

Maintenance

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Project Title:

Transportation Security and
Emergency Preparedness Professional
Capacity Building (PCB) Pooled
Fund Study

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This project, which was part of a
pooled fund study among several states
and the Federal Highway Administration,
developed a downloadable guide to
increase the awareness of planners of
new and retrofitted transportation
projects about security and emergency
management considerations.

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Transportation Security and Emergency Preparedness

*Providing guidance to transportation planners in incorporating security
and emergency management as part of the development process*

WHAT WAS THE NEED?

Although it might not be possible to stop a determined terrorist from destroying a transportation infrastructure, measures can be taken to minimize the possibility and mitigate potential consequences. Especially since September 2001, states have been conducting risk and threat assessments to determine which prevention, protection, and preparedness measures might be required to protect structures, including those that are integral to transportation systems, such as bridges, tunnels, highways, and rail and aviation facilities. However, the results are not necessarily sent to transportation project planners that are designing new infrastructure projects.

Transportation infrastructure project planners are generally not as familiar with how to involve emergency management and security considerations when developing new infrastructure projects. While awareness of the need for infrastructure protection and other aspects of security have increased over the last decade, complacency and shrinking budgets have taken their toll. Few transportation project planners consider aspects of security when planning projects because they simply do not know where or how to start, and they do not have a close working relationship with those agencies and individuals that work in the security arena at state, regional, or local governments.





WHAT WAS OUR GOAL?

The goal was to introduce transportation project planners to the idea of and need for involving various agencies, organizations, and people in developing security and emergency management requirements during the early stages and throughout project development and planning processes.

WHAT DID WE DO?

Caltrans, in partnership with other donor states that were part of the Federal Highway Administration Transportation Pooled Fund Study, developed the guide, *Considering Security and Emergency Management in the Planning of Transportation Projects*, to increase the awareness of the transportation infrastructure project community, especially those individuals working for a state Department of Transportation (DOT) or a regional Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO), about security and emergency management. The intended primary audience is planners of new projects responsible for developing highway-related infrastructure projects.

WHAT WAS THE OUTCOME?

The guide provides the following information:

- Rationale for the consideration of security and emergency management measures when planning transportation infrastructure projects
- Identification of potential partners for project planners
- Examples of measures to be taken
- When to incorporate the measures into the planning process
- Checklist for project planners to guide them through the initial phase of getting partners on board
- References related to security and emergency management, including papers, reports, and websites

The specific security and emergency management measures that might be considered depends on the unique circumstances of the state or region, the transportation system in use, the level of risk willing to be accepted, and the costs of implementing measures in light of possible budget limitations.

WHAT IS THE BENEFIT?

Incorporating security and emergency management considerations into the planning process increases safety in general, not only in the realm of preventing and protecting against intentional man-made incidents. The steps taken to reduce the impact of these incidents on the transportation infrastructure might also mitigate the effects of a natural disaster or collisions involving hazardous materials. Implementing security and emergency measures when designing new construction projects is typically less expensive and more cost-effective than having to retrofit a structure later.

LEARN MORE

To view the full report:

www.planning.dot.gov/documents/ConsideringSecurityAndEM.pdf

