

## **SUGGESTED AGENDA FOR A SECTION 6001 CONSULTATION**

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Because the new planning provisions from SAFETEA-LU are still relatively new, practitioners are experimenting with different meeting designs. And because the regulations are intentionally vague, many various options are possible. The regulation describes consultation as “one or more parties **confer** with other identified parties in accordance with an established **process** and, prior to taking action(s), **considers** the views of the other parties and periodically **informs** them about action(s) taken.”

Transportation planners should initiate the communication with the necessary resource and regulatory agencies. Ideally, they will contact the necessary conservation professionals well in advance (1-3 months prior) to allow for maximum preparation and participation. Initial communication could take place over e-mail, followed by conference calls. To the extent possible, all participants should share relevant documents for review prior to the actual consultation. Plans – of all types – can be lengthy documents so consultation participants should show up familiar with each other’s plans and ready to discuss.

### **POTENTIAL PARTICIPANTS**

State wildlife agencies	State transportation agency planners
State environmental protection agencies	MPO transportation planners
State departments of natural resources	
State parks and recreation departments	State transportation environmental compliance staff
State water quality	Federal Highway Administration
State historic preservation office	Federal Lands Highway
Tribal agencies	Local elected officials
Local watershed agencies	Representatives from the Governor’s office
Local parks and recreation departments	
Conservation advocacy organizations	
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service	
U.S. Forest Service	
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers	
U.S. Park Service	
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency	
Bureau of Land Management	
Military installations with large land holdings	

## AGENDA

8:00 am	Welcome and Introductions	
8:30 am	Overview of Agenda	
9:00 am	Overview of long-range transportation plan(s)	Transportation planners will provide a brief but thorough overview of plans, the process by which they are developed and how they are used to guide project selection
10:00 am	Overview(s) of available conservation plan(s)	Conservation planners will provide a brief but thorough overview of plans, the process by which they are developed and how they are used to guide conservation investments
11:00 am	Break	
11:15 am	Data sharing	Facilitated group discussion on the current state of data sharing and necessary changes or improvements
12:15 pm	Break for lunch	
1:30 pm	Detailed review of long-range transportation plan: Anticipated future projects	Transportation planners provide the group with more information on locations and level of future transportation projects and improvements, based on corridor and other studies
2:30 pm	Identify potential conflicts	Based on the review of anticipated future projects, conservation participants identify which projects pose potential conflicts with conservation priority areas and/or species
3:30 pm	Identify potential mitigation areas and activities	Based on the potential conflicts, all participants brainstorm to identify possible areas and activities that would have the greatest chance of avoiding, minimizing and mitigating the conflicts
4:30 pm	Next steps	Discuss future actions and necessary follow-ups, schedule the next meeting and assign tasks
5:00 pm	Adjourn	