

## Federal-aid Overview Seminar

**Project Development Training Manual** 

2025



# 2025 Federal-aid Overview Seminar

Time   Agenda item   Agenda   Memory   Agenda   Memory   Agenda   Memory   Agenda   Memory   Agenda   Memory   Agenda   Memory   Memory   Agenda   Memory		2025 Federal-aid Overview Seminar				
Time         Agendal Item           8:00 - 8:30         Registration         11:45 - 1:00         Lunch (on your own)           8:30         Welcome - Local Systems Bureau         1:00         Other Permits - Eryn Stone           9 - Purpose and Format         1:00         Other Permits - Eryn Stone           9 - Beraks and Facilities         General DOT Contacts         1:00         Other Permits - Eryn Stone           9 - Webster Resources         Welcorner - Fittival         1:00         Work on Income DOT Right-of-way           9 - Administering Bureau (I.M. 1.000)         5: stewardship & Oversight Agreement         1:00         Design and Plan Reviews - lowa DOT Lettings - Jenifer Bates           9 - Consultant Selection - PE/CE         + Fith/A Authorization         0:00 - Sign and Plan Reviews - lowa DOT Lettings - Design and Plan Reviews - Income Dot Lettings - Preliminary Plans         0:00 - Design and Plan Reviews - Lowa DOT Right-of-way           10 - Kind Contributions         0:00 - Sign and Plan Reviews - Toward Rapement         0:00 - Design and Plan Reviews - Income Dot Reviews - Preliminary Plans         0:00 - Design and Plan Reviews - Income Dot Reviews - Preliminary Plans         0:00 - Design Exception Process         0:00 - Design Exception Pr		Project Developme	nt - Lettin	g Agenda		
8:30 Welcome - Local Systems Bureau	Time	_				
Introductions Purpose and format General DTC contacts General DTC contacts Website Resources Welcome - FHWA Rederal-aid Basics - Sarah Okerlund Written Guidance Administering Bureau (I.M. 1.000) Stewardship & Oversight Agreement Panning and Programming Consultant Selection - PE/CE FHWA Authorization Reimbursement Discretionary Grants & Earmarks – Tom Rhoads In-Kind Contributions and Local Lettings – Grant Team In-Kind Contributions Coinsultant Selection CVI Rights – Tracey Bradley/Amy Weerhelm Title VI ADA Break and Refreshments (provided) Project Programming - Niki Stinn TiP/STIP Programming STIP Revision Process CPP/STIP – Entry of Project Details Environmental Review - Location & Environment (Jill Garton, Brock Struceker, Brennan Dolan, MacKenzle Rosenboom) Threatened and Endangered Species Section 166 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1996 including Section 106, applications, compliance steps, archaeological and historic survey, consultation, StipP Ceview, and Transportation Alternatives Program National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) and Section 4(f) including key points of NEPA, Section 4(f), NEPA classifications, and NEPA clearances, TPMS I low a DNR Water Trails and Paddling Routes Initial Project Development – Niki Stinn Project Scheduling Funding & Pan Divisions Finding Refreshment Concept Statement Concept Statement Project Tracking & Activation Schedule terms & Submittals Funding & Pan Divisions Figure of Tracking & Activation Schedule terms & Submittals Funding & Pan Divisions Figure of Tracking & Activation Schedule terms & Submittals Funding & Pan Divisions Figure of Tracking & Activation Schedule terms & Submittals Funding & Pan Divisions Figure of Tracking & Activation Schedule terms & Submittals Funding & Pan Divisions Figure of Tracking & Activation Figure of	8:00 - 8:30	Registration	11:45 - 1:00	Lunch (on your own)		
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**Which Bureau is the Administering Bureau?** For most projects, Local Systems Bureau is the Administering Bureau. For projects funded by any or a combination of the Transportation Alternative, Federal Recreational Trails, Iowa's Clean Air Attainment programs, and certain earmark projects, the Systems Planning Bureau is the Administering Bureau. Refer to <a href="L.M. 1.000">L.M. 1.000</a> for additional information.

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## Federal-aid Project Development Guide For Local Public Agencies

January 19, 2024

**Iowa Department of Transportation** 

Local Systems Bureau 800 Lincoln Way Ames, IA 50010

https://iowadot.gov/local\_systems/publications/im/federal-aid-guide.pdf

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#### 1 Introduction

#### 1.1. About the Federal-aid Guide

#### 1.1.1. What is the Federal-aid Guide for?

The Federal-aid Project Development Guide for Local Public Agencies (the Federal-aid Guide) exists to provide information and instructions to Local Public Agency (LPA) staff in order to help them successfully develop their Federal-aid transportation projects.

#### 1.1.2. How should the Federal-aid Guide be used?

For LPAs that are unfamiliar with Federal-aid procedures, the Federal-aid Guide serves as an overview and introduction to the Federal-aid process. For those LPAs that frequently use Federal-aid funds for their transportation projects, the Federal-aid Guide also serves as a reference tool to guickly locate more detailed information on a specific topic.

The Federal-aid Guide is not intended to include all the details of the Federal-aid process. Instead, where appropriate, the Federal-aid Guide references other documents that provide additional detailed instructions concerning specific parts of the process. In other words, the Federal-aid Guide provides a central location from which all of the information relevant to development of LPA Federal-aid transportation projects may be located.

Most of the detailed information referenced by the Federal-aid Guide is contained in the Instructional Memorandums to Local Public Agencies (I.M.s). To view or print a referenced I.M, simply click on the hyperlink provided, shown with <u>blue, underlined text</u>. The lowa DOT does not provide printed copies of the I.M.s; however, all I.M.s are available on-line in Adobe Acrobat's Portable Document Format (PDF).

Although the Federal-aid Guide is written using an informal style, in some places, it is necessary to use technical terms or phrases. When such terms or phrases are used, they are defined in <a href="Appendix B - Glossary of Terms">Appendix B - Glossary of Terms</a>. To jump to the glossary entry for a defined term or phrase, simply click on the green, dotted-underline text.

#### 1.1.3. What does the Federal-aid Guide cover?

The focus of the Federal-aid Guide is Federal-aid project development. However, it also provides some guidance for a wider range of project activities – beginning immediately after funding approval and continuing up through construction and final reimbursement.

The Federal-aid Guide is applicable to any transportation project that is funded in whole or in part with Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) program funds that are passed through the lowa Department of Transportation (lowa DOT) to a local government or other government agency. Examples of such programs include traditional highway and bridge programs such as the Surface Transportation Block Grant (STBG) Program and Highway Bridge Program (a subsidiary of the STBG program); and other transportation-related programs such as Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP) and Federal Recreational Trails program and the lowa Clean Air Attainment Program (ICAAP). The Federal-aid Guide is also applicable to projects funded with Federal-aid earmark or demonstration funds that are subject to FHWA requirements, as specified in Title 23, United States Code and its associated regulations.

The Federal-aid Guide does not cover projects with Federal-aid Swap funding; refer to <u>I.M. 1.150</u>, Federal-aid Swap Program and the Non-Federal-aid Guide for additional information.

#### 1.2. Working with the lowa DOT

#### 1.2.1. Roles and Responsibilities

With respect to an LPA Federal-aid transportation project, the Iowa DOT serves as both an advisor and a monitor. With each role, the Iowa DOT has different responsibilities. As an advisor, the Iowa DOT is responsible for providing guidance and assistance to LPAs to help them successfully implement their Federal-aid transportation projects. As a monitor, the Iowa DOT is

responsible to the FHWA for administering and overseeing the various Federal-aid transportation programs that are available to LPAs. This oversight is accomplished by numerous reviews and approvals of project activities, as outlined in the I.M.s applicable to those activities.

Certain project activities also require approval by FHWA (for example, a design exception for a project on the <u>National Highway System</u>). A complete list of activities requiring FHWA approval is contained in Attachment A of the <u>Stewardship and Oversight Agreement</u> between the lowa DOT and the FHWA lowa Division. When approval is required by FHWA, this will also be noted in the I.M. that addresses that project activity.

In addition, for certain projects, the FHWA must also review and approve certain project activities. In the current Stewardship and Oversight Agreement, these are referred to by FHWA as Projects of Division Interest (PoDI). Such projects will have a project-specific Stewardship and Oversight Plan which details the specific project activities requiring FHWA review and approval. These activities are selective and may change over time. If a project is designated as a PoDI, the FHWA lowa Division will notify the lowa DOT, and in turn, the lowa DOT <u>Administering Bureau</u> will notify the LPA and provide a copy of the project-specific Stewardship and Oversight Plan.

#### 1.2.2. Who do I Contact?

The administration and oversight of these Federal-aid programs is a combined effort of many different divisions and offices within the Iowa DOT. However, the LPA's primary point of contact with the Iowa DOT will be the <u>Administering Bureau</u>. Unless specified otherwise, all project submittals, correspondence, and questions should be directed to the Administering Bureau.

The Iowa DOT <u>Local Systems Bureau</u> is responsible for providing written guidance, including the Federal-aid Guide, I.M.s, and other information, to both the Administering Bureau and LPAs. The Local Systems Bureau also provides assistance with the interpretation and implementation of that guidance. When policy or procedural questions require the assistance of the FHWA, the Local Systems Bureau serves as a liaison between the FHWA and the Administering Bureau or LPAs.

#### 2 Federal-aid Basics

Before beginning any project activities for which Federal-aid reimbursement will be requested, read this section carefully! This section of the Federal-aid Guide explains several critical activities and their sequence in the Federal-aid process. To have a successful Federal-aid project, it is crucial that the LPA officials working on the project understand and comply with these basic requirements of the Federal-aid process.

#### 2.1. Project Programming

All Federal-aid projects must be included, or "programmed," in the appropriate Regional Planning Affiliation (RPA) or Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) Transportation Improvement Program (TIP). All of the RPA and MPO TIPs are then combined, along with Iowa DOT Federal-aid projects, to form the Statewide Transportation Improvement Program (STIP).

