenance and improvements when carried out in existing right-of-way
- Installation of ITS equipment to be located solely within the transit facility and with no significant off-site impacts
- Mitigation banking

These transit projects are generally categorical exclusions under 49 CFR § 771.177 (c) and do not require further documentation unless certain circumstances exist, such as the presence of wetlands, historic buildings and structures, parklands, or floodplains in the project area. If land is to be altered and/or such circumstances exist or may exist, contact the Regional FTA office.

**D. Does the project appear on following list of potential documented Categorical Exclusions?**

YES (Mark and Continue to Part III)       NO (Contact FTA Regional Office)

- Grade separations requiring land acquisition to replace existing at-grade railroad crossings and bridge rehabilitation (including approaches to bridges and excluding historic bridges or bridges providing access to ecologically sensitive areas)
- Corridor Fringe Parking facilities (generally located adjacent to an Interstate highway system)

- Carpool programs and activities requiring land acquisition and construction
- Safety improvements including seismic retrofit and mitigation of wildlife hazards
- Construction of new bus storage and maintenance facilities and of new ITS control centers in areas used predominantly for industrial or transportation purposes where such construction is consistent with existing zoning and located on a street with adequate capacity to handle anticipated traffic
- Rehabilitation or reconstruction of existing rail and bus buildings and ancillary facilities where only minor amounts of additional land are required and there is not a substantial increase in the number of users
- Construction of bus transfer facilities (an open area consisting of passenger shelters, boarding areas, kiosks, and related street improvements) when located in a commercial area or other high activity center in which there is adequate street capacity for projected bus traffic
- Construction of rail storage and maintenance facilities (or other similarly sized support facilities) in areas used predominantly for industrial or transportation purposes where such construction is consistent with existing zoning and where there is no significant noise impact on the surrounding community
- Area-wide coordination of multiple ITS elements
- Advance land acquisition including:
  - ?? Acquisition of underutilized private railroad rights-of-way (ROW) to ensure that adjacent land uses remain generally compatible with the continued transportation use of the ROW
  - ?? Provisions under 49 CFR Section 771.117 (D)(12)
  - ?? Acquisition of land for hardship or protective purposes

*(Note: the eligibility of hardship and protective buys is very limited and must be approved, in writing, by the Regional FTA office before proceeding with any acquisition activities. Failure to do so will render the project ineligible for Federal participation.)*

These projects may be categorical exclusions under 49 CFR § 771.177 (d), but require additional documentation in order for such a determination to be made.

### III. INFORMATION REQUIRED FOR DOCUMENTED CATEGORICAL EXCLUSIONS

Provide the following information if, based on the answers in Part II, the proposed project appears to be eligible as a documented Categorical Exclusion.

Maps displaying the following, as applicable, are required to assist in the review:

- ?? Project vicinity
- ?? Zoning
- ?? Project Site Plan
- ?? Floodplains

#### A. Detailed Project Description

#### B. Location

Attach a map or diagram, to scale, identifying the location of the project site and surrounding land uses. Note any critical resource areas, potential historic sites, or sensitive noise receptors such as schools, hospitals, and residences.

- C. Zoning** Briefly describe the existing zoning of the project area.
- D. Traffic** Describe potential traffic and parking impacts, including whether the existing roadways have adequate capacity to handle increased bus or other vehicular traffic. Include a map or diagram if the project will modify existing roadway configurations.
- E. RESOURCES** Describe any natural, cultural, recreational, historic or other resources that might be located in the vicinity of the proposed project. Indicate whether the project will have a significant impact on the following resources:
- Natural (include ESA or MSA species list(s), if applicable).
- Cultural    Recreational    Historical    Other
- F. Noise / Water / Air Quality** Describe whether the project will involve significant noise, water or air quality impacts. Note if the project is located in a nonattainment area.
- Significant Impact (Describe):  Air Quality    Noise (provide map identifying sensitive receptors)  
 Vibration    Water
- Nonattainment Area:  Carbon Monoxide (CO)    Ozone (O<sub>3</sub>)    Particulate Matter (PM<sub>10</sub>)
- Hot Spot Analysis:  Carbon Monoxide (CO)    Ozone (O<sub>3</sub>)    Particulate Matter (PM<sub>10</sub>)
- G. Public Notification** Briefly describe any public outreach efforts undertaken on behalf of the project. Indicate opportunities for public hearings (e.g., Board meetings, open houses, special hearings). Indicate any significant concerns expressed by agencies or the public regarding the project.
- H. Hazardous Materials** Prior to acquiring land or a facility, a hazardous materials survey must be conducted (Phase I). Describe the steps taken to determine whether hazardous materials are present on the project site. Also note the mitigation and clean-up measures that will be taken to remove any hazardous materials from the project site.
- I. Property Acquisition** If property is to be acquired for the project, indicate whether the acquisition will result in relocation of businesses or individuals). **Note: to ensure eligibility for Federal participation, grantees may not acquire property with either local or Federal funds prior to completing the NEPA process and receiving written FTA concurrence in both the NEPA recommendation and property appraisals.**

**J. Environmental Justice** Indicate whether the project will have a disproportionately high and adverse effect on minority or low-income populations. Describe any potential adverse effects. Describe outreach efforts targeted specifically at minority or low-income populations.

**K. Related Federal and State/Local Actions** Indicate whether the proposed project is likely to require actions by other Agencies (e.g., permits) and attach materials submitted to them.

- Section 4(f)** *Parklands, Recreation Areas, Refuges, Historic Properties*
- Section 106** *Historic and Culturally Significant Properties*
- Section 404** *Wetlands and Water*
- Executive Orders** *Wetlands, Floodplains, Environmental Justice*
- Clean Air Act** *Air Quality*
- Endangered Species Act** *Threatened and Endangered Biological Resources*
- Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act** *Essential Fish Habitat*
- State and Local Requirements** (Describe)

**L. Mitigation Measures** Describe all measures to be taken to mitigate project impacts.

*Submit this form, attachments, and a transmittal letter recommending a NEPA finding to:*

*Federal Transit Administration, Region 10  
915 2nd Avenue, Suite 3142  
Seattle, WA 98174-1002*

*phone: (206) 220-7954*

*fax: (206) 220-7959*