

National Cooperative Highway Research Program (NCHRP)
Project 25-25 Task 114

**Integrating Tribal Expertise into Processes to Identify,
Evaluate, and Record Cultural Resources**

The research objective of NCHRP 25-25, Task 114 is to understand and detail how tribal expertise can inform the requirements and intent of Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA) for surface transportation projects, recognizing federal agency government-to-government consultation responsibilities and addressing issues associated with confidentiality.

Task 114 seeks to explore successful Section 106 outcomes through collaborative incorporation of tribal expertise throughout the tribal engagement and consultation process, including identifying places of religious and cultural significance, assessing potential project effects on these significant places, and resolving any adverse effects. A critical and vital element of this study is to document tribal perspectives on how well FHWA and state DOTs take into account tribal expertise during the steps in the Section 106 process and provide opportunities for tribal voices and concerns to be heard.

As a first step in engaging tribes for this study, we developed an online survey for tribes. This brief survey asks questions about when and how tribal expertise is used on FHWA and state DOT transportation projects, and if tribal expertise is fully considered in agency Section 106 decision-making. We have also developed a separate online survey with similar questions for FHWA and state DOTs.

The results of the study, including the online surveys, will be summarized in a report that will be submitted to the NCHRP. The report will highlight what has been learned and will be made available to all tribes, state DOTs, FHWA offices, and historic preservation practitioners nationwide. Your participation will directly assist us in identifying best practices for the integration of tribal expertise in the Section 106 process.

**INTERESTED IN PARTICIPATING?
ACCESS THE TRIBAL SURVEY [HERE](https://forms.gle/dXMPLbQkaPcZBJRW6) OR AT
<https://forms.gle/dXMPLbQkaPcZBJRW6>**

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NCHRP produces ready-to-implement solutions to the challenges facing transportation professionals. NCHRP is sponsored by the individual state departments of transportation (DOTs) of the American Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials (AASHTO), in cooperation with the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA). NCHRP is administered by the Transportation Research Board (TRB), part of the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine.