

FEDERAL LANDS HIGHWAY EXPERIENCE AND INITIATIVES WITH CONTEXT SENSITIVE SOLUTIONS

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Abstract

Context sensitive solutions (CSS) is a collaborative, interdisciplinary approach to a transportation project, which involves all stakeholders, early and continually, to develop a transportation facility that equally addresses safety, mobility, and the preservation of scenic, aesthetic, historic, and environmental resources and community values. Federal Lands Highway (FLH) designs and constructs highway projects within our nation's most environmentally and culturally sensitive areas: national parks, national forests, national wildlife refuges, and other important Federal public lands. This long-standing mission of working in extremely sensitive areas requires the use of CSS, and, therefore, FLH is recognized as being an expert in the use of CSS. Federal Lands Highway, along with five states each representing the regions of the American Association of State Highway Transportation Officials (AASHTO), functions as a "pilot state." In its role as a "pilot state," FLH is charged with promoting CSS principles, showcasing its projects that exemplify CSS principles, and with training its staff. Currently, Federal Lands Highway is leading an effort within FHWA to develop training in CSS, which would primarily target all FHWA staff, both in the Federal-aid and Federal Lands Highway divisions of FHWA.

Biographical Sketch: Donald Tuggle is the director of program administration in the Eastern Federal Lands Highway Division in Sterling, VA, which he has held since April of 2001. Prior to this current position he was the special assistant to the FHWA Executive Director. He is currently the Federal Lands leadership sponsor of a Federal Lands multi-division team on Context Sensitive Solutions. He has been with FHWA for 27 years and his career has included field assignments in Ohio, Michigan, and the former FHWA Region 5 office near Chicago, IL. He has served in Washington D.C. Headquarter assignments in the Pavement Division, Construction and Maintenance Division, and in the Office of Asset Management. He has a bachelor's degree in civil engineering from the University of Wisconsin-Platteville and is a registered professional engineer in Wisconsin.