PUBLIC INFORMATION MEETING

Byhalia Road Categorical Exclusion

From Holmes Road to State Route 385 (Bill Morris Parkway) Shelby County, Tennessee; PIN 108916.00

May 5, 2009

5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. Collierville Town Hall, Tennessee

Project Contacts:

Frank McPhail, Project Manager Engineering, Town of Collierville 500 Poplar View Parkway Collierville, TN 38017 (901) 457-2340 fmcphail@ci.collierville.tn.us Patrick Neal, Project Manager Pickering Firm, Inc. 6775 Lenox Center Court, Suite 300 Memphis, TN 38115 (901) 726-0810 pneal@pickeringinc.com

Joe Matlock, Transportation Planner Environmental Division – Region IV Tennessee Department of Transportation Suite 700, James K. Polk Building 505 Deaderick Street, Nashville, TN 37243 (615) 741-5365 joe.matlock@state.tn.us



MEETING AGENDA

BYHALIA ROAD IMPROVEMENT PROJECT FROM HOLMES ROAD TO STATE ROUTE 385 (BILL MORRIS PARKWAY) CATEGORICAL EXCLUSION

PUBLIC INFORMATIONAL MEETING

at

Town Hall Collierville, TN 38017

May 5, 2009, 5:00 – 7:00 p.m.

I. Gathering / Review of Meeting Handout 4:30 – 5:00 p.m. (Please take a seat upon arrival.)

II. Formal Welcome / Introductions Matt Thomson, Town Engineer Town of Collierville, Engineering 5:00 p.m.

III. Local Public Officials / Guest Speaker Comments Stan Joyner, Town Mayor 5:05 p.m.

 IV. Presentation: Purpose of Meeting / Project History / Discussion of the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) Process and Categorical Exclusion Patrick Neal, Project Manager, Pickering Firm, Inc. Joe Matlock, Transportation Planner, Region IV, TDOT Environmental Division 5:15 p.m.

V. Question and Answer Session 5:30 p.m.

VI. Opportunity to Review Project Displays / Discuss Issues and Ideas with Town of Collierville Representatives / Fill Out Comment Forms / Provide Comments to Court Reporter 5:45 – 7:00 p.m.

> VII. Adjourn 7:00 p.m.

WELCOME!

Thank you for attending the Public Information Meeting for the proposed Byhalia Road from Holmes Road to SR 385 (Bill Morris Parkway) Categorical Exclusion. Please take this opportunity to read the information provided and become better acquainted with the proposed improvements.

The purpose of tonight's meeting is to provide you with a project update and to gather information from you about the project, especially in relation to the purpose and need and potential alternatives for the project. Town of Collierville representatives (who are wearing name tags) are available to answer questions throughout the meeting. Please take the time to discuss the project with them.

A court reporter is available for those persons who desire to make a verbal statement about the project and want that statement included in the official transcript of this meeting. If you wish to make a statement, please see the representative at the court reporter's table.

Included with this package is a questionnaire for you to complete. Please take a moment and fill it out so that we know why you think the project is needed. Completed questionnaires may be deposited in the box by the door. If you do not wish to make a statement at this time, you may submit written comments to:

Project Comments: Byhalia Road CE Division of Engineering Department of Development Town of Collierville 500 Poplar View Parkway Collierville, TN 38017

Written comments must be postmarked by May 26, 2009.

Thank you for attending and participating in this meeting. Your comments are important. The purpose and need statement and identification of alternatives for the project are critical elements of the project development process, and we need your input.

WHY ARE WE HERE TONIGHT?

A Categorical Exclusion (CE) is being prepared for the Byhalia Road project from Holmes Road to SR 385 (Bill Morris Parkway) in Shelby County, Tennessee in accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA). One of the first steps in the process is gathering public input in relation to the purpose and need and potential alternatives for the project. This is a requirement of the Safe, Accountable, Flexible, Efficient, Transportation Equity Act: A Legacy for Users (SAFETEA-LU)

The purpose and need for a project can include, but are not limited to, transportation demand, safety, economic development, transportation plan consistency, modal interrelationships, system linkage, and the condition of existing facility.

