



Construction Industry Round Table

Regulatory News **UPDATE**

A force for positive change in the design / construction industry

9/29/2016 – Streamlining Provisions in Transportation Bill Applied

CIRT has supported (with others) the adoption of permit streamlining legislation over the years. In December 2015, such provisions urged by a coalition lead by the U.S. Chamber of Commerce were enacted into law as part of the Fixing America's Surface Transportation Act (FAST-41 Act). Since then, the Administration has been implementing the permit streamlining provisions, setting up a project Dashboard to bring transparency to the permitting process. In addition, the President appointed Richard Kidd Executive Director of the Federal Permitting Improvement Steering Council, under the Office of Management and Budget.

On September 22nd, the Federal Permitting Improvement Steering Council (FPISC) [finalized](#) 34 existing infrastructure projects as "covered projects" under the permit streamlining provisions of Title 41. Each project has its own entry on the recently updated online [project dashboard](#). The lead federal agencies for these projects must develop and upload to the dashboard "a concise, coordinated project plan" for each covered project by November 29, 2016.

Under FAST-41, the "coordinated project plan" must contain: (1) a list of, as well as roles and responsibilities for, all entities with environmental review or authorization responsibility for the project; (2) a permitting timetable with a "comprehensive schedule of dates by which all environmental reviews and authorizations" must be made; (3) a "discussion of potential avoidance, minimization, and mitigation strategies, if required by applicable law and known"; and (4) "plans and a schedule for public and tribal outreach and coordination, to the extent required by applicable law."