As discussed in <u>Section 2.3</u> below, project activities for which Federal-aid reimbursement will be requested must receive <u>FHWA Authorization</u> before those activities begin. However, before any project activities can receive FHWA Authorization, the project must be included in the STIP. Therefore, project programming is a critical first step in the Federal-aid process.

The LPA is responsible for working with the applicable RPA or MPO to ensure that their project is included in the TIP / STIP and is programmed with an adequate amount of funds for the correct <u>Federal Fiscal Year (FFY)</u>. Funds should be programmed in the FFY(s) in which FHWA Authorization will need to occur; not on the basis of when actual expenditures will occur. For example, if utilizing Federal-aid on the construction phase of a project, FHWA Authorization would occur during the lowa DOT letting process and all related Federal-aid funds shall be programmed in the FFY in which the authorization will occur for the anticipated letting. This would be true even if the construction project was expected to take multiple construction seasons to complete. The FFY begins October 1, and ends September 30. For example, FFY 2021 began October 1, 2020 and will end September 30, 2021. FHWA Authorization for the October

letting would occur approximately 6 weeks before letting, so for projects scheduled for an October letting, they would need to be programmed in the previous FFY.

Project programming information for the TIPs is submitted, reviewed, and transmitted to the Iowa DOT for inclusion in the STIP using the <u>Transportation Project Management System</u> (TPMS). TPMS is web-based tool developed by the <u>Iowa County Engineers Association Service Bureau</u> (ICEASB) to assist local agencies with project programming and development tracking. While this tool was initially developed for the counties, it is also available for use by cities and consultants. For more information about TPMS or to request access to this system, call the ICEASB at 515-244-0779.

#### 2.2. Funding Agreement

Another important initial step in the Federal-aid process is execution of a funding agreement between the lowa DOT and the LPA. When funding has been awarded, the LPA should submit a copy of the approved funding application, Concept Statement, or other documentation to the <u>Administering Bureau</u> as soon as possible. Other documentation shall include, as a minimum, the name and title of the LPA's contact person, a project description that identifies the limits and basic character of the proposed work, and a current cost estimate. (Note: If the funding application was approved by the Administering Bureau, as may be the case with the Systems Planning Bureau, additional documentation is not usually required.)

Upon receipt of this information, the Administering Bureau will prepare a funding agreement and send an unsigned copy to the LPA for signature. By signing the funding agreement, the LPA agrees to follow all of the applicable Federal and State laws, regulations and policies pertaining to the specific type(s) of Federal funds that are involved. Therefore, project development activities should not proceed until a funding agreement has been executed to avoid potential re-work or jeopardizing Federal-aid.

In general, the funding agreement spells out the responsibilities of both the LPA and the lowa DOT. The details of the funding agreement will vary, depending on the type of Federal funds that are involved. The LPA officials responsible for the project should thoroughly review the funding agreement prior to bringing it to the board of supervisors or city council for action. Any questions or concerns should be directed to the Administering Bureau.

#### 2.3. FHWA Authorization

FHWA Authorization is one of the most important aspects of the entire Federal-aid process. If not done correctly or in a timely manner, it can jeopardize Federal-aid reimbursement for part or all of a project.

#### 2.3.1. When is FHWA Authorization Needed?

FHWA Authorization must be obtained before beginning any project activity for which Federal-aid reimbursement will be requested. If the LPA does not have written confirmation from the lowa DOT that FHWA Authorization has been secured for a specific project activity which will utilize Federal-aid, work should not begin. The costs associated with work occurring prior to FHWA Authorization will not be reimbursed with Federal funds. If there is any doubt about whether FHWA Authorization has been obtained, contact the Administering Bureau for assistance.

Depending on the type of <u>Federal funds</u> and the provisions of the funding agreement, there are several different types of project activities that may be eligible for Federal-aid reimbursement. Some of these may include environmental studies, design, right-of-way acquisition, utility relocations, railroad work, construction, and construction inspection. Refer to the project funding agreement for the specific types of project activities that may be reimbursed with Federal funds.

#### 2.3.2. How is FHWA Authorization Obtained?

The following is a summary of the <u>FHWA Authorization</u> process. This process has been generalized for the sake of clarity. The actual authorization process will vary depending on the specific type of project activity that is being authorized. Additional details are provided in the sections of the Federal-aid Guide and / or I.M.s that address each type of project activity.

 The LPA sends a written request for FHWA Authorization to begin a specific type of project work to the <u>Administering Bureau</u>, including the appropriate documentation for the type of work being requested.

- 2. The Administering Bureau reviews the LPA's request and verifies the required clearances and reviews have been completed.
- 3. If acceptable, the Iowa DOT verifies the availability of <u>Federal funds</u> and prepares the electronic <u>Authorization/Agreement</u> or <u>Amendment/Modification</u> document, using the <u>Fiscal Management Information System</u> (FMIS).
- 4. The lowa DOT sends the electronic document to FHWA for review and approval.
- 5. FHWA reviews the electronic document, and if acceptable, electronically signs the document. If the request is not acceptable, FHWA contacts the lowa DOT to resolve any questions or issues.
- 6. After FHWA has signed the electronic document, the Administering Bureau notifies the LPA that FHWA Authorization has been obtained and the requested work may begin.

#### 2.4. Reimbursement

All of the Federal-aid transportation programs administered by the Iowa DOT operate on a reimbursement basis. That is, the LPA, after completing the necessary steps and receiving the appropriate approvals, pays project expenses up front. In turn, the LPA submits a request for reimbursement to the Iowa DOT. The request should be made using the form or format provided by the <u>Administering Bureau</u>. To ensure proper accounting of costs, reimbursement requests for costs incurred prior to June 30 shall be submitted to the Administering Bureau by August 1, if possible, but no later than August 15.

Requests for reimbursement shall be made on a periodic basis after costs have been incurred. To prevent the project obligation from becoming inactive (no Federal-aid reimbursements for 12 months or more), reimbursement should be requested every 6 months but not more than bi-weekly. *If the project becomes inactive, the Iowa DOT will notify the LPA that the unexpended balance of Federal funds will be de-obligated if the LPA cannot provide documentation within 30 days to support the remaining balance.* Such documentation shall include a revised cost estimate and a date by which a reimbursement request for the remaining Federal funds will be submitted. If a reimbursement request cannot be submitted within 30 days, written justification will be required for retaining the unexpended balance of Federal funds. The justification shall explain why the delay in requesting Federal-aid reimbursement is beyond the control of the LPA. Examples include delays resulting from environmental reviews or permits, right-of-way acquisition, utility relocations, unresolved litigation or contract claims, or compliance with other Federal-aid requirements. Failure to adequately plan for these requirements will not be considered adequate justification. If adequate justification is not provided, the unexpended balance of Federal funds will be deobligated, and as a result, may no longer be available for reimbursement. For more information about the inactive obligation review requirements and process, refer to I.M. 1.200, Federal Funds Management.

After Iowa DOT review and approval, the LPA will be reimbursed by the Iowa DOT at the agreed upon <u>Federal share</u> for properly documented, eligible, and authorized project costs. Reimbursements to the LPA are typically made by issuing a State warrant.

Farm-to-Market projects: A slightly different process is used for county Federal-aid projects on the Farm-to-Market System. For those projects, payments are typically made by lowa DOT from the county's Farm-to-Market account. After such payments have been made, the lowa DOT will request Federal-aid reimbursement, and the Federal share of such costs will be credited to the county's Farm-to-Market account.

#### 2.5. Match Requirements

#### 2.5.1. General Match Requirements

Most Federal-aid transportation programs require some type of cost sharing or match to the <u>Federal funds</u>. In most cases, the match must come from non-Federal-aid sources. Usually, this match is provided in monetary form; that is, eligible project costs that have been paid for by entities other than the Federal government. Monetary sources may include donations of funds made by a third party, special assessments made for the project, and other non-Federal-aid funding sources. However, if the total funding received up-front for the project exceeds the required non-Federal share, the <u>Federal share</u> shall be reduced or the excess project specific funding must be returned. In other words, an LPA may not make money on a Federal-aid project.

#### 2.5.2. In-Kind Contributions

Under certain circumstances, certain non-monetary contributions by a third party may be counted towards the required non-Federal-aid match. These non-monetary contributions are referred to as an in-kind contribution. A third party is any entity other than the Federal government, the Iowa DOT, or the LPA who is the recipient of the Federal funds. The type of in-kind contribution that may be counted toward the non-Federal-aid match varies, depending on the timing of the contribution and the type of Federal funds that are being matched. Projects funded by one or more of the Small Federal Programs (Transportation Alternatives Program and Federal Recreational Trails) may utilize right-of-way, services, materials, or equipment as an in-kind contribution. For additional guidance, eligibility limitations, and instructions on how to obtain Iowa DOT and FHWA approval of in-kind contributions, refer to I.M. 3.050, In-Kind Contributions.

#### 2.6. Person in Responsible Charge

Federal regulations (23 CFR 635.105 and 23 CFR 172.9(d)(1)) require the LPA to have a full-time employee who is in responsible charge of the project. This person supervises all project administration duties, oversees the work performed by consultants and contractors, and coordinates the development of the project with the lowa DOT. Specific duties include:

- administering inherently governmental project activities, including the review, approval, and negotiation of contracts, adherence to contract requirements and construction quality, and managing the scope of Federal-aid projects;
- maintaining familiarity with day-to-day project operations, including project safety issues;
- 3. evaluating and participating in contract administration decisions and approvals, such as changed conditions, scope changes, changes in contract time, and changes in contract amounts;
- 4. scheduling and attending project review meetings and construction site visits on a frequency that is commensurate with the magnitude and complexity of the project;
- 5. reviewing financial processes, transactions, and documentation to ensure that safeguards are in place to minimize fraud, waste, and abuse;
- 6. directing project staff, agency staff, or consultants, to carry out project administration and contract oversight, including proper documentation;
- 7. being aware of the qualifications, assignments, and on-the-job performance of the agency and consultant staff at all stages of the project; and
- 8. ensuring that costs requested for Federal-aid reimbursement are allowable in accordance with the Federal cost principles and consistent with the contract terms.