Town of Collierville representatives are here tonight to listen to what you have to say about the purpose and need and proposed alternatives for the project. The information that you provide will be used to develop the purpose and need statement for the project and to help identify alternatives to be studied in the CE.

PROJECT BACKGROUND/HISTORY

The Town of Collierville in coordination with the Tennessee Department of Transportation in accordance with the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), proposes to improve an approximately 1.75 mile section of Byhalia Road from Holmes Road to SR 385 (Bill Morris Parkway) in Shelby County, Tennessee. The studies for this section of Byhalia Road were initiated by a request from local officials.

The Town of Collierville, Memphis/Shelby County Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO), and the Tennessee Department of Transportation (TDOT) have collaborated throughout the development process to ensure that the transportation needs envisioned by the local community are coordinated. This project is on the Memphis Urban Area 2030 Long Range Transportation Plan as an existing congested corridor and the Town of Collierville's Major Road Plan.

Byhalia Road is functionally classified as a Minor Arterial on the state highway system and in the MPO's Long Range Transportation Plan providing a needed north-south link to the southeast part of Shelby County. The existing route consists of two 12-foot lanes with varying shoulder widths. The proposed Byhalia Road improvements would meet current arterial design standards and increase the number of travel lanes from two to four/five (two in each direction). The southern half of the project would consist of a five-lane section (two in each direction) with a continuous two-way left turn lane in the middle. The northern half of the project will consist of a four-lane divided section (two in each direction) with a raised median in the middle. The northern section could be widened in the future to allow an additional lane in each direction by widening to the inside and reducing the size of the raised median.

PROJECT GOALS

Several specific goals of this project include:

- Provide an improved north/south route to serve demand for regional accessibility to the national highway system (US 78);
- Increase the capacity/Level of Service (LOS) on existing Byhalia Road in order to improve safety and mobility;
- Widening needed to handle increased traffic demand spurred by commercial and residential development;
- Promote the potential for economic growth in the Town of Collierville and Shelby County, Tennessee by providing improvement to the regional transportation system.

WHY DOES THE PROJECT HAVE TO GO THROUGH THE ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW PROCESS?

NEPA requires that projects receiving federal funding or requiring federal actions (e.g. permits) undergo an environmental review process. The project cannot proceed until this requirement has been successfully completed.

WHAT IS THE PURPOSE OF THE CATEGORICAL EXCLUSION (CE)?

The purpose of the Categorical Exclusion is to:

- Fulfill NEPA requirements; and
- Disclose effects of the project at a stage in the development process where decisionmaking can still be shaped by the environmental analysis and by the comments of agency and public reviewers.

The CE will evaluate the proposed Byhalia Road improvements. The CE will also include:

- Further definition of the project purpose and need
- Identification and evaluation of the reasonableness of a full range of alternatives
- Analysis and full disclosure of the environmental impacts or effects that may be associated with each alternative carried forward for detailed analysis in the CE
- A summary of public involvement and agency coordination efforts implemented for the CE

The findings/determinations presented in the CE will help determine the future direction of this project.

WHAT ISSUES WILL BE ADDRESSED IN THE CATEGORICAL EXCLUSION?

Issues that will be addressed in the CE include:

- Noise
- Air Quality
- Historic and Archaeological Resources
- Traffic and Safety
- Ecology/Natural Resources
- Floodplains
- Hazardous Materials Sites
- Soils and Geology
- Land Use
- Social and Community Impacts
- Environmental Justice
- Farmland
- Visual Impacts
- Parks and Recreational Resources
- Section 4(f) and section 6(f) Resources
- Pedestrian and Bicycle Considerations

- Indirect and Cumulative Impacts
- Construction Impacts

WHAT ALTERNATIVES MUST BE STUDIED IN A CE?

Once the purpose and need for the project has been fully defined, planners and engineers will identify and evaluate alternative ways in which the transportation problem(s) can be resolved. Under the CEQ regulations 40 CFR 1500.2, federal agencies are directed to:

Use the NEPA process to identify and assess the reasonable alternatives to proposed actions that would avoid or minimize adverse effects of these actions upon the quality of the human environment.

