



ETDM PROCESS

EFFICIENT TRANSPORTATION DECISION MAKING

"It is our vision to improve transportation decision making in a way that protects our natural and human environmental resources."

WHAT IS THE ETDM PROCESS?

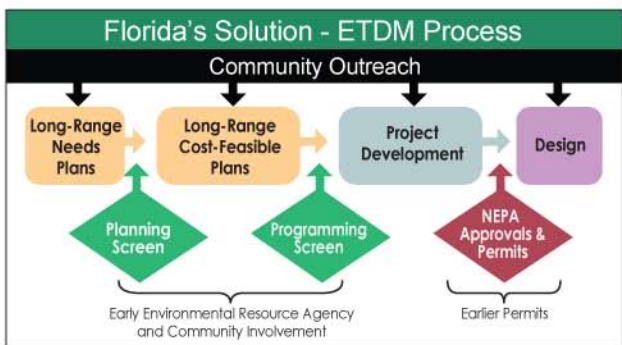
Florida's Efficient Transportation Decision Making (ETDM) Process is a new way of accomplishing transportation planning and project development for major transportation improvement projects. The ETDM Process enables agencies and the public to provide early input to the Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) and Metropolitan Planning Organizations (MPOs) about potential effects of proposed transportation projects.

THE GOAL

ETDM's goal is to streamline the transportation process while still protecting the quality of human and natural environments.

The ETDM process is an important part of the three project production phases:

- Planning
- Programming
- Project Development



The screening events, known as the Planning Screen and the Programming Screen, engage agencies and the affected communities in the early stages of the transportation planning process to allow for timely input and efficient interaction.

Information and recommendations gathered from the agencies and the public during the screening events provide the basis for technical studies and preliminary engineering performed during Project Development (see our brochure on Project Development & Environmental (PD&E) Studies for more information regarding this phase of the transportation process).

GET INVOLVED ...

5 STEP PROCESS

Get involved during the Planning Screen and the Programming Screen. Visit our website and learn how. The general process is outlined below:

- 1 Early in the planning process, the District Environmental Technical Advisory Team (ETAT) reviews projects for potential environmental effects.
- 2 At the same time the ETAT is notified to review a project, the project is available for review by the public on the ETDM website.
- 3 The public can also provide comments by e-mail, telephone communication and written correspondence.
- 4 The ETDM Coordinator at the FDOT District office summarizes and provides feedback through the ETDM website.
- 5 The project information continues to be available and updated as the project progresses.



<http://etdmpub.fla-etat.org>

THE TOOL ...

The Environmental Screening Tool (EST) is an interactive database and mapping application that serves as a central location for project information and communication between FDOT and its agency partners. The EST has many functions that streamline agency coordination but key among them is the ability to bring the public into the discussion from the beginning. The EST can be accessed via the internet and allows the public to:

- Search for projects by ETDM #, Project Name, Planning Organization, County or FDOT District where the project is located
- Comment on projects in the planning or programming screen through e-mail, telephone communication and written correspondence
- View project information: maps, Project Diary and Project Effects (including agency responses)

VISIT OUR PUBLIC WEBSITE

Be sure to visit our website and check out the section for First Time Users under the Welcome tab. This tab will help you get started. Some useful links include:

