# PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT STAGES OVER A PROJECT'S LIFETIME

Meaningful public engagement is critical when it comes to completing a transportation project. Without public support, a project is likely to stall or fail when it finally makes it to the implementation stage. Public engagement is required for use of federal funds and each Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) follows procedures per their Public Involvement Policy.



# **Long-Range Planning**

A project begins its life in a long-range plan, such as the Metropolitan Transportation Plan (or MTP). This plan takes several years to update and several engagement stages occur here.

# **Short-Range Program**

A project is added to the short-range program once funding becomes available. This occurs mainly through competitive means (where projects are scored), and requires additional engagement.

# **Planning Studies and Design**

Studies can occur at any time, either through the MPO's annual work program or locally. A study helps determine project needs and a design implements these needs. Both require engagement.

### **Project Completion**

Projects sometimes experience setbacks, such as an issue with funding. When a change occurs, the project goes through additional engagement so that the public knows what happened.

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