

# 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 is updated every 4-5 years, takes several years to update, and community engagement occurs throughout the development of the plan.

01



## Short-Range Program

A project is added to the short-range program once funding becomes available. This occurs mainly through competitive means in which projects may be scored using publicly-reviewed scoring rubrics. The public is engaged on amendments to the program.

02



## Planning Studies and Design

Studies can occur at any time, and may be funded through the MPO's annual work program (budget) or locally. A study helps determine project needs and a design implements those needs into a concept. Engagement occurs for elements such as budget approvals and study feedback.

03



## Project Completion

Projects sometimes experience setbacks, such as an issue with funding availability. When a change occurs, the project goes through additional engagement so that the public understands what happened and what impacts there might be.

04

