

## PLANNING PROCESS

### General Considerations

- Follow transportation planning process
- Participation by federal and state resource and regulatory agencies and Tribes
- Opportunity for public review and comments
- Use reliable and reasonably current data and rational, scientifically acceptable methodologies
- FHWA and FTA review as appropriate
- Documentation

### Desired Outcomes

- Define purpose and need
- Preliminary screening of alternatives and elimination of unreasonable alternatives<sup>1</sup>
- Other planning decisions and analysis<sup>2</sup>
- Adopt planning decisions

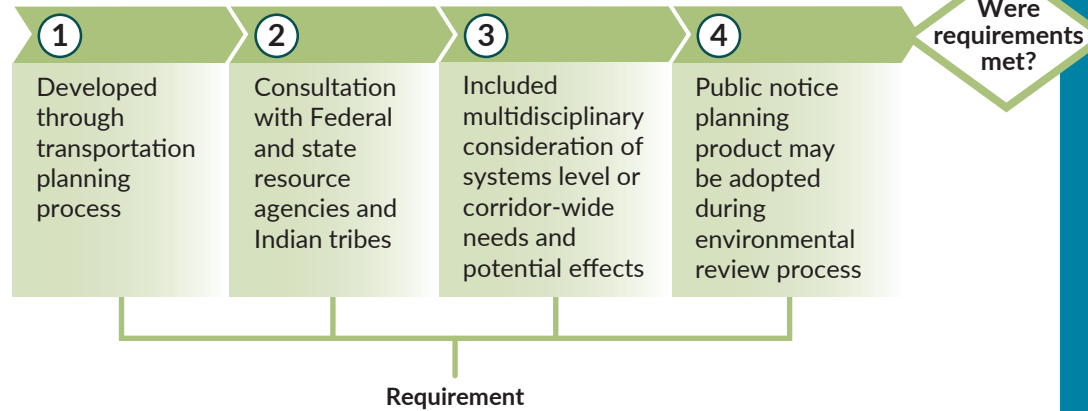
### Planning Studies

- Define purpose & need or goals & objectives
- General travel corridor and/or general mode(s) definition
- Preliminary screening of alternatives and elimination of unreasonable alternatives<sup>1</sup>
- Basic description of environmental setting
- Preliminary identification of environmental impacts and environmental mitigations<sup>2</sup>
- Still subject to the NEPA process