These duties may be shared by several people. A single person may also serve as the person in responsible charge for multiple projects.

For counties and larger cities, this person is typically the county or city engineer; however, they need not be a licensed engineer or architect to be the person in responsible charge. For smaller cities that do not have any full-time employees, the mayor or city clerk may serve as the person in responsible charge, with assistance from the lowa DOT Administering Bureau. A consultant **shall not** serve as the person in responsible charge.

#### 3 Getting Started

#### 3.1. Project Development Overview

The Federal-aid project development process is shown graphically in <u>Appendix A - Project Development Flowchart</u>. This flow chart includes references to some of the applicable I.M.s for additional details concerning specific parts of the development process. The remaining sections of the Federal-aid Guide provide a written overview of the project development process.

#### 3.2. Concept Statement

Submittal of the Concept Statement for Local Public Agency Federal-aid Projects (<u>Form 517001</u>) is a critical first step that typically initiates the project development process. This form provides information about the proposed location and types of work, possible environmental impacts, and proposed design.

Since this information is used by the lowa DOT to initiate a number of different project reviews and processes, this form should be submitted by the LPA as soon as possible. Otherwise, the required reviews and processes will be delayed, and this may delay the project as a whole.

For additional information and detailed instructions for completing this form, refer to <u>I.M. 3.020</u>, Concept Statement Instructions.

#### 3.3. Project Schedule

The time required to develop a Federal-aid project from funding approval to project letting varies greatly, depending on several factors. Some of these factors include: whether right-of-way must be acquired, the type and magnitude of environmental or social impacts, and whether utility relocations or work on railroad property or facilities is required. Therefore, it is not possible to specify a project schedule that is applicable to all situations. Nevertheless, some typical project schedules are provided in <a href="Lim. 3.000">Lim. 3.000</a>, Federal-aid Project Scheduling. These schedules show the relationship between the typical project tasks and the time it usually takes to complete each one, based on certain assumptions.

#### 3.4. Project Submittal Dates

<u>I.M. 3.010</u>, Project Development Submittal Dates and Information, provides specific dates for some of the key project submittals, based on a targeted Iowa DOT letting date. It also provides a summary of what should be included in those submittals.

Please note that <u>I.M. 3.010</u> is only intended to show the minimum amount of time required for the Iowa DOT to review the project submittals listed. Depending on the circumstances of each project, other submittals or activities may be the controlling factor in determining when a project may be let. These dates do not account for the review times of other Federal or State agencies that may or may not be necessary for a given project. In addition, the dates shown in <u>I.M. 3.010</u> assume that the project will complete the NEPA process as a Categorical Exclusion (CE); they are not applicable for projects that will require an Environmental Assessment (EA) or Environmental Impact Statement (EIS). For more information about the different levels of environmental classification, refer to <u>I.M. 4.020</u>, NEPA Process.

#### 3.5. Project Tracking

The lowa DOT requires the LPA (or the consultant acting on its behalf) to use TPMS (as described in Section 2.1) to record and monitor the programming and development status of their projects that involve construction. Use of TPMS for non-construction projects is optional. Much of the information in TPMS is transferred electronically to the lowa DOT for use in project programming, development, and letting. Therefore, it is important for LPAs to keep their project information current in TPMS.

#### 3.6. Financial Plan

For major projects (those with an estimated cost of \$100 million or greater) the LPA will be required to prepare a financial plan. For purposes of this requirement, a "project" is defined by the limits used for the environmental review process described in Section 4 below, unless specifically stated otherwise in the environmental document.

The LPA's project financial plan must be reviewed and approved by the lowa DOT and FHWA. The estimated cost shall include all elements of work for all segments of the overall project. Elements of work refer to the different categories of work, such as engineering, right-of-way, construction, etc. Segments refer to the portions of the total project which can be defined by physical limits. For example, the design, right-of-way, and construction activities for several projects in the same highway corridor, even though they are separated for purposes of bidding and construction, may be considered one overall project.

If a project may fall into the major project category, the LPA should contact the Iowa DOT <u>Administering Bureau</u> for assistance. Additional information is available on FHWA's <u>Innovative Program Delivery</u> web site.

#### 4 Permits and Environmental Review

This section of the Federal-aid Guide gives a brief summary of the typical permits or environmental reviews that may be required by the applicable Federal or State laws and regulations.

#### 4.1. The NEPA Process

The National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) and its associated Federal regulations require that certain procedures be followed in developing a Federal-aid project. The purpose of these procedures is to provide consideration of a wide variety of social or environmental impacts that may result from the project.

The amount of time and effort required to comply with the NEPA process varies greatly, depending on the anticipated level of impacts. The effort required by an LPA may be as minimal as completing a few forms; or it may be as involved as preparing extensive environmental documentation and facilitating a significant amount of public involvement, which can be a very costly and time-consuming process.

The lowa DOT is responsible to review the environmental impacts of all LPA Federal-aid transportation projects and assist the LPA in complying with the NEPA requirements. This review is coordinated and ultimately approved by the FHWA, based on the established policies and procedures.

There are several distinct parts of the NEPA process. Completion of the NEPA process is sometimes referred to in the Federal-aid Guide and I.M.s as <u>FHWA Environmental Concurrence</u>. For an overview of the NEPA process as a whole, refer to <u>I.M. 4.020</u>, NEPA Process. For additional guidance concerning the different parts of the FHWA Environmental Concurrence process, refer to the following I.M.s:

- I.M. 3.020, Concept Statement Instructions, provides detailed instructions for completing the Concept Statement for Local Public Agency Federal-aid Projects (<u>Form 517001</u>). This form is used to begin the FHWA Environmental Concurrence Process.
- I.M. 4.110, Threatened and Endangered Species, provides guidance concerning the requirements and procedures for potential impacts to listed species and critical habitats.
- I.M. 4.120, Cultural Resource Regulations, provides guidance concerning the requirements and procedures for potential impacts to cultural resources, such as archaeological sites and historic properties.

#### 4.2. Water Trails and Paddling Routes

<u>I.M. 4.200</u>, Water Trails and Paddling Routes, provides guidance concerning the requirements under 23 CFR 774 when a project has the potential for obstruction or falling debris within a river, stream, or other aquatic resource.

#### 4.3. Section 404 Permits

Section 404 of the Clean Water Act and its associated Federal regulations place restrictions on the use of wetlands, streams, rivers, or other aquatic resources. If any project construction will occur in any of these areas, the LPA may be required to notify the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and obtain the appropriate Section 404 permit. For more information, refer to I.M. 4.130, 404 Permit Process.

#### 4.4. Iowa DNR Floodplain Development Permits

Projects that will involve construction in the flood plain of any river or stream in Iowa may require a Floodplain Development Permit from the Iowa Department of Natural Resources (Iowa DNR). The threshold for when a permit is required depends on the location, type of construction, and drainage area of the river or stream. For more information, refer to I.M. 4.150, Iowa DNR Floodplain Permits and Regulations.

#### 4.5. Storm Water Permits

The Clean Water Act and its associated Federal and State regulations may also require a National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permit. If project construction activities will disturb more than 1 acre of ground, the LPA is required to submit a notification and obtain an NPDES permit from the lowa DNR. Ground is considered disturbed if the soil is exposed to erosive forces, such as wind or water, for any period of time. For more information, refer to I.M. 4.140, Storm Water Permits.

#### 4.6. Farmland Protection Policy Act

The Farmland Protection Policy Act and its associated Federal regulations are designed to minimize the conversion of farmland to non-agricultural purposes by Federal-aid programs. If the project will require less than 5 acres of farmland per mile or per site, no action needs to be taken. However, if the anticipated impacts will exceed these thresholds, the LPA is required to complete a form and submit it to the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS). For more information, refer to <a href="Limitation">L.M. 4.170</a>, Farmland Protection Policy Act Guidelines.

#### 4.7. Projects in the Vicinity of an Airport or Heliport

If project construction will take place in the vicinity of a public airport or heliport, the LPA may be required to provide notice to the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) and local airport officials. For more information, refer to I.M. 4.190, Highway Improvements in the Vicinity of Airports or Heliports.

#### 4.8. Hazardous Materials

In order to construct a transportation project, it is possible that hazardous materials may be encountered during the demolition or construction of buildings, bridges, or other structures. In those cases, certain Federal and State laws and regulations may govern how the demolition or construction may proceed.

The Clean Air Act and its associated Federal regulations require certain inspection, testing, notification, and removal procedures to be followed if the project involves removal of any structures or material that may contain asbestos. This includes buildings and bridges. For more information on the required procedures, refer to <u>I.M. 4.160</u>, Asbestos Inspection, Removal, and Notification Requirements.

If contaminated soil or other hazardous wastes are encountered during project construction or on property acquired for the project, the LPA may be responsible for removal or treatment of such materials. If hazardous wastes may be present, the LPA may contact the lowa DOT <u>Location and Environment Bureau</u>, Regulated Materials Section, for assistance.

#### 4.9. Work on Primary or Interstate Highways

If a locally sponsored project involves a Primary or Interstate highway, additional coordination and approvals by the Iowa DOT and / or FHWA are required, as described below.

#### 4.9.1. Permits

If the project will require any work within or abutting the right-of-way of an Interstate or Primary Highway, the LPA must acquire the appropriate permit(s) from the Iowa DOT. Execution of the project funding agreement does not grant any of the Iowa DOT permits that may be required. The type of permits required depends on the type of work being done. For more information, contact the Engineering Operations Technician in the Iowa DOT <u>District Office</u> in which the project is located.

#### 4.9.2. Interchange Justification Reports

If the project will involve studies, design, or construction associated with a new or revised interchange on an Interstate highway, an Interchange Justification Report (IJR) must be prepared. The purpose of an IJR is to evaluate the need and engineering feasibility of the proposed interchange. The IJR must be reviewed and approved by the Iowa DOT and the FHWA. For more information, refer to the Iowa DOT's <a href="User Guide - Process for New or Revised Interchange Access">User Guide - Process for New or Revised Interchange Access</a>.