Based on FHWA guidance, the development of a range of alternatives will be a collaborative process in which the lead agencies provide opportunities for the involvement of the public and participating agencies and consider the input provided by these groups. After considering the input, the Town of Collierville in coordination with TDOT, in consultation with FHWA, is ultimately responsible for deciding the range of alternatives to be considered in the NEPA document.

The identification, consideration, and analysis of all reasonable alternatives, or the reasonable range of alternatives, is essential to the NEPA process and the goal of objective decision making. A "reasonable" alternative meets the defined purpose and need of the project or does not have unacceptable consequences. Other criteria for defining reasonableness may apply to individual projects.

For the Byhalia Road CE, it is anticipated that the alternatives will include a No-build Alternative and a Build Alternative. Other alternatives, such as Transportation System Management (TSM), mass transit, and various roadway design options will also be considered during the alternatives development process.

No-Build Alternative

A No-build Alternative will be analyzed in the CE and will serve as the baseline conditions that other alternatives can be compared to. The No-build Alternative, as the name implies, denotes that only minor improvements (such as safety improvements and normal maintenance) would be made to the existing road.

Build Alternative

The Build Alternative would involve:

- Segment 1 Resurfacing an existing 2-lane open shoulder section of Byhalia Road just north of Holmes Road. This segment is contained within existing right-of-way, is approximately 0.30 miles in length and acts as a transition into segment 2.
- Segment 2 Resurfacing an existing 5-lane curb and gutter section of Byhalia Road bordered by the Southridge subdivision on the west and Estanaula Trails subdivision on the east. The typical section for this segment will include two 11'-0" wide (minimum) lanes in each direction with the outside lane in each direction being 13'-0" wide to allow for a bicycle lane. It will also include a 12'-0" wide continuous two-way left turn lane (CTWLTL) in the middle. This segment is contained within existing rightof-way, is approximately 0.45 miles in length, has existing 5'-0" wide sidewalks on each side, and 40' wide landscape easements on each side.
- Segment 3 Widening an existing 2-lane open shoulder section of Byhalia Road south of E. Shelby Drive to a 5-lane curb and gutter section with 5'-0" wide sidewalks on each side. The typical section would be the same as Segment 2 with a proposed right-of-way width of 84'-0". The amount of proposed right-of-way required for this segment is 1 acre (65% is to be dedicated). The segment is approximately 0.24 miles in length and contains a section along the west side bordering the Southridge subdivision that has already been widened. It also includes a proposed 40' wide landscape easement on both sides.
- Segment 4 Widening an existing 2-lane open shoulder section of Byhalia Road (SR-175) north of E. Shelby Drive to a 6-lane curb and gutter section with a 28'-0" wide raised median and a proposed right-of-way width of 115'-0". The amount of proposed

right-of-way required for this segment is 5.3 acres (84% is to be dedicated). The typical section for this segment will include three 12'-0" wide lanes in each direction with the outside lane being 16'-0" wide to allow for a bicycle lane. Median openings and a 12'-0" wide left turn lane will be provided at each side road. This segment is approximately 0.85 miles in length and contains a section along the east side bordering the Preserve at Oak Grove subdivision (Oak Grove PD Phase 1) that has already been widened. It also includes a proposed 40' wide landscape easement on both sides.

- Segment 5 Extension of E. Shelby Drive (proposed SR-175) from Woodgrove subdivision (Oak Grove PD Phase 4) on the west side of Byhalia Road to connect with the intersection of Byhalia Road and E. Shelby Drive on the east side of Byhalia Road. The typical section for this segment will include three 12'-0" wide lanes in each direction, an 18'-0" wide raised median, 5'-0" wide sidewalks on each side and a proposed right-of-way width of 114'-0". The amount of proposed right-of-way required for this segment is 2.6 acres (51% is to be dedicated). This segment is approximately 1,000' in length and will remove the existing 300' offset between the two intersections of Shelby Post Rd. (SR-175)/E. Shelby Drive and Byhalia Road making it a much safer single intersection.
- Segment 6 Widening E. Shelby Drive from Byhalia Road (SR-175) to Deep Woods Road which has been widened on the north side already. The typical section for this segment will include three 12'-0" wide lanes in each direction, an 18'-0" wide raised median, 5'-0" wide sidewalks on each side and a proposed right-of-way width of 114'-0". The amount of proposed right-of-way required for this segment is 0.6 acres (100% is to be dedicated). This segment is approximately 700' in length and will include 40' wide landscape easements on each side.

