

201 Community Engagement Plans

A comprehensive plan is crucial to the success of any community engagement effort regardless of the project or phase. Guidelines and requirements for the development of a community engagement plan varies by project phase. In the Project Development and Environment (PD&E) phase, a Public Involvement Plan (PIP) is required in accordance with Part 1, Chapter 11 of the PD&E manual. In the design and construction phases, a Community Awareness Plan (CAP) is developed in accordance with Chapter 104 of the FDOT Design Manual (FDM). There are no specific requirements in the Planning phase; however, a Communication Plan can be developed. Additional information related to the types of plans is provided below.

Communication Plan

A Communication Plan may be developed to provide the public engagement strategy during the Planning phase (work prior to the PD&E phase). This plan outlines the methods and timelines for engaging with the public, local agencies, and stakeholders. A PIP outline (found in Part 1, Chapter 11 of the PD&E Manual) may be used to develop a Communications Plan outline, but specific needs should be determined in coordination with the project team and the District.

Public Involvement Plan (PIP)

A PIP is required for PD&E projects. The plan is prepared at the beginning of the PD&E phase before the kick-off of any public engagement. The PIP defines affected communities and potential stakeholders, as well as details of the outreach methods and required notification time frames to involve

and gain their input. It may include any other public involvement strategies used to support a NEPA decision for an FDOT Federal Project.

Any changes to the approach outlined in the PIP, along with the reasoning behind those changes, should be documented within the public involvement summary for the project (for PD&E, this will be in the Summary of Public Involvement, or SPI). The requirements and specific details can be found in the PD&E Manual, Part 1, Chapter 11. The PD&E Manual is accessible on the [FDOT website](#).



Community Awareness Plans (CAP)

The CAP is developed for the design and construction phases of a project and identifies and documents appropriate outreach activities based on the type of project and potential community concerns.

Specific details and requirements for CAPs can be found in [Chapter 104 of FDOT Design Manual \(FDM\)](#). The information provided in FDM 104 includes a suggested CAP outline and a list of typical public involvement activities based on the project type. The community engagement team should also be aware of any District-specific CAP requirements.