

# Community Impact Assessment

## RELATED TOPICS

For questions regarding Community Impact Assessment and related topics, please contact Peter Bond of the Environmental Management Office at (916) 653-8307.

### **MOU on Environmental Justice**

On Aug. 4, 17 federal agencies signed a memorandum of understanding that aims to address and reduce the disproportionate harm from environmental degradation that affects indigenous, low-income, and minority communities. The "[Memorandum of Understanding on Environmental Justice and Executive Order 12898](#)" (MOU EJ) lays out agency responsibilities and formalizes commitments, processes, and procedures outlined in Executive Order (E.O.) 12898, "Federal Actions to Address Environmental Justice in Minority Populations and Low-Income Populations," issued by President Bill Clinton in 1994. The MOU EJ expands the scope of the Interagency Working Group on Environmental Justice to include agencies not originally named in E.O. 12898. It also adopts an Interagency Working Group charter, providing the working group with more structure and direction. Each agency is required to review, update, and post online its existing or draft environmental justice strategies by Sept. 30. Agencies must get public input on their strategies, though no specific process for encouraging participation is required. Final environmental justice strategies will be posted online by Feb. 11, 2012.

### **U.S. Department of Transportation Involvement**

The U.S. Department of Transportation (DOT) (including FHWA) is a signatory of the MOU EJ. DOT has reviewed and updated its [Environmental Justice \(EJ\) strategy](#) as appropriate. The updated EJ strategy continues to reflect DOT's commitment to EJ principles and to integrating those principles into DOT programs, policies and activities. The updated strategy also continues to rely upon existing authorities for achieving EJ as described by the E.O., such as the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (NEPA), Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 (Title VI) and related statutes, and Section 6-601 of the EO on Internal Reviews as well as conforming to the commitments and focus areas set forth in the EJ MOU.

The DOT will develop tools or documents on EJ. Guidance across agencies will be streamlined to an appropriate degree through the DOT Working Group, the Office of the Assistant Secretary

for Transportation Policy, and the Departmental Office of Civil Rights. This includes determining the most effective and efficient way of integrating the processes and objectives of the strategy and the DOT Order with existing regulations and guidance.

## **U.S. Census Data**

The 2010 Census Data continues to be updated. Please check back at the 2010 Census website for the most current information. Here are some useful links:

- <http://2010.census.gov/2010census/data/>
- <http://factfinder2.census.gov/main.html>

## **Complete Streets**

Complete streets are designed and operated to enable safe and efficient access for all legal users. The Department develops integrated multimodal projects in balance with community goals, plans, and values.