



CDOT NEPA Manual October 2014 Update (Version 4)

The last update to the CDOT NEPA Manual was completed in March 2013. Since then, many regulatory and process changes have occurred. This update reflects the most current policies, regulations, and processes available as of October 2014. Future updates will be made as necessary. The following table summarizes some of the more considerable changes made to the Manual during this revision.

Chapter	Description of Updates
Chapter 1 – Introduction	Section 1.1.2 (Organization of this Manual) has been updated to include Chapter 10 (Federal Transit Administration NEPA Processes and Compliance).
Chapter 2 – National Environmental Policy Act and Implementing Regulations	<p>Section 2.6 – Moving Ahead for Progress in the 21st Century Act (MAP-21) and Table 2-3 have been updated to include the most recent provisions based on final rulemaking from USDOT. This update does not include all final Map-21 provisions. Once rulemaking is complete, another update to the CDOT NEPA Manual will occur to reflect the most current MAP-21 provisions, as appropriate.</p> <p>Note: Final rulemaking on Section 1318 (Programmatic Agreements and Additional Categorical Exclusions) of MAP-21 was issued at the same time that this version of the NEPA Manual was being finalized. Therefore, information about Section 1318 has not been included in Version 4.</p>
Chapter 3 – CDOT’s NEPA-Specific Planning and Project Development Elements	Section 3.2, Planning and Environmental Linkages (PEL), was revised to include the recently developed CDOT PEL definition and process flow chart.
Chapter 4 – Environmental Impact Statement (Class I)	<p>Chapter 4 updates include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ Updated Section 4.18.1 (Options for Preparing the Final EIS) ▶ Updated Section 4.19 (Record of Decision) ▶ Added references to Chapter 9 for more information on mitigation and monitoring commitments



Chapter	Description of Updates
Chapter 5 – Categorical Exclusions (Class II)	<p>Chapter 5 updates include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ Provided references to Chapter 10 for CatExs done for FTA projects ▶ Added references to Chapter 9 for more information on mitigation and monitoring commitments ▶ Added 23 CFR 771.117(b) text ▶ Updated information on Programmatic and Non-Programmatic CatEx actions based on recent MAP-21 rulemaking ▶ Updated information on Non-Programmatic CatEx Documentation (Section 5.3.3) options, including the FHWA Non-Programmatic Categorical Exclusion Environmental Review Summary and CDOT’s Documented CatEx Template ▶ Updated Attachment 1 (How to Fill Out Form 128 in SAP) <p>Note: Final rulemaking on Section 1318 (Programmatic Agreements and Additional Categorical Exclusions) of MAP-21 was issued at the same time that this version of the NEPA Manual was being finalized. Therefore, information about Section 1318 has not been included in Version 4.</p>
Chapter 6 – Environmental Assessments (Class III)	<p>Section 6.2, EA Documentation Content, has been updated with information on CDOT’s EA Template.</p> <p>References to Chapter 9 for more information on mitigation and monitoring commitments were also added.</p>
Chapter 8 – NEPA Document Review Procedures	<p>This chapter has been updated to include the most current document distribution requirements throughout.</p>
Chapter 9 – Resource Considerations	
Section 9.0 Introduction	<p>Section 9.0 updates include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ Added information about “project area” versus “project footprint” versus “study area” ▶ Added information on mitigation and monitoring commitments, Summary of Impacts and Mitigation Table, and CDOT’s Mitigation Commitment Tracking Spreadsheet ▶ Added new Table 9-1 (CDOT Mitigation Tracking Spreadsheet with Example Text) ▶ Added new Table 9-2 (Summary of Impacts and Mitigation Table for NEPA Documents with Example Text)
Section 9.2 Air Quality	<p>Section 9.2 has been updated with information on FHWA’s carbon monoxide categorical hot-spot finding.</p>





Chapter	Description of Updates
<p>Section 9.15 Environmental Justice, Title VI, and Limited English Proficiency (LEP)</p>	<p>Section 9.15 was substantially updated to include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ Additional information on the relationship between Environmental Justice and Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 ▶ Additional information about LEP to clarify that the purpose of an LEP analysis is to determine if language assistance measures are needed for a project ▶ Reorganization throughout the section and additional clarifying information ▶ Minor updates to Attachment B (EJ Census Directions). The EJ Census Directions will be further revised based on US Census website changes during the next version of the NEPA Manual. <p>Note: CDOT's low-income analysis process is under review and will be revised in the next version of the NEPA Manual.</p>
<p>Section 9.20 Section 6(f) Evaluation</p>	<p>Section 9.20 updates include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ Updated information on how Colorado Parks and Wildlife (CPW) and National Park Service (NPS) are managing Section 6(f) resources ▶ Updated and outlined process steps to reflect current management and mitigation strategies for impacted Section 6(f) resources
<p>Chapter 10 – Federal Transit Administration NEPA Processes and Compliance</p>	<p>Chapter 10 has been added to the CDOT NEPA Manual and summarizes the environmental process for CDOT projects involving FTA funds administered through CDOT's Division of Transit and Rail (DTR).</p>
<p>Appendices</p>	<p>Minor updates were made to the following appendices:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ Appendix A – NEPA Abbreviations and Acronyms ▶ Appendix B – Typical NEPA Terminology ▶ Appendix F – Standardized Language for NEPA Documents (specifically, the Global Climate Change Cumulative Effects Standard Language was updated)