#### 4.9.3. Projects within Interstate Right-of-Way

If the project will require any work within Interstate ROW, additional time may be required for FHWA review prior to construction, regardless of funding type. For projects with Federal-aid, the Administering Bureau will coordinate this. Due to traffic volumes and speed, all construction that takes place within Interstate right-of-way will be directly administered by Iowa DOT unless prior approval has been obtained from FHWA. Coordination of these activities should be discussed early in the design process to ensure all parties have capacity in their schedules.

#### 5 Project Design

Unless specified otherwise in the project funding agreement, the LPA is responsible for all project design activities. The project design may be completed by the LPA's own staff, by a consultant, or if provided for by an intergovernmental agreement with another governmental agency, the staff or consultants hired by that agency. In any case, all plans and specifications must be prepared by a professional engineer or architect licensed to practice in the State of Iowa, unless specified otherwise in the project funding agreement.

#### 5.1. Final Design and FHWA Environmental Concurrence

As discussed in <u>Section 4.1</u> above, the NEPA process requires that certain procedures be followed in the process of selecting the location of a Federal-aid project. The NEPA process also places limits on when certain project activities may begin. One of the activities limited by the NEPA process is final design. Final design activities may not begin until <u>FHWA Environmental Concurrence</u> has been obtained.

Environmental and related engineering studies, agency coordination, public involvement activities, and preparation of Preliminary Plans are not considered final design. Therefore, these activities may proceed prior to completing the NEPA process. However, work directly associated with preparation, review, or submittal of Check Plans or Final Plans is considered final design.

#### 5.2. Federal-aid Participation in Design Activities

For most Federal-aid projects, project design activities may be eligible for Federal-aid reimbursement. For purposes of FHWA Authorization, these costs are categorized as one of the following:

- Preliminary Engineering (PE) includes work that is part of the development of the plans, specifications, and estimate (PS&E) for a construction project. This includes environmental studies and documents, preliminary design, and final design up through and including the preparation of bidding documents. PE does not include planning or other activities that are not intended to lead to a construction project. Examples include planning, conceptual, or feasibility studies.
- Construction Engineering (CE) includes materials testing, construction inspection, and other work
  directly related to the administration of the construction contract (e.g., processing contractor
  payment requests, or preparing change orders, a final punch list, or project close-out paperwork).

#### 5.2.1. Consultant Services

If the LPA uses consultant services to assist in the planning, design, or construction of the project, a consultant evaluation shall be completed as per I.M. 3.320, Consultant Evaluations.

If the LPA desires Federal-aid reimbursement for the costs of consultant services, certain procedures must be followed in acquiring, preparing, reviewing, approving, and administering the consultant contract. For more information, refer to <a href="LIM.3.310">LIM. 3.310</a>, Federal-aid Participation in Consultant Costs.

#### 5.2.2. In-House Services

If the LPA chooses to perform PE, CE, right-of-way acquisition, or other work directly related to the development of the project with its own staff, these costs may also be reimbursed with <u>Federal funds</u>, if the appropriate procedures are followed. To be approved, the LPA must be able to segregate and provide an accounting of the cost of its in-house services. For more information, refer to I.M. 3.330, Federal-aid Participation In-House Services.

#### 5.3. Design Guidelines

Federal-aid projects should be designed to meet the guidelines provided by the Iowa DOT. Generally speaking, these guidelines correspond to nationally recognized design guidelines, such as those published by the American Association of State Highway Transportation Officials (AASHTO).

#### 5.3.1. Roadways and Bridges

Any road or bridge projects that are located on the <u>Primary Highway System</u>, <u>Interstate System</u> or <u>National Highway System</u> (NHS), regardless of funding source, shall use the design guidelines in the <u>lowa DOT Design Manual</u>. For all other road and bridge projects, refer to the guidelines listed below:

- For projects involving new construction or complete reconstruction within urban areas, refer
  to Iowa Statewide Urban Design and Specifications (SUDAS) <u>Design Manual</u>, Chapter 5.
- For projects involving new construction or complete reconstruction on rural collectors and rural local roads, refer to I.M. 3.210, Rural Design Guidelines.
- For projects involving new construction or complete reconstruction on urban public improvement projects, refer to <u>I.M. 3.215</u>, Urban Design Guidelines.
- For projects with a rural cross section (e.g. shoulders with open ditches, no curbs) in urban areas or projects in transition areas between rural and urban areas, refer either to the SUDAS Design Manual or I.M. 3.210.
- For both rural and urban projects involving rehabilitation, restoration, or resurfacing (3R) projects, refer to I.M. 3.220, 3R Guidelines.
- For guidance concerning the use and placement of guard rails and bridge rails, refer to <u>I.M.</u> 3.230, Traffic Barriers (Guardrail and Bridge Barrier Rail).
- For guidance in providing a safe recovery area, refer to <a href="L.M. 3.240">I.M. 3.240</a>, Clear Zone Guidelines.
- For projects involving bridges or culverts, additionally refer to <u>I.M. 3.500</u>, Bridge or Culvert Plans.

#### 5.3.2. Bicycle and Pedestrian Facilities

For bicycle and pedestrian facility projects, designs should meet or exceed the minimum recommended values provided in Chapter 12A and 12B of the lowa DOT Design Manual.

New construction or alterations to pedestrian facilities shall be designed to meet the requirements of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). Refer to <u>I.M. 1.080</u>, ADA Requirements, for the applicable design guidelines.

#### 5.4. Design Exceptions

Designs that do not meet the guidelines specified by the applicable I.M.s or documents referenced in Section 5.3 will require a written design exception or justification. Design exceptions and justifications should be based on sound engineering judgment, describe the proposed mitigation measures, and include supporting documentation that is appropriate. Design exceptions also require preparation of a cost-benefit analysis; whereas justifications do not.

The LPA must prepare and submit the design exception or justification and its accompanying documentation to the <u>Administering Bureau</u> for review and approval. Design exceptions or justifications should be submitted with the Concept Statement submittal, or as soon as it becomes apparent that an exception or justification will be necessary, but in no case later than the Check Plan Submittal.

#### 5.4.1. Roadways and Bridges

A design exception is required in the following situations:

- 1. For the controlling design elements listed in <u>I.M. 3.260</u>, Design Exception Process, the proposed design does not meet:
  - the values in the "AASHTO Guidelines" tables of I.M. 3.210; or

- the "acceptable" values in the <u>lowa DOT Design Manual</u> or <u>SUDAS Design Manual</u>, as applicable.
- 2. For projects on the Interstate System, Primary System, or NHS, any controlling design element identified in the <u>lowa DOT Design Manual Section 1C-1</u> is not met.

A justification is required in the following situations:

For the controlling design elements listed in <u>I.M. 3.260</u>, Design Exception Process, the proposed design meets:

- the values in the "AASHTO Guidelines" tables, but does not meet the values in the "Design Aids" tables of I.M. 3.210; or
- the "acceptable" values, but does not meet the "preferred values" in the <u>lowa DOT</u> Design Manual or SUDAS Design Manual, as applicable.

Federal regulations require approval of design exceptions for any new construction, reconstruction or 3R project on the NHS, regardless of funding source. LPAs should review the design of all such projects and submit design exception requests to the Iowa DOT <u>Administering Bureau</u>. Routine maintenance activities on NHS routes do not require review or approval by the Iowa DOT.

For more information on the design exception process for road or bridge projects, refer to <u>I.M.</u> 3.250, Economic Analysis (Benefit-to-Cost Ratio) and I.M. 3.260, Design Exception Process.

#### 5.4.2. Bicycle and Pedestrian Facilities

Project designs that do not meet the guidelines listed in Section 5.3.2 require a written justification.

#### 5.5. Plans and Specifications

There are several points during project development at which plans must be submitted to the lowa DOT. These submittals are a key part of the project review and provide much of the information required by the lowa DOT. Each submittal shall be made through TPMS and accompanied by an e-mail through the TPMS system; and other documents shall be submitted as required. The content of each submittal is summarized in <a href="L.M. 3.010">L.M. 3.010</a>, Project Development Submittal Dates and Information.

#### 5.5.1. Preliminary Plans

The Preliminary Plans are used by the lowa DOT to evaluate the proposed project design, right-of-way needs, and possible environmental impacts. For more information, refer to <u>I.M. 3.400</u>, Preliminary Plans. If the project involves a bridge or culvert, refer also to <u>I.M. 3.500</u>, Bridge or Culvert Plans.

#### 5.5.2. Check and Final Plans

Most Federal-aid transportation projects must be let by the Iowa DOT. To be successfully let by the Iowa DOT, the plans and specifications must conform to the Iowa DOT letting process. For example, the Iowa DOT <u>Standard Specifications</u> and the accompanying list of <u>standard bid items</u> shall be used when appropriate. In addition, use of Iowa DOT <u>Standard Road Plans</u> and <u>Road Design Details</u> (includes standard tabulations, notes, details, and typical sections) are also strongly encouraged. Use of these standards promotes consistency and uniformity among all projects let by the Iowa DOT. In turn, plan consistency helps reduce the project cost, because bidder uncertainties associated with different specifications or plan formats are reduced.

The Check Plan submittal serves as a precursor to the Final Plans. Even so, Check Plans should be 100% complete. This allows the <u>Administering Bureau</u> to review all the required elements of the plans and provide enough time to make any changes that may be needed. If the Check Plans are not complete, the project letting may be delayed.

For detailed information about the plan requirements for letting at the lowa DOT, refer to <u>I.M.</u> 3.700. If the project involves a bridge or culvert, refer also to <u>I.M.</u> 3.500, Bridge or Culvert Plans.

#### 6 Right-of-Way, Utilities, and Railroads

#### 6.1. Right-of-Way

For some transportation projects, it is necessary to acquire some type of property rights in order to construct the project. As used in the Federal-aid Guide and the I.M.s, the term, "right-of-way" includes the acquisition of any type of property rights. These property rights may be temporary, such as a temporary construction easement; or they may be permanent, such as a drainage easement or title to a property.