Other potential build Alternatives will be identified and defined during the alternatives development process. All ideas/suggestions provided by the public and participating agencies will be considered throughout the process.

WHAT ARE THE NEXT STEPS?

- Analyze public comments on purpose and need.
- Develop the purpose and need statement for the project.
- ✓ Identify alternatives to be studied in the CE.
- Coordinate with resource agencies and stakeholders at each primary step in the process.
- ✓ Complete the Technical Studies.
- ✓ Prepare the CE.
- Provide the public and agencies an opportunity to review the CE.
- ✓ Conduct a Public Hearing.
- ✓ Selection of a Preferred Alternative.
- ✓ Complete the Final Environmental Document.

YOUR COMMENTS ARE IMPORTANT TO THE TOWN OF COLLIERVILLE

Representatives of the Town of Collierville are available to answer questions you may have regarding this project. You are encouraged to make a formal comment that will be incorporated in the official project summary. This can be done in one of three ways:

- 1) Make an oral statement to the court reporter.
- submit your written comments to the Town of Collierville (postmarked by May 26, 2009) to:

Project Comments, Byhalia Road CE Division of Engineering Department of Development Town of Collierville 500 Poplar View Parkway Collierville, TN 38017

FOR MORE INFORMATION

Visit the Byhalia Road Improvements Website at:

http://www.tdot.state.tn.us/SR175/

Call or email the following Project Contacts:

Frank McPhail, Project Manager Town of Collierville (901) 457-2340 fmcphail@ci.collierville.tn.us

Patrick Neal, Project Manager Pickering Firm, Inc. (901) 726-0810 pneal@pickeringinc.com

Joe Matlock, Transportation Planner Tennessee Department of Transportation (615) 741-5365 joe.matlock@state.tn.us SR 385 END PROJECT

> SHELBY POST RD. (SR 175)

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COLLIERVILLE

WESTERN PROJECT LIMIT

E. SHELBY DR. (SR 175)

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HOLMES ROAD

BEGIN PROJECT

E. SHELBY DRIVE

EASTERN PROJECT LIMIT

> SYCAMORE ELEM. SCHOOL

BYHALIA ROAD FROM HOLMES ROAD TO STATE ROUTE 385 (BILL MORRIS PARKWAY) CATEGORICAL EXCLUSION

Byhalia Road Categorical Exclusion From Holmes Road to State Route 385 (Bill Morris Parkway) Public Comment Form

The Town of Collierville in coordination with the Tennessee Department of Transportation (TDOT) has begun work on a Categorical Exclusion (CE) for improvements to Byhalia Road from Holmes Road to State Route 385 (Bill Morris Parkway) in Shelby County, Tennessee. Public comment is being solicited to identify transportation needs and areas of concern regarding this project. The town of Collierville needs your assistance and input about the project. Please take a moment to answer the following questions. Please return this comment form postmarked no later than **May 26, 2009**.

What do you see as the need for Byhalia Road improvements? (check all that apply)

 _ More direct routes to destinations (work, school, shopping, recreation)
_ Improved traffic circulation and safety
 _ Economic development
 _ Improved access to US 78 and north/south traffic movement
 Other(s) – please describe below

What issues and concerns do you have about the project? (check all that apply)

- _____ Impacts to the environment (streams, wetlands, soils, sensitive species, recreation)
- Impacts to existing development (homes, businesses)
- _____ Air and Noise impacts
- Impacts to historic and/or archaeological resources
 - _____ Other(s) please describe below

What is your preference for potential alternatives for this project? (check all that apply)

- ____ No build (do not improve Byhalia Road)
- ____ Build (widen Byhalia Road and extend New E. Shelby Drive)
- _____ Other(s) please describe below

Your Name:	Date:
Mailing Address:	
County of Residence:	
Phone Number (optional):	
E-mail Address (optional):	(Check here if you would like to receive e-mail notices)
Would you like to receive future mailings	about Byhalia Road Improvements project? YES NO

	Fold at this line second.		—
Project Comments Byhalia Road CE Engineering Division – Department of Development Town of Collierville 500 Poplar View Parkway Collierville, TN 38017		PLACE STAMP HERE	

Return Comments Postmarked by May 26, 2009 to: Public Information Meeting Comments Engineering Division – Department of Development Town of Collierville 500 Poplar View Parkway Collierville, TN 38017

Fold at this line first.

