





VDOT's Values and Behaviors

Environmental Excellence

We conduct our business activities in a manner that respects Virginia's natural and historic resources.

- Preserve, enhance and contribute to the beauty, natural resources and heritage of Virginia.
- Comply with all environmental laws and regulations and ensure that contractors do not violate them.

KEY LAWS

- Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act
- Section 4(f) of the Department of Transportation Act

12

Section 106

- Take into account effects on historic properties
- Accommodate historic preservation concerns with transportation needs
- · Begin during early stages of project planning
- Seek ways to avoid, minimize, and/or mitigate effects
- Outcome is not dictated, but must be determined through consultation with VA Department of Historic Resources and other interested parties

Which projects require Section 106 review?

- Federal Funding (or Federally Eligible)
- Federal Permit (e.g., water quality from USACE)

(State-funded construction projects not requiring federal permits but costing >\$500,000 are also reviewed in accordance with state laws and agreements.)

14

Steps in Section 106 Review Process at VDOT

- Review Project's Scope and Potential to Affect Historic Properties
- Identify Consulting Parties
- Use Project Scope to Define Area of Potential Effects (APE)
- Conduct Technical Studies to Identify Significant Cultural Resources in the APE

Steps in Section 106 Review at VDOT

 Work with project development team to eliminate or minimize Adverse Effects on historic properties

Minimization of Effect: Context Sensitive Design



Steps in Section 106 Review at VDOT

Identify measures that would mitigate any remaining adverse effects on historic properties

- · Limitations of Operations
- · Controlled burial of archaeological site
- · Archaeological and architectural monitoring
- Architectural documentation
- Archaeological data recovery
- Landscaping
- · Marketing of historic properties
- . Heritage tourism or public education initiative

24

Steps in Section 106 Review at VDOT

- Reach agreement with VDHR and other consulting parties on whether the project will adversely affect historic properties and how any adverse effects will be resolved
 - Findings of No Effect or No Adverse Effect require VDHR signature of concurrence on VDOT's written summary of its findings
 - Findings of Adverse Effect require the Federal agency, VDHR, and VDOT to execute a Memorandum of Agreement

Implement Project Consistent with Section 106 Agreement

- Section 106 agreements are legally binding.
- Commitments cannot be modified without coordination with VDHR and other consulting parties.
- Any changes made to a project after the Environmental Document has been finalized or the federal permit has been issued that increase the project footprint or otherwise change major elements of the project require additional cultural resources review.

26

Cultural Resources Review Schedule

- · No one size fits all
- The Section 106 process must be completed before the NEPA document is completed and the public hearing held.
- The Cultural Resources review process cannot begin until information about the project scope is received.

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		34