### Authorities

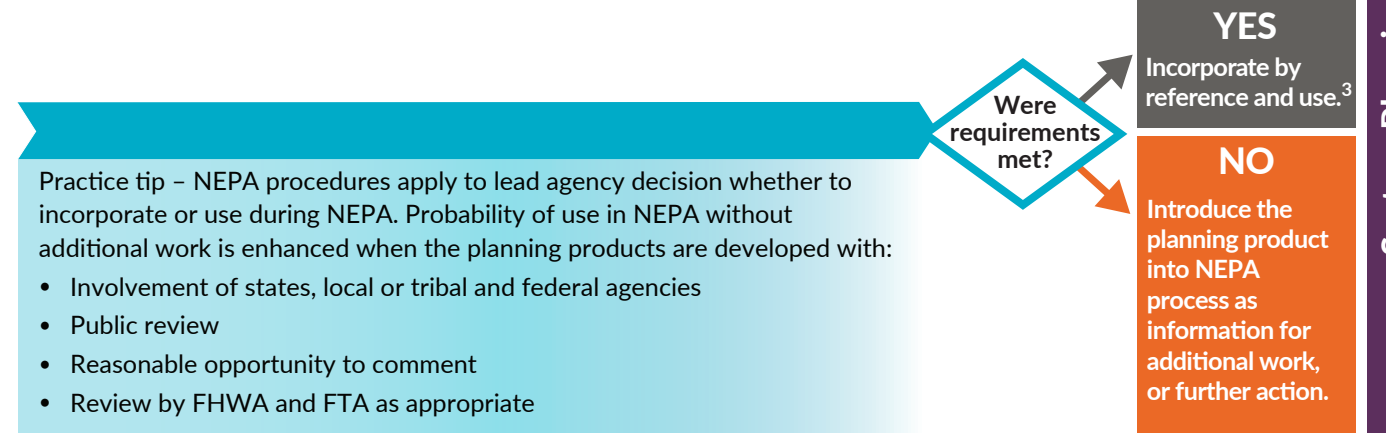
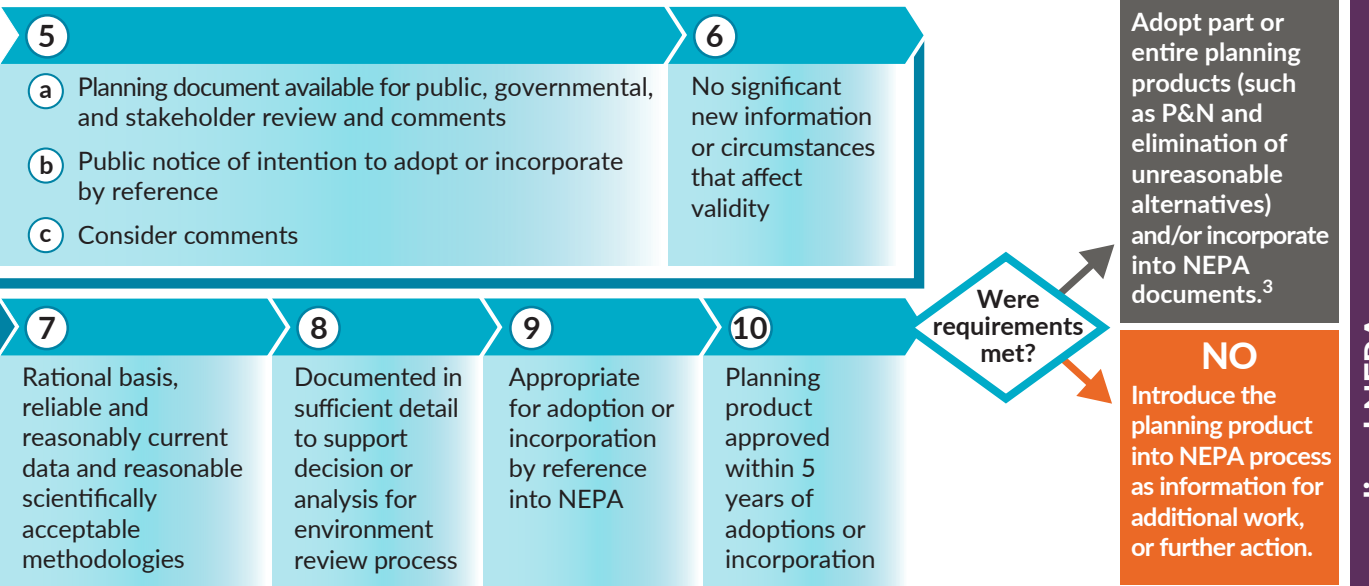
Integration of planning and environment review statute 23 U.S.C. 168

Adopt and/or Incorporate Planning Products by Reference into NEPA



## ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW PROCESS/NEPA

### NEPA Scoping



- YES**  
Adopt part or entire planning products (such as P&N and elimination of unreasonable alternatives) and/or incorporate into NEPA documents.<sup>3</sup>
- NO**  
Introduce the planning product into NEPA process as information for additional work, or further action.

- YES**  
Incorporate by reference and use.<sup>3</sup>
- NO**  
Introduce the planning product into NEPA process as information for additional work, or further action.

<sup>1</sup> Efficient Environmental Reviews Statute: 23 USC 139(f)(4)(E)(ii)

<sup>2</sup> Programmatic Mitigation Planning (PMP) Statute 23 USC 169; Planning Regulations 23 CFR 450.214 and 320

<sup>3</sup> CEQ NEPA Regulations 40 CFR 1500.4(j) and 1502.21