For additional project information:

Visit the TDOT project website at:

http://www.tdot.state.tn.us/SR175/default.htm

or contact:

Frank McPhail, Project Manager, Town of Collierville: (901) 457-2340 fmcphail@ci.collierville.tn.us Patrick Neal, Project Manager, Pickering Firm, Inc.: (901) 726-0810 pneal@pickeringinc.com Joe Matlock, TDOT Environmental Division: (615) 741-5365 joe.matlock@state.tn.us

BYHALIA ROAD PUBLIC INFORMATION MEETING May 5, 2009 5:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m. Collierville Town Hall



Byhalia Road from Holmes Road to State Route 385 (Bill Morris Parkway), Shelby County, Tennessee; Categorical Exclusion

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Byhalia Road Categorical Exclusion (CE)

Shelby County, Tennessee









Project Contacts:



Town of Collierville Project Manager Frank McPhail, Engineering fmcphail@ci.collierville.tn.us 500 Poplar View Parkway, Collierville, TN 38017 Phone: (901) 457-2340 FAX: (901) 457-2354



Pickering Firm, Inc. Project Manager Patrick Neal pneal@pickeringinc.com 6775 Lenox Control@CRIC; Suite91000; Memphis, TN 38115 Phone: (901) 726-0810 FAX: (901) 272-6911 FAX: (901) 272-6911

TDOT Environmental Division



Joe Matlock, Transportation Planner joe.matlock@state.tn.us NEPA Documentation Office Suite 900, James K. Polk Building 505 Deaderick Street, Nashville, TN 37243-0334 Phone: (615) 741-5365 FAX (615) 741-1098

What is the purpose of this meeting?



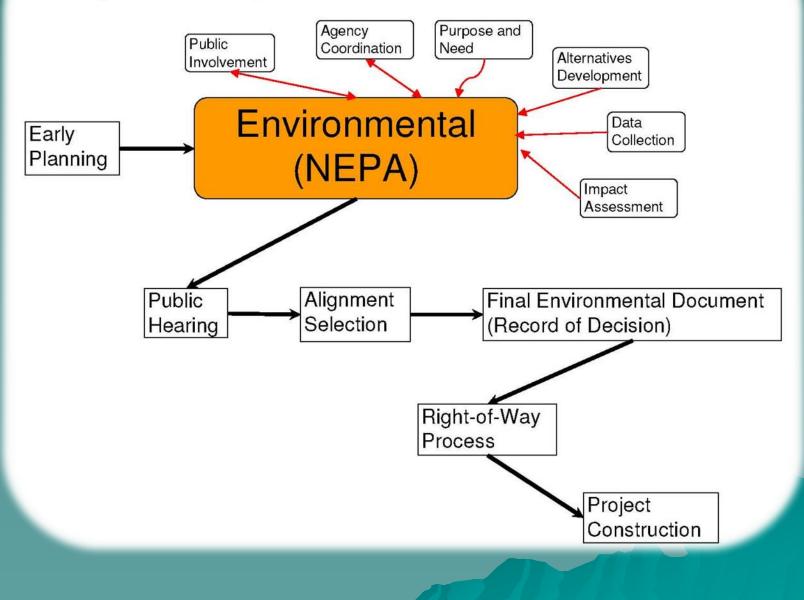
 Provide an update on the status of the project to the public.

Get the public's input for the project.

 Listen to concerns about the purpose and need, and potential alternatives.

 Explain the environmental process as it relates to the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA).

Tennessee Department of Transportation Project Planning Flowchart



Project History

- Town of Collierville requested TDOT's participation in April 2006.
- Design contract awarded in August 2008.
- FHWA approved document determination as a Categorical Exclusion (CE) in January 2009.
- Field survey commenced in March 2009.
- Preliminary Design will begin in June 2009.
- NEPA document will be submitted to FHWA in July 2009.