Regardless of what type of property rights are acquired, there are a number of Federal and State laws and regulations that govern how and when this may be accomplished on a Federal-aid project. These laws and regulations are lengthy and complex, and in many cases, will require the use of specially trained staff or consultants to ensure they are followed properly. Nevertheless, there are a few points that everyone should understand:

- The Federal and State right-of-way laws and regulations always apply, even if right-of-way costs will not be reimbursed with Federal funds.
- If Federal-aid is used in the cost of acquiring right-of-way, the acquisition may not begin until after <a href="FHWA Environmental Concurrence">FHWA Environmental Concurrence</a> has been obtained. One exception to this requirement is when property is acquired because of a hardship on the property owner, or when purchase is necessary to protect a corridor for future transportation use. However, individual parcels to be acquired under the hardship or protective buying provisions still must have prior approval by the lowa DOT and the FHWA.
- If Federal-aid is not used in the cost of acquiring right-of-way, the acquisition may begin before FHWA Environmental Concurrence has been obtained.

For more information about right-of-way acquisition resources, procedures, and requesting <u>FHWA Authorization</u> of right-of-way costs, refer to <u>I.M. 3.600</u>, Right-of-Way Acquisition.

#### 6.2. Utilities

#### 6.2.1. Accommodation and Coordination

Early coordination with utilities that may be impacted by a transportation project is critical. Even though, in many cases, the utility company is obligated to move its facilities if required by a transportation project, failure to communicate by either the LPA or the utility can cause project delays and added expense.

All utility relocations required by a Federal-aid project shall comply with the applicable utility accommodation policy. For projects located on non-primary, Federal-aid highways, refer to the Policy for Accommodating Utilities on the County and City Non-Primary Federal-aid Road System. For projects located on primary highways, refer to 761 lowa Administrative Code, Chapter 115 Utility Accommodation. For more information, refer to I.M. 3.640, Utility Accommodation and Coordination.

#### 6.2.2. Federal-aid Participation in Utility Relocations

<u>Federal funds</u> may or may not participate in the costs, depending on their location, ownership, and which entities have either the obligation or authority to pay for the costs of relocating the utilities. In most cases, utilities located in the public right-of-way must move at their own expense and are not eligible for Federal-aid reimbursement. Utility relocation costs include the costs to relocate utilities that must be moved in order to construct the project. Besides construction, these costs may also include design, and in some cases, the acquisition of a replacement easement.

For more information, refer to <u>I.M. 3.650</u>, Federal-aid Participation in Utility Relocations.

#### 6.3. Railroads

#### 6.3.1. Coordination

When a transportation project requires the use of railroad property, even for minor maintenance-type work of limited duration, advance notification and approval by the railroad will be required. Projects that require access to the railroad right-of-way or modifications to railroad facilities will require an agreement with the railroad.

Therefore, as is the case with utilities, early coordination with the affected railroad(s) is critical. The LPA should contact all railroad companies that have tracks inside or adjacent to the project work area to determine what type of approvals or agreements will be required. The lowa DOT has developed a process for coordinating with railroads, including specific procedures and specifications that shall be used for all projects let by the lowa DOT. For more information, refer to <a href="LM.3.670">LM.3.670</a>, Work on Railroad Right-of-Way.

#### 6.3.2. Federal-aid Projects Involving Railroads

All Federal-aid projects that will require access to the railroad right-of-way or modifications to railroad facilities must comply with a number of other specific requirements, including project design, notifications and / or agreements, insurance, and provisions for railroad flaggers.

If required by the transportation project, the costs of work performed by a railroad or the railroad's contractor may be eligible for Federal-aid reimbursement. In other cases, if the proposed improvements have a benefit to the railroad, the railroad may also be required by the Federal regulations to share in the cost of the work. However, the cost of improvements that are for the sole benefit of the railroad are not eligible for Federal-aid participation.

For purposes of <u>FHWA Authorization</u>, railroad work includes the costs of modifications to railroad facilities that are required in order to construct the project. This may include construction, flaggers, right-of-way, and engineering costs. These costs shall be identified as part of the agreement between the LPA and the railroad, and the agreement must be reviewed and approved by the lowa DOT prior to being executed by the LPA and the railroad. For more information, refer to <u>I.M. 3.680</u>, Federal-aid Projects Involving Railroads.

#### 7 Letting and Contract Award

#### 7.1. Iowa DOT Letting Procedures

Competitive bidding has been a long-standing requirement for the Federal-aid transportation programs, with a few exceptions. As a result, there are many Federal laws and regulations that pertain to the construction contracting process. Because of the complexity of these requirements, the lowa DOT requires that most Federal-aid projects be let at the lowa DOT. This enables the lowa DOT to better ensure compliance with these laws and regulations by conducting and directly monitoring the letting process. The lowa DOT letting process is described in detail by <a href="L.M. 5.030">L.M. 5.030</a>, lowa DOT Letting Process. If an LPA would like to utilize innovative contracting methods, refer to <a href="L.M. 3.730">L.M. 3.730</a>, Innovative Contracting Procedures. However, some important aspects of this process are highlighted in the subsections below:

#### 7.1.1. FHWA Authorization of Construction Costs

As part of the letting process, the Iowa DOT obtains <u>FHWA Authorization</u> for the costs of the proposed construction contract. FHWA Authorization will be requested based on the plans, specifications, and estimate (PS&E) submitted by the LPA. If the bids come in significantly higher or lower than the estimate, the FHWA Authorization may be adjusted accordingly, provided that sufficient <u>Federal funds</u> are available for the project. The lowa DOT requires that the LPA budget sufficient funds and be prepared to award a contract for bids that are up to 110% of the LPA's estimate.

#### 7.1.2. Project Clearances

Before letting may proceed, the project should have all of the necessary clearances. These clearances are documented by the LPA and reviewed by the Iowa DOT using the Project

Development Certification (<u>Form 730002</u>). This form should be submitted with the Final Plans. For more information, refer to I.M. 3.710, Project Development Certification Instructions.

Without the required clearances, projects are normally not allowed to enter the Iowa DOT letting process. However, under special circumstances, a project may begin the letting process without all of the necessary clearances provided the LPA requests and the <u>Administering Bureau</u> approves a Public Interest Finding.

The LPA's request must document the reasons why it is in the public's best interest to deviate from the standard procedures. For additional guidance on this process, as well as other conditions that require a Public Interest Finding, refer to I.M. 3.720, Public Interest Findings.

#### 7.1.3. Iowa DOT Concurrence in Award

After bids are opened, the Iowa DOT determines the lowest responsive and responsible bidder and provides the LPA with tabulation of bids received and the unexecuted contract documents. Within 30 days of the letting, the LPA must either accept the low bid or reject all bidders. If the low bid is accepted, the LPA shall utilize Doc Express for the execution of the Contract. Instructions for Contract Signing in Doc Express are linked <a href="here">here</a>. If the Contract is acceptable, the Iowa DOT indicates its concurrence on the contract documents and transitions the contract documents via Doc Express, and the contract documents are marked complete. Work shall not begin and the preconstruction meeting shall not be held prior to Iowa DOT concurrence in the award. If the LPA elects to reject all bids, it shall notify the Iowa DOT Contracts and Specifications Bureau of its decision. For additional information and items for LPA consideration, refer to I.M. 5.030, Iowa DOT Letting Process.

#### 7.2. Local Letting Procedures

While most Federal-aid projects must be let at the lowa DOT, there are a few non-highway transportation programs for which lettings may be held locally.

Even though projects funded by these programs may be let locally, the applicable Federal and State competitive bidding requirements must still be satisfied, as well as several other Federal-aid requirements. To assist in meeting these requirements, the lowa DOT has developed procedures and standardized bidding documents for use with locally let Federal-aid projects. Before advertising for bids, the LPA must submit the proposed bidding documents for review and approval by the lowa DOT.

For more information on the types of Federal-aid programs and projects that may be let locally, and the required procedures for conducting a local letting, refer I.M. 5.120, Local Letting Process – Federal-aid.

#### 7.3. Participation by Disadvantaged Business Enterprises

The requirements of the Disadvantaged Business Enterprise (DBE) program apply to all contracts awarded under all of the Federal-aid transportation programs, regardless of how the contract is acquired. These requirements apply to construction contracts let locally or by the lowa DOT. They also apply to consultant contracts which will be reimbursed with Federal funds.

In summary, a DBE goal is not always required, but DBE firms must always be given consideration for participation in Federal-aid funded contracts. For specific guidance on applying the DBE requirements to construction contracts or consultant contracts, refer to <u>I.M. 5.010</u>, DBE Guidelines.

#### 8 Construction

#### 8.1. Contract Administration and Inspection

Unless specified otherwise in the funding agreement, the LPA will be responsible for all aspects of administration and inspection of the construction contract. This includes providing daily, on-site inspection of the contractor's work activities and processing all of the paperwork associated with the construction contract, including any change orders. All change orders shall have approval of the appropriate governing authority, such as the city council or county board of supervisors. Change Orders must also have lowa DOT concurrence.

If the LPA does not have adequate staff to perform this work, it may hire a consultant or enter into an agreement with another governmental agency to provide these services. If the LPA elects to hire a consultant, the consultant staff shall be competent in construction inspection and perform this work under the direct supervision of a registered professional engineer or architect licensed in the State of Iowa.

However, use of a consultant does not relieve the LPA of ultimate responsibility for the proper administration and inspection of the construction contract. If a consultant is used to provide the inspection services, an LPA employee shall oversee the consultant's work.

For additional information about the construction inspection procedures, including the required forms and paperwork, refer to <u>I.M. 6.000</u>, Construction Inspection.

#### 8.2. Iowa DOT and FHWA Reviews

The lowa DOT and / or the FHWA may also conduct a field review of selected LPA projects during construction. Selected projects will be reviewed by <u>Administering Bureau</u>, <u>Local Systems Bureau</u>, or FHWA staff. If selected, the LPA may be notified when the field review will be conducted, or the review may be conducted unannounced. The purpose of the field review is to spot check the LPA's construction inspection documentation and provide assistance to the LPA if any deficiencies are identified.

