**FAST-41 Coordinated Project Plan (CPP) Frequently Asked Questions**

## **What is a CPP?**

Established pursuant to Title 41 of the Fixing America’s Surface Transportation Act (FAST-41), the CPP is a concise plan for coordinating public and agency participation in, and completion of, any required Federal environmental reviews and authorizations for the project.

## **What is the purpose of the CPP?**

To concisely document project-specific plans for coordinating public and agency participation in, and completion of, any required Federal environmental reviews and authorizations for the project pursuant to 42 United States Code (U.S.C.) § 4370m-2(c).

## **Who develops the CPP?**

The CPP is developed by the lead/facilitating agency, in consultation with each coordinating and participating agency. FAST-41 encourages lead/facilitating agencies to have preliminary engagement with project sponsors when developing CPPs.

## **When is the CPP developed?**

The CPP must be established no later than 60 days after the date a project is added to the Permitting Dashboard. Also, the CPP must be updated at least quarterly.

## **What does the CPP contain?**

* A list of, and roles and responsibilities for, all entities with environmental review or authorization responsibilities for the project.
* A permitting timetable that includes intermediate and final completion dates for action by each agency on any Federal environmental review or authorization required for the project, and to the maximum extent practicable, the dates by which State permits, reviews and approvals must be made. (NOTE: The timetable does not necessarily end with a NEPA Record of Decision, but should include ALL reviews, permits, and authorizations to allow the project to begin construction.)
* A discussion of potential avoidance, minimization, and mitigation strategies, if required by applicable law and known.
* Plans and a schedule for public and tribal outreach and coordination, to the extent required by applicable law.

## **How does the Office of the Executive Director (OED) assess agency implementation of CPP requirements?**

As part of quarterly agency performance reporting (42 U.S.C. § 4370m-7(a)(2)), OED assesses CPP timeliness and completeness. Specifically, OED assesses:

* Whether the facilitating/lead agency establishes the initial CPP “not later than 60 days after the date on which the Executive Director must make a specific entry for the project on the Dashboard” (42 U.S.C. § 4370m-2(c)(1)(A))
* Whether the facilitating/lead agency reviews (and updates, if necessary) the CPP at least once per quarter (42 U.S.C. § 4370m-2(c)(1)(B))
* Whether the CPP contains required information (42 U.S.C. § 4370m-2(c)(1)(B))

## **What other FAST-41 requirements are tracked through the CPP?**

The CPP is also used to track the following other FAST-41 requirements:

* Within 21 days after the Executive Director makes a project entry on the Dashboard, the facilitating or lead agency must invite agencies and governmental entities likely to have responsibilities with respect to the proposed project to become a participating or cooperating agency for purposes of FAST-41 (42 U.S.C. § 4370m-2(a)(2)(A))
* In establishing the permitting timetable, the facilitating or lead agency shall follow the established recommended performance schedules, but may vary the timetable based on relevant factors (42 U.S.C. § 4370m-2(c)(2)(B))

## **What are facilitating, lead, cooperating, and participating agencies?**

* The “Facilitating Agency” for the FAST-41 process is the agency that receives the initial notification from the project sponsor.
* The “Lead Agency” for the FAST-41 process is the agency with principal responsibility for an environmental review of a covered project under NEPA and 40 C.F.R. parts 1500-1508 (or successor regulations).
* Any agency designated as a “Cooperating Agency” for the NEPA process is also a “Cooperating Agency” for the FAST-41 process.
* A “Participating Agency” for the FAST-41 process means an agency that the Lead/Facilitating Agency invites to participate because it likely has financing, environment review, authorization, or other responsibilities with respect to a FAST-41 covered project, unless that agency informs the Lead/Facilitating Agency that it (i) has no jurisdiction or authority with respect to the proposed project; or (ii) does not intend to exercise authority related to, or submit comments on, the proposed project.