Project History continued

- FHWA approved CE by August/September 2009.
- Public Hearing / Preliminary Design complete in September/October 2009.
- ROW plans in Spring 2010.
- ROW acquisition through Fall 2010.
- Construction plans in Fall 2010.
- Construction funding FY 2011-2012.

Project Vicinity



Introduction to the

National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA)

NEPA

National Environmental Policy Act

- Procedural not substantive process not decision
- Considerable deference given to the lead agency
- "Hard look" at significant environmental impacts
- Inform decision makers
- Reasoned decision
- Inform and involve the public
- Administrative Record

NEPA "Umbrella"

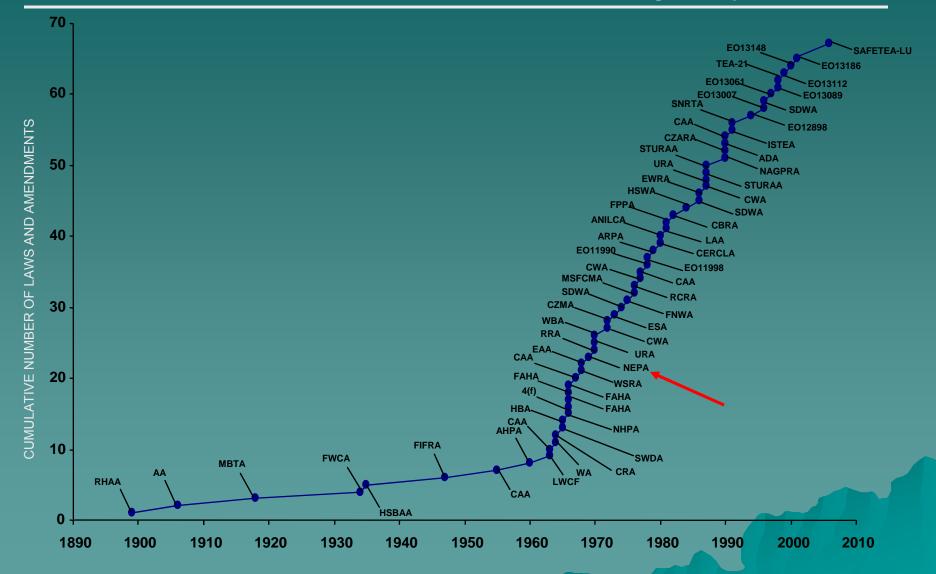
NEPA

Title VI of Civil Rights Act of 1964

- Uniform Relocation Assistance and Real Property Acquisition Policies Act of 1970
- Americans with Disabilities Act
- Executive Order 12898 (Environmental Justice)
- Section 4(f) of USDOT Act (49 USC 303)
 Clean Air Act
- **-**Safe Water Drinking Act
- **-**Farmland Protection Policy Act
- Solid Waste Disposal Act
- Resource Conservation and Recovery Act of 1976 (RCRA)

CERCLA (Superfund)

- Emergency Planning and Community Right to Know Act of 1986 (SARA)
- **National Historic Preservation Act**
- Economic, Social and Environmental Effects of Highways
- Highway Noise Standards
- **Public Hearing Requirements**
- Archaeological and Historic Preservation Act
- Archaeological Resources Protection ActAND MORE...