#### 9 Project Close-out and Audits

#### 9.1. Completion of the Construction Contract

Federal regulations require each project to establish a Project End Date (PED). Costs incurred after the PED are not eligible for reimbursement. Timely project closeouts after the PED are also required by federal regulations. Refer to I.M. 1.200, Federal Funds Management, for additional details.

The LPA is responsible for ensuring that all project construction has been completed and all of the necessary paperwork as required by the construction contract has been provided. This involves the LPA conducting a pre-audit of all contract items and associated paperwork; refer to <a href="L.M. 6.110">L.M. 6.110</a>, Attachment E for a checklist of items. When both the LPA and the Administering Bureau accept the field work as complete, the LPA's project engineer shall certify that the project was constructed in accordance with the plans and specifications and request a final audit of the construction contract.

#### 9.2. Final Audits

After receipt of the request for a final audit, the <u>Administering Bureau</u> may elect to conduct a final audit of the construction contract documentation. This will include a review of the final pay quantities for the construction contract, including material certifications, test results, and other documentation. If Federal-aid participation was requested for the costs of a consultant contract, work by LPA forces, utility relocations, or railroad work, a final audit or review of these costs may also be conducted.

If the final audits or reviews find that the LPA has been over-reimbursed, the LPA shall reimburse the lowa DOT for the amount identified by the final audit or review. In turn, the lowa DOT will credit these funds to the FHWA. Otherwise, the lowa DOT will make the final reimbursement to the LPA, taking into account any adjustments required by the final audit or review.

#### 9.3. Closing the Project and Records Retention

After the final reimbursement to the LPA has been processed, the lowa DOT will prepare a final <u>Amendment/Modification</u> to the <u>FHWA authorization</u> for the project in <u>FMIS</u>, including the final total costs and final amount of Federal-aid reimbursement. After FHWA has approved this request, a copy of this document will be distributed to various lowa DOT offices, the LPA, and the appropriate RPA or MPO.

The LPA shall maintain all project records for a period of 3 years after FHWA approval of the final Amendment / Modification document. Afterwards, the LPA may discard its project files if desired.

For more detailed information concerning the entire project close-out process, refer to <u>I.M. 6.110</u>, Final Review, Audit, and Close-out Procedures for Federal-aid, Federal-aid Swap, and Farm-to-Market Projects, and <u>I.M. 6.130</u>, Interest Payment Procedures.

#### 10 Other Federal-aid Requirements

This section of the Federal-aid Guide addresses those Federal-aid requirements that do not correspond to a particular part of the project development process but are nonetheless very important considerations for any LPA using Federal funds.

#### 10.1. Nondiscrimination

#### 10.1.1. Title VI

Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 (Title VI) is a foundational piece of legislation that forms the basis for a wide array of other laws and regulations that prohibit discrimination on the basis of race, color, national origin, disability, gender, and age. Title VI has a very broad application. It prohibits discrimination in all programs or activities of any LPA that is a recipient of any Federal-aid financial assistance; even those programs or activities that do not directly benefit from such assistance. For additional guidance, refer to I.M. 1.070, Title VI and Nondiscrimination Requirements.

#### 10.1.2. Americans with Disabilities Act

The Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (ADA) is another piece of legislation aimed at prohibiting discrimination. Title II of the ADA applies to State and local governments, and its requirements affect the design, construction, and maintenance of all transportation projects, regardless of the funding sources.

The ADA requires that all new construction, reconstruction, and alterations to existing pedestrian facilities be made accessible to persons with disabilities. In addition, for those existing facilities that are not accessible, a transition plan must be prepared and implemented to bring those facilities into compliance.

For more information on ADA requirements related to transportation projects and facilities, refer to <u>I.M. 1.080</u>, ADA Requirements.

#### 10.2. Federal Funds Management

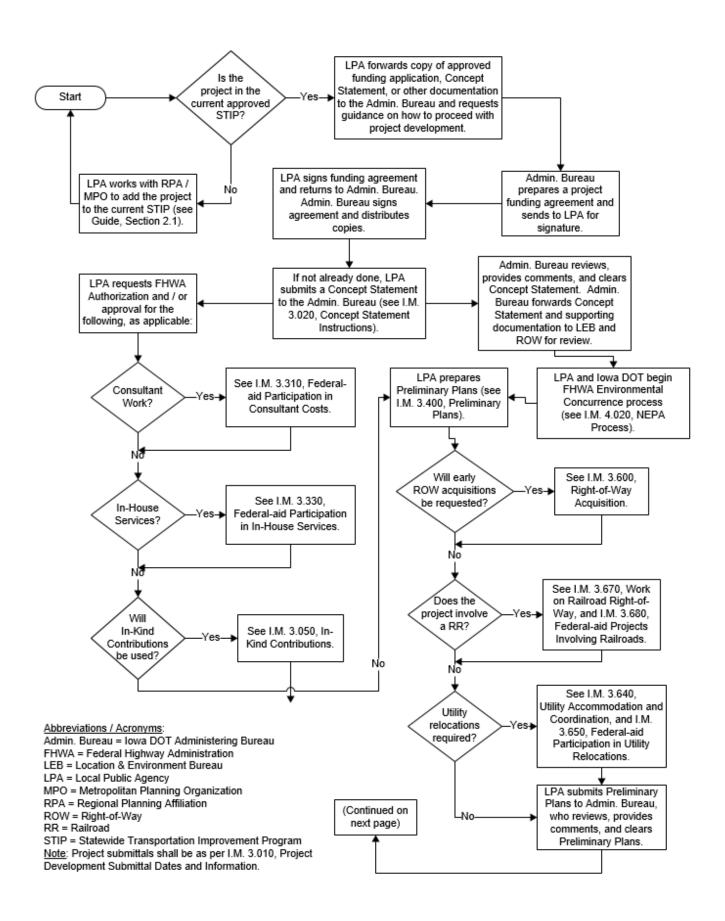
LPAs expending any Federal funds of any kind must comply with various Federal requirements relating to the management of Federal funds, including financial controls, single audit requirements, reporting, inactive obligations, project end dates, and close-out procedures. For more information, refer to I.M. 1.200, Federal Funds Management.

#### 10.3. Bridges

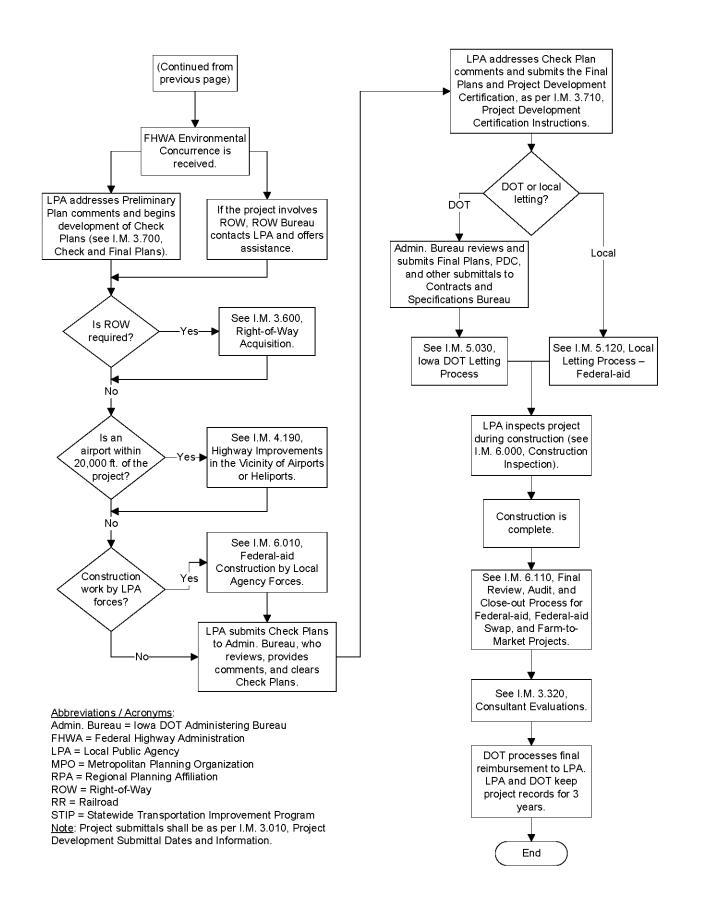
#### 10.3.1. Bridge Inspections

As a condition of receiving any <u>Federal funds</u>, LPAs with highway bridges under their jurisdiction must comply with the National Bridge Inspection Standards (NBIS). The NBIS requires regular inspections, bridge ratings, posting where appropriate, and qualified personnel to perform and supervise inspections. For more information, refer to I.M. 7.020, Bridge Inspections.

#### Appendix A – Project Development Flow Chart



#### Appendix A – Project Development Flow Chart (continued)



### Appendix B - Glossary of Terms

Below is an alphabetical listing of terms and phrases used in the Federal-aid Guide. Following each term or phrase is a brief definition.

**Administering Bureau:** For projects funded by any or a combination of the Transportation Alternatives Program, Federal Recreational Trails, certain Iowa Clean Air Attainment Program projects, and <a href="mailto:earmark">earmark</a> projects that are eligible under the aforementioned programs, the <a href="mailto:Systems Planning Bureau">Systems Planning Bureau</a> is the Administering Bureau. For most other projects, the Administering Bureau is the Local Systems Bureau. In rare cases, the Administering Bureau is one of the 6 District Offices, depending on which <a href="mailto:lowa DOT District">lowa DOT District</a> the LPA is located in. Refer to <a href="mailto:l.M. 1.000">l.M. 1.000</a>, lowa DOT Oversight of LPA Projects, to determine which bureau is the Administering Bureau.

**Authorization/Agreement:** A document that the lowa DOT and FHWA electronically sign in <u>FMIS</u> that obligates <u>Federal funds</u> for the project. This document also establishes the <u>Effective Authorization Date</u>.

