Communication, Coordination, and Public Engagement

The FDOT PM and Consultant PM both have a responsibility to communicate and coordinate with federal, state, and local agencies, other offices within the FDOT, and the public throughout the PD&E Study. Coordination efforts benefit the project's progress in the PD&E Phase and subsequent phases.

Resource and regulatory agency coordination is initiated during the Efficient Transportation Decision Making ***(ETDM) process*** as Environmental Technical Advisory Team (ETAT) members representing various government agencies review and comment on projects during the Planning and Programming Screens. The FDOT PM must continue to coordinate with these agencies, as appropriate, during PD&E.

Public involvement is required in all phases of a transportation project. During PD&E public involvement provides opportunity for input from interested and affected members of the public, local governments, regulatory, and resources agencies, is required by both federal and state laws, as well as FDOT procedure (See ***Public Involvement Opportunities, Topic No. 000-525-050***). See Part 1 Chapter 11 of the ***PD&E Manual*** and the ***Public Involvement Handbook*** for guidance on developing and implementing effective public involvement for transportation projects.

Project Commitments

An FDOT commitment is an obligation to provide a feature, or perform an action, related to a project. Commitments established as a result of the PD&E Study must be documented in the Environmental Document and tracked through ***Procedure No. 650-000-003, FDOT Commitment Tracking***. The PD&E PM must make sure all PD&E documented commitments are recorded on the ***Project Commitment Record (PCR), Form No. 700-011-35*** and transmitted to the Design PM when PD&E is completed. Commitments are also tracked in (Project Suite Enterprise Edition) PSEE.

Re-evaluation

A re-evaluation is performed to determine if the approved Environmental Document remains valid and to document all changes to concept plans prior to advancing a project to its next major phase, primarily right of way acquisition and construction advertisement. The PM in phases subsequent to PD&E should be aware that major changes to the project scope can impact production schedules as this change may require environmental analysis as part of the re-evaluation process.