

# Surface Transportation Environment and Planning Cooperative Research Program (STEP)



**Office of Planning  
Federal Highway Administration**

NARC Freight Capacity Building P2P  
September 4, 2008

# Surface Transportation Environment and Planning Cooperative Research Program (STEP)

- Safe, Accountable, Flexible, Efficient  
Transportation Equity Act: A Legacy for Users  
(SAFETEA-LU)
- Complex relationship between surface  
transportation, planning and the environment
- Roughly \$12 M / year available for FY06 ~ FY09
- Sole source of SAFETEA-LU funds for FHWA  
research on planning and environmental issues

# EMPHASIS AREAS

## ● Environment

- Air Quality, Climate Change, Water, Brownfields, Noise, Context-Sensitive Solution, etc.

## ● Planning

- Congestion, Safety, Freight, National Security, Visualization, etc.

## ● Tools to Support Environment and Planning

- Travel Modeling, GIS, etc.

## ● Program Management and Outreach

# DELIVERY MECHANISMS

- Emphasis Area Contact
  - Coordinate Stakeholder Outreach / Feedback
  - Manage Research
- Research
  - Grants, Cooperative Agreements
  - Interagency Agreements
  - Contracts: including Indefinite Quantities
  - Broad Agency Announcements (BAA)
  - Volpe

# CURRENT EFFORTS

## ● FY 2007 and FY 2008

- Four freight-related projects (planning capacity)
- Typically, under \$100K, 12- to 24-month long

## ● FY 2009 STEP in progress

- Project ideas being accepted through 9/22/08
- Competitive selection process to begin in early 2009

## ● Leverages funding with other entities

● <http://www.fhwa.dot.gov/hep/step/index.htm>

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