**Amendment/Modification:** A document that amends a previously executed Authorization/Agreement or a prior Amendment/Modification. In instances when a Federal-aid funded project needs to be amended for any reason (cost overrun, additional phase of work, supplemental agreement, etc.), an Amendment/Modification is signed by the lowa DOT and FHWA to electronically approve the modification. This process is also completed through FMIS.

**Earmark or demonstration funds:** Federal-aid funding that is directed to specific projects in legislation enacted by the United States Congress. Earmark funding may be included either in a multi-year transportation bill such as the Fixing America's Surface Transportation Act (FAST Act), or as part of an annual appropriations bill. *Even though these projects receive their funding in a different way, earmark projects must still follow the same project development procedures as all other Federal-aid projects.* 

**Effective Authorization Date:** This is the date after which work that is to be reimbursed with <u>Federal funds</u> may begin. Any costs <u>incurred</u> prior to this date are not eligible for Federal-aid reimbursement. This date is shown on the <u>Authorization/Agreement</u> and <u>Amendment/Modification</u> documents.

**Federal-aid highways:** All roads except those with a <u>Federal Functional Classification</u> of Rural Minor Collector or Local.

**Federal Fiscal Year (FFY):** Begins on October 1 and ends September 30 of each calendar year. For example, October 1, 2021 is the beginning of the Federal Fiscal Year 2022.

**Federal funds:** Federal funds reflect the amount of Federal funding available for a project. The total amount of Federal funds received is subject to either the Federal-aid limit shown in the Statewide Transportation Improvement Program (STIP) or the limit established by the project funding agreement.

**Federal share:** The percentage of eligible and authorized project costs paid by the Federal government. With a few exceptions, the Federal government does not pay for the entire cost of the project. In most cases, <u>Federal funds</u> must be matched with funds from non-Federal-aid sources. For most FHWA transportation programs, the Federal share of project costs is 80%. Refer to the funding agreement for the applicable pro-rata Federal share and matching requirements of the specific type of Federal funds involved.

**FHWA Authorization:** The action taken by FHWA when signing the <u>Authorization/Agreement</u> document or the <u>Amendment/Modification</u> document in <u>FMIS</u>. Except in the case of Advance Construction, this action results in an <u>obligation</u> of <u>Federal funds</u> at the specified <u>Federal share</u> for the specific type of project costs identified on the Authorization/Agreement or Amendment/Modification.

**FHWA Environmental Concurrence:** This milestone in project development is marked by different events for different types of projects, depending on the anticipated level of environmental impacts. The event that marks the completion of the NEPA process depends on the type of NEPA document that is required for the project:

- For projects that are classified as a Categorical Exclusion (CE), the NEPA process is complete as of the
  effective date of FHWA Environmental Concurrence. This date is specified in the written notice the LPA
  will receive from the lowa DOT Location and Environment Bureau.
- For projects that require an Environmental Assessment (EA) or Environmental Impact Statement (EIS)
  document, the NEPA process is considered complete as of the date that the FHWA signs the Finding of
  No Significant Impact (FONSI) or Record of Decision (ROD) document, respectively.

#### Appendix B – Glossary of Terms (continued)

For more information about the different types of environmental documentation, refer to <u>I.M. 4.020</u>, NEPA Process.

**Fiscal Management Information System (FMIS):** FMIS is the FHWA's electronic financial tracking system for Federal-aid transportation projects. Iowa DOT personnel use this system to request <u>FHWA Authorization</u> or obtain project information and funding reports.

**Incurred Costs:** Costs are considered to be incurred when the work associated with those costs begins. Example: Costs have been incurred once a consultant, whose services are to be reimbursed with <u>Federal funds</u>, begins work, even if the LPA has not received a bill or made any payments to the consultant.

**Interstate System:** Those highways that are part of the Dwight D. Eisenhower National System of Interstate and Defense Highways.

**National Highway System (NHS):** Those highways that are important to the nation's economy, defense, and mobility. The NHS is made up of several subsystems, including the Interstate System, other principal arterials (as shown on the <u>Federal Functional Classification</u> maps), the Strategic Highway Network (roads of importance to strategic defense and emergency response), Major Strategic Highway Connectors (access roads to major military installations) and Intermodal Connectors (roads that provide access between major intermodal facilities and the other four subsystems previously listed). For current maps of the NHS, see FHWA's <u>NHS in lowa web page</u>.

**Obligation:** An obligation is a commitment – the Federal government's promise to pay the <u>Federal share</u> of a project's eligible cost. This commitment occurs when the project is authorized by FHWA and the <u>Authorization/Agreement</u> or the <u>Amendment/Modification</u> is executed through <u>FMIS</u>. Obligation is a key step in financing. Obligated funds are considered "used," or set aside for that particular project, even before any cash is transferred.

Primary Highway System: Those highways that are under the jurisdiction of the Iowa DOT.



## **Instructional Memorandums to Local Public Agencies Table of Contents**

The lowa DOT is required by <a href="Lowa Code 307.24">Lowa Code 307.24</a> to provide assistance for urban systems and secondary roads, and to provide other categories of assistance as necessary. One of the ways in which we carry out that requirement is to develop and maintain Instructional Memorandums (I.M.s). Some I.M.s are written either to counties or cities; others are written to both counties and cities. The intended audience is indicated in the "To:" field of the I.M. as well as the Table of Contents below. Many of the I.M.s are referenced by the Federal-aid Project Development Guide (Federal-aid Guide). These I.M.s are marked with an asterisk (\*). For more information about the relationship between the <a href="Federal-aid Guide">Federal-aid Guide</a>, and I.M.s, refer to the <a href="Guide and I.M.s web page">Guide and I.M.s web page</a>. The funding type is listed in the Table of Contents below, and will be labeled for Federal-aid (F.A.), Federal-aid Swap (Swap), State-aid (State), Farm-to-Market (F.M.) or Local; if the I.M. applies to all types of funding, "All" will be used as the Funding type.

Note: Some of the I.M.s are not yet complete, as shown in light grey text. Most of the links to the Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) and the United States Code (USC) have been removed from the individual I.M.s below. To get to the general CFR and USC, you can click on the links above and search each respective page.

No. Subject	Revision Date	Funding	Written To
Chapter 1 – Administration			
Chapter 2 – County Road System			
Chapter 3 – Project Development			
Chapter 4 – Environmental Regulations			
Chapter 5 – Letting and Contracts			
Chapter 6 - Construction			
Chapter 7 - Maintenance			
Chapter 8 – Miscellaneous Information			

#### Chapter 1 – Administration

Section	n 1.0 General			
<u>1.000</u>	Iowa DOT Oversight of LPA Projects	November 21, 2024	All	Both
	Attachment A - Project Submittal Table for Each Funding Type	November 21, 2024	All	Both
	Attachment B – Administering Team Responsibilities Flowchart	November 21, 2024	All	Both
<u>1.010</u>	Acronym List	December 31, 2019	All	Both
<u>1.020</u>	References to the Iowa Code	August 7, 2020	All	Counties
<u>1.070</u> *	Title VI and Nondiscrimination Requirements	June 29, 2018	F.A.	Both
<u>1.080</u> *	ADA Requirements	October 1, 2013	All	Both
	Attachment A – Sample Curb Ramp Transition Plan (Word)	August 24, 2012	All	Both
Section	n 1.1 Programs			
<u>1.100</u> *	Highway Bridge Programs for Cities and Counties	June 12, 2024	All	Both
	Attachment A – City Bridge Priority Point Rating Worksheet (Word)	August 16, 2024	F.A.	Cities
	Attachment B – County Bridge Priority Point Rating Worksheet (Word)	November 4, 2022	All	Counties
	Attachment C – Touchdown Points and Limits of Participation	July 18, 2011	F.A.	Both
	Attachment D – County HBP Fiscal Constraint Requirements	July 18, 2011	F.A.	Counties
<u>1.150</u>	Federal-aid Swap Program	February 10, 2023	Swap	Both
	Attachment A - Federal-aid Swap Policy Approved by the Iowa DOT Commission	November 4, 2022	Swap	Both

			Noven	nber 21, 2024
No.	Subject	Revision Date	Funding	Written To
1.180	Procedures for Developing and Administering Emergency Relief (ER) Projects	May 24, 2024	F.A.	Both
Sectio	n 1.2 Finance			
1.200	Federal Funds Management	October 19, 2023	F.A.	Both
	Attachment A - Procedures for Estimating Project End Dates	June 12, 2024	F.A.	Both
<u>1.250</u>	City Road Use Tax Fund Information	November 4, 2022	All	Both
Chap	ter 2 – County Road System			
Sectio	n 2.0 General			
<u>2.010</u>	Requirements for the County Secondary Road Construction Program and Budget	January 19, 2024	All	Counties
	Attachment A - Construction vs. Maintenance	November 21, 2024	All	Counties
	Attachment B - Paving Point Determination	August 8, 2018	All	Counties
	Attachment C - Sample Notice of Public Hearing (Word)	August 8, 2018	All	Counties
	Attachment D - Sample Resolution for Paving Points (Word)	August 8, 2018	All	Counties
<u>2.050</u>	Procedure to Amend a County Secondary Road Construction Program and Budget	August 7, 2020	All	Counties
	Attachment A - Example of Resolution to Add, Modify, or Advance a Project	August 7, 2020	All	Counties
2.070	Secondary Road Budget Accounting Code Series	July 7, 2023	All	Counties
2.080	Requirements for the County Annual Report	August 8, 2018	All	Counties
Sectio	n 2.1 Farm-to-Market (FM) System			
2.100	Farm-to-Market Program	January 19, 2024	F.M.	Counties
2.120	Temporary Allocation of Farm-to-Market Funds	March 17, 2017	F.M.	Counties
2.130	Transfer of Local Funds to the Farm-to-Market Fund	July 7, 2023	F.M.,Local	Counties
	Attachment A - Local to FM Fund Transfer Resolution (Word)	February 10, 2023	F.M.,Local	Counties
<u>2.140</u>	Transfer of Farm-to-Market Funds to the Local Secondary Road Fund	June 12, 2024	F.M.,Local	Counties
<u>2.160</u>	Procedures to Modify the Secondary Road Route Numbering System	May 26, 2017	All	Counties
2.170	Modification of the Farm-to Market (FM) System	July 12, 2022	F.M.	Counties
2.180	Farm-to-Market Review Board Advisory Opinions on Proposed Jurisdictional Transfers	July 12, 2022	F.M.	Counties
Sectio	n 2.2 Local Secondary Road Systems			
2.220	Establishing and Signing Area Service Roads	December 31, 2015	Local	Counties
	Attachment A - Area Service "B" Road Maintenance Ordinance (Sample) (Word)	May 12, 2014	Local	Counties
	Attachment B - Resolution for Reduced Level of Maintenance to Area Service "B" Road (Sample) (Word)	December 31, 2015	Local	Counties
	Attachment C - Area Service "C" Road Maintenance Ordinance (Sample) (Word)	May 12, 2014	Local	Counties
	Attachment D - Resolution for Reduced Level of Maintenance to Area Service "C" Road (Sample) (Word)	December 31, 2015	Local	Counties
	Attachment E - Resolution for Increased Level of Maintenance to Area Service Road (Sample) (Word)	December 31, 2015	Local	Counties
2.230	Signing for Low Cost Stream Crossings	June 2002	Local	Counties