The screenshot displays the ETDMP Public Access Site interface. At the top, the logo for 'etdm Efficient Transportation Decision Making' is visible, along with the text 'Public Access Site'. Below the logo is a navigation bar with tabs for 'Welcome', 'General Information', 'Project Diary', 'Project Effects', and 'ETDM Maps'. The 'Welcome' tab is selected and highlighted with a green circle. Below the navigation bar, a banner reads 'Welcome >> First Time Users'. The main content area is divided into several sections. On the left, there is a 'Project Search' section with a search box and a 'Project Detail' section showing information for project #3191 - SR 80 - Southern Blvd. Bridge Replacement. Below that is a 'Help' section with a 'First Time Users' subsection. The 'First Time Users' section contains a large callout box with the following links: 'Contact Us', 'Frequently Asked Questions', 'Get Involved', 'Watch Project', and 'What's New'. To the right of the callout box, there are several smaller sections: 'General Information' with links like 'Agency Agreements', 'Agency Jurisdiction Matrix', 'Annual Reports', 'ETDM Acronyms', 'ETDM Glossary', 'ETDM Guidance', 'ETDM Library', 'ETDM Manual', 'ETDM Overview', 'LITF Adoption', and 'Project Release'; 'Project Search' with a search box and options for 'County/District', 'Project Name', 'Planning Organization', 'County', 'District', and 'Design of Effect'; 'ETDM Maps' with a 'Interactive Map' link; 'Project Diary' with links for 'Class of Action', 'Community Desired Features', 'Design Resolution Activity Log', 'Permits', 'Project Alterations', 'Project Commitments / Responses', 'Project Description', 'Project Managers', 'Technical Studies', and 'Transportation Plan Summary'; and 'Project Effects' with links for 'Agency Comments - Project Effects', 'Agency Comments - Project Effects', 'Community Inventory', 'GIS Analysis Results', 'GIS Analysis Summary', 'Screening Summary Report', 'Subsidiary Report', 'Webpage Contact Us', 'Get Involved', 'First Time Users', 'Site Map', and 'Online Help'.

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EVALUATING PROJECT EFFECTS

Agencies responsible for managing and protecting the environmental resources of the State of Florida serve as members on the Environmental Technical Advisory Team (ETAT). The ETAT representatives consist of governmental representatives with statutory authority for issuing permits or providing environmental coordination. They comment on the potential degree of effect the planned project has on the resource being protected. Recommendations for avoidance, minimization or mitigation strategies and for supplemental technical studies that may be needed are documented. This documentation is entered into the EST.

Below you will find a typical screening with the different degrees of effect. You can also see what the different degrees mean in terms of natural, cultural and community resources.

Overview		Evaluation of Direct Effects																				
Legend		Natural					Cultural			Community												
N/A	N/A / No Involvement	Air Quality	Coastal and Marine	Contaminated Sites	Fairlands	Floodplains	Infrastructure	Navigation	Special Designations	Water Quality and Quantity	Wetlands	Wildlife and Habitat	Historic and Archeological Sites	Recreation Areas	Section 4(f) Potential	Aesthetics	Economic	Land Use	Mobility	Relocation	Social	Secondary and Cumulative Effects
0	None (after 12/5/2005)																					
1	Enhanced																					
2	Minimal (after 12/5/2005)																					
3	Moderate																					
4	Substantial																					
5	Dispute Resolution (Programming)																					
ETAT Review Period From 1/16/2008 To 3/1/2008																						
Alternative #1 From CR 711 To Cove Road - Reviewed from 1/16/2008 to 3/1/2008 - Re-Published 5/8/2008		0	3	3	0	3	2	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	2	2	2	1	2	4	3

Degree of Effect	Definition
N/A or No Involvement	Project is not applicable or does not involve the resource
None (after 12/5/2005)	Project has no effect on resource
Enhanced	Project has positive effect on resource
Minimal	Project has little adverse effect on resource
Moderate	Resources are affected but avoidance and minimization options are available
Substantial	Project has substantial adverse effect to resource, avoidance and minimization options will be sought
Potential Dispute	Project is contrary to state or resource agency's program and/or is strongly opposed by community

BENEFITS OF THE PROCESS

Florida has realized many benefits from the implementation of the ETDM Process.

- Improved Agency Coordination and Consultation
- Improved Long Range Transportation Planning
- Focused Evaluations during Project Development
- Improved Dispute Resolution Process
- Less Costly Environmental Studies and Documentation
- Shortened Project Delivery
- Better Access to Information

All of these benefits have resulted in time and cost savings to Florida's transportation project planning and delivery process.

The Environmental Screening Tool (EST) has allowed FDOT and agency partners to communicate more efficiently resulting in quality reviews and better information exchange.



MORE INFORMATION

For additional information concerning the ETDM Process, please contact the Florida Department of Transportation:



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Telephone: (954) 777-4601

Or call toll free at (866) 336-8435 ext. 4601