Federal Environmental Laws and Executive Orders affecting Transportation

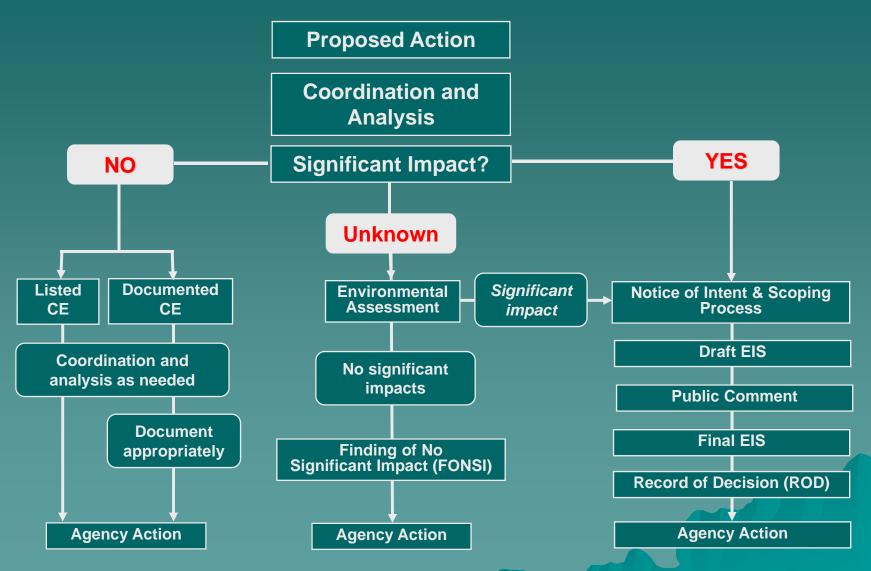
NEPA Process Options

Classes of Action

- Class 1: Environmental Impact Statement (EIS)
- Class 2: Categorical Exclusions (CE)
 - Class 3: Environmental Assessment (EA)

FHWA will determine Class of Action

NEPA Process Options (Classes of Action)



The NEPA Process for Categorical Exclusion

- Develop the Purpose and Need for the Project.
- Develop reasonable alternatives.
- Document current conditions in the affected environment for each alternative.
- Conduct an impact assessment for the proposed alternatives.
- Provide the opportunity for agency and public involvement throughout the NEPA process.

Opportunities to Participate...

Public Meeting (May 5, 2009)

Coordination with Agencies and Local Officials

Public Hearing for Environmental Document (NEPA Hearing)

Purpose and Need

Validates reasons for going forward with **Federal action** Provides critical foundation for alternative decisions - Problem definition and limits Basis for reasonable alternatives, evaluations, and comparisons Basis for dismissal of no-action

Elements of the Purpose and Need:

Project Status – project history and background

- System Linkage existing and future.
- Existing and Future Conditions roadway classification, average daily traffic (ADT), peak hour characteristics, level of service (LOS), etc.
- Transportation Demand relationship with STIP, RPO, etc.
- Legislation state or federal mandates
- Social or Economic Conditions is the project for economic development?
- Land Use how will future land use be changed by the project?
- Modal Relationships relationship with other modes of transportation
- Safety discussion of safety hazards, crash rates,
- Roadway Deficiencies existing deficiencies such as substandard design or geometry.

Example CE/Table of Contents

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Mr. Gary Fottrell SR 1 (U.S. 70) from SR 391 to just west of the Tennessee River Bridge Camden, Benton County, Tennessee Pin 105768.00 October 13, 2008

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What is the next step in the process?

- Finalize the Purpose and Need Statement.
- Evaluate environmental impacts of the project alternatives including the Build Alternative and the No Build Alternative.
- Prepare the Categorical Exclusion.
- Present the findings of the Categorical Exclusion to the public.

Key Project Dates

Public Meeting – May 5, 2009

Public Hearing – September 2009

 Final Environmental Document – November 2009

Project Website

The project website will be updated periodically to help keep the public informed. The links are:

http://www.tdot.state.tn.us/sr175/ http://www.collierville.com/ (under project updates)

Thank you for participating in the Byhalia Road Public Meeting.

Please complete your comment cards or see the court reporter to make a verbal comment.

You may leave your comment cards with us or return the cards postmarked by May 26, 2009.

Drive home safely!



Welcome to the Byhalia Road Categorical Exclusion (CE) Public Meeting. The meeting will begin at 5:00 p.m.

Categorical Exclusion For Byhalia Road Shelby County, Tennessee Town of Collierville in coordination with the Tennessee Department of Transportation

Please take this opportunity to review the information provided to you in the handout you received as you entered the room.

Your comments are important to the **Town of Collierville in the** development of the **Environmental Document.**

How to submit comments:

• Talk to the Court Reporter.

• Fill out and turn in a comment card.

• Fill out and mail in a comment card anytime before May 26, 2009.

• Town of Collierville representatives will be available to answer your questions at the project display areas.

• You will have the opportunity to make comments and ask questions.