No.	Subject	Revision Date	Funding	Written To
	Attachment A - Resolution for Low-Water Stream Crossing (Word)	June 2002	Local	Counties
2.270	County Road Vacations	May 20, 2019	All	Counties
	Attachment A - Resolution for Road Vacation Public Hearing (Word)	May 26, 2017	All	Counties
	Attachment B - Notice of Public Hearing (Word)	May 26, 2017	All	Counties
	Attachment C - Resolution to Vacate a County Road (Word)	May 26, 2017	All	Counties
Chap	ter 3 – Project Development			
Section	n 3.0 General			
<u>3.000</u> *	Federal-aid Project Scheduling	February 16, 2007	F.A.	Both
<u>3.010</u> *	Project Development Submittal Dates and Information	November 21, 2024	All	Both
<u>3.020</u> *	Concept Statement Instructions	June 12, 2024	F.A.	Both
	Attachment A - Concept Statement Checklist of Submittal Items (Word)	June 12, 2024	F.A.	Both
<u>3.050</u> *	In-Kind Contributions	January 19, 2024	F.A.	Both
3.060	Project Numbers	October 8, 2024	All	Both
Section	n 3.1 (Reserved)			
	n 3.2 Design Guidelines and Exceptions			
	Rural Design Guidelines	March 15, 2023	All	Counties
<u>3.215</u>	Urban Design Guidelines	July 7, 2023	All	Cities
	3R Guidelines	February 10, 2023	All	Both
	Traffic Barriers (Guardrail and Bridge Barrier Rail)	April 24, 2018	All	Both
	Clear Zone Guidelines	May 18, 2018	All	Both
	Economic Analysis (Benefit-to-Cost Ratio)	March 4, 2020	All	Both
<u>3.260</u> *	Design Exception Process	May 18, 2018	All	Both
	Attachment A – Design Exception Process Flowchart	October 1, 2013	All	Both
	n 3.3 Consultant and In-House Design			
<u>3.310</u> *	Federal-aid Participation in Consultant Costs	January 19, 2024	F.A.	Both
	Attachment A – Federal-Aid Consultant Checklist	October 22, 2018	F.A.	Both
	Attachment B – Requirements for Federal-Aid Consultant Contracts	February 13, 2018	F.A.	Both
	Attachment C – Payment Methods	December 19, 2014	F.A.	Both
	Attachment D – Sample Consultant Contract (Word)	May 26, 2017	F.A.	Both
	Attachment E – Errors and Omissions	December 19, 2014	F.A.	Both
3.320	Consultant Evaluations	July 7, 2023	F.A.	Both
<u>3.330</u> *	Federal-aid Participation in In-House Services	November 4, 2022	F.A.	Both
	Attachment A - Scope of Work and Budget Worksheet	October 1, 2018	F.A.	Both
Section	n 3.4 Preliminary Design			
<u>3.400</u> *	Preliminary Plans	June 12, 2024	F.A.	Both
	Attachment A – Preliminary Plan Guidelines	February 18, 2013	F.A.	Both
	Attachment B - Preliminary Plan Checklist (Word)	November 21, 2024		Both
	Attachment C – Preliminary Plan Process Flowchart	February 18, 2013	F.A.	Both

No.	Subject	Revision Date	Funding	Written To
Sectio	n 3.5 Bridge Design			
3.500*	Bridge or Culvert Plans	July 7, 2023	All	Both
	Attachment A – Bridge or Culvert Supplementary Checklist (Word)	November 21, 2024	All	Both
	Attachment B – Instructions for Completing the Hydraulic Design of Bridges (Culverts) Form	June 29, 2018	All	Both
Sectio	n 3.6 Right-of-Way, Utilities, and Railroads			
3.600*	Right-of-Way Acquisition	January 19, 2024	All	Both
	Attachment A – Waiver Valuation Provision	November 27, 2017	All	Both
	Attachment B – FHWA Authorization of Right-of-Way Costs Flowchart	March 4, 2020	F.A.	Both
	Attachment C – Early Right-of-Way Acquisition Process Flowchart	March 4, 2020	F.A.	Both
<u>3.640</u> *	Utility Accommodation and Coordination	May 2, 2016	All	Both
	Attachment A – Utility Coordination Flowchart	December 11, 2008	All	Both
	Attachment B – Utility Coordination Checklist (Word)	February 11, 2014	All	Both
<u>3.650</u> *	Federal-aid Participation in Utility Relocations	May 2, 2016	F.A.	Both
	Attachment A – Utility Relocation Federal-Aid Eligibility Flowchart	February 11, 2014	F.A.	Both
	Attachment B – FHWA Authorization of Utility Relocation Costs Flowchart	February 11, 2014	F.A.	Both
<u>3.670</u> *	Work on Railroad Right-of-Way	October 8, 2024	All	Both
	Attachment A –Work in Railroad Right-of-Way Flowchart	April 24, 2018	All	Both
3.680*	Federal-aid Projects Involving Railroads	March 15, 2023	F.A.	Both
	Attachment A - Railroad Agreement Language for Federal-aid Projects involving Railroads (Word)	March 15, 2023	F.A.	Both
	Attachment B - FHWA Authorization of Railroad Costs	March 15, 2023	F.A.	Both
	Attachment C – FHWA Authorization of Railroad Costs Flowchart	March 15, 2023	F.A.	Both
Sectio	n 3.7 Final Design			
	Check and Final Plans	June 12, 2024	All	Both
<u> </u>	Attachment A – Check and Final Plan Guidelines	January 19, 2024	All	Both
	Attachment B – Check and Final Plan Checklist (Word)	November 21, 2024	All	Both
	Attachment C – Check and Final Plan Process Flowchart	February 18, 2013	All	Both
3.710*		October 8, 2024	All	Both
<u> </u>	Attachment A – Project Development Certification Process Flowchart	November 27, 2019	All	Both
3.720*	Public Interest Findings	November 4, 2022	All	Both
3.730	Innovative Contracting Procedures	November 27, 2019	All	Both
3.740	Build America Buy America (BABA) Waiver	(future)	F.A.	Both
Chap	ter 4 - Environmental Regulations			
Sectio	n 4.0 General			
<u>4.010</u> *	Environmental and Permitting Process for non-Federal-aid Projects	November 21, 2024	All but F.A.	Both
4.020*	NEPA Process	November 21, 2024	F.A.	Both
	Attachment A - NEPA Process Flowchart	May 20, 2019	F.A.	Both

No.	Subject	Revision Date	Funding	Written To
	Attachment B - Environmental Assessment / FONSI Process Flowchart	May 20, 2019	F.A.	Both
	<u>Attachment C</u> - Environmental Impact Statement / ROD Process Flowchart	May 20, 2019	F.A.	Both
	Attachment D - Section 4(f) Process Flowchart	May 20, 2019	F.A.	Both
	on 4.1 Environmental Reviews and Permits			
<u>4.110</u>	Threatened and Endangered Species	July 7, 2023	All	Both
	Attachment A - Threatened and Endangered Species Process for Non-Federal-aid Projects Flowchart	May 20, 2019	All but F.A.	Both
	Attachment B - Threatened and Endangered Species Process for Federal-aid Projects Flowchart	May 20, 2019	F.A.	Both
	Attachment C - Avoidance and Minimization Measures for Threatened and Endangered Bats	February 13, 2018	All	Both
4.120*	Cultural Resource Regulations	January 19, 2024	All	Both
	Attachment A - Cultural Resource Process for Swap Projects Flowchart	February 13, 2018	Swap	Both
	Attachment B - Cultural Resource Process for Federal-aid Projects Flowchart	February 13, 2018	F.A.	Both
<u>4.130</u> *	404 Permit Process	May 20, 2019	All	Both
	Attachment A – 404 Permit Determination Process Flowchart	June 29, 2018	All	Both
	Attachment B – 404 Permit Checklist	June 29, 2018	All	Both
	Attachment C – Commonly Used NWPs for Transportation Projects	June 29, 2018	All	Both
4.140	Storm Water Permits	June 29, 2018	All	Both
4.150	Iowa DNR Floodplain Permits and Regulations	June 29, 2018	All	Both
4.160*	Asbestos Inspection, Removal, and Notification Requirements	April 29, 2020	All	Both
4.170*	Farmland Protection Policy Act	November 8, 2016	F.A.	Both
	Attachment A - Farmland Protection Policy Act Process Flowchart	August 22, 2017	F.A.	Both
	Attachment B – Instructions for Completing the Farmland Conversion Rating Form	November 8, 2016	F.A.	Both
4.190*	Highway Improvements in the Vicinity of Airports or Heliports	September 13, 2016	All	Both
4.200	Water Trails and Paddling Routes	January 19, 2024	All	Both
Chap	oter 5 - Letting and Contracts			
	on 5.0 Iowa DOT Lettings			
<u>5