

Environmental & Historical Preservation and Climate Resiliency Preparation Checklist

December 2022





Federal EHP Preparation Checklist



As you plan broadband deployment activities and develop a Five-Year Action Plan, use the proposed activities below to further plan and account for the Environmental & Historical Preservation requirements associated with the BEAD Program.



REVIEW AVAILABLE RESOURCES & UNDERSTAND REQUIREMENTS

Proposed Activities for Eligible Entities

- Become familiar with the EHP requirements and additional guidance in the BEAD NOFO.
- ☐ Gain an understanding of the requirements of the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) review process and the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA).
- ☐ Review the NEPA, Historical Preservation, and Climate Resiliency Webinar and presentation materials.



HIRE EHP-FOCUSED STAFF or CONTRACTORS

Proposed Activities for Eligible Entities

- □ Assess the readiness of your broadband team to analyze potential environmental impacts.
- □ If necessary, hire additional staff or contractor support to ensure your broadband team has the appropriate capacity and expertise to manage EHP activities.
- □ Designate certain individuals to be specifically responsible for EHP activities. Outline their responsibilities associated with managing EHP and NEPA review activities.
- Invite collaborators or SMEs to support your team.



OUTLINE AN APPROACH FOR EHP ACTIVITIES

Proposed Activities for Eligible Entities

- Outline steps and activities necessary to ensure that potential subgrantee applicants understand the requirements to comply with NEPA.
- ☐ Coordinate with other State offices that have experience administering federal grants to identify best practices and approaches for managing the NEPA review process.
- ☐ Consider contractors who you may engage to support with potential environmental assessments.
- ☐ Share best practices for developing a project description that provides enough detail about the potential impacts to the environment to make a preliminary determination about the level of NEPA review required.



