Productivity First-Round Winner

Innovations Challenge

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Prepared by Transportation Planning Missouri Department of Transportation

NEPA Video Training



Description

Following the National Environmental Policy Act is one of the major components to transportation project delivery and is required for MoDOT projects to be eligible for federal funds. To understand and follow the requirements of NEPA, staff all over the state must be trained in the often complex and very detailed requirements of the law. MoDOT periodically delivers training to all the districts and divisions involved in project delivery on the details of writing NEPA document.

MoDOT environmental, historic preservation and communications staff developed and produced an innovative way of packaging and delivering training. Video type training on this subject matter had not been used previously by MoDOT, so use of this media and approach to training this subject was non-traditional. With an emphasis on assuring that project development trainees would be more effective, we developed engaging and appealing elements within the training that would keep the attention of those being trained by using local examples and humorous, but topical videos. This concept could be used by all districts and divisions to enhance training, particularly where information to be presented is very specialized and trainees do not have previous job experience or education in the topic.

Benefit

The results of the training can be seen in the design tracker measure – clearances and permits achieved by PS&E date and bid opening. For the first quarter of FY2016, 90 percent of projects were cleared by PS&E, which is14 percent over the last four-year average. And 100 percent were cleared by the bid opening, the first time this has occurred.

By having the training in a video format it can be reviewed by new planners and designers at any time. This style of training dramatically improves the satisfaction and engagement of the participants as evidenced in the 91 percent of trainees agree or strongly agree that the videos and materials were helpful and kept their attention. It also saves about \$8,000 and 260 hours of NEPA staff time for future trainings.

Materials and Labor

Materials: \$55 in fuel cost with no reoccurring costs Labor: 650 hours

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Additional photos can be seen by accessing the Innovations Challenge SharePoint page at: <u>http://sharepoint/systemdelivery/TP/Documents/InnovationsChallenge.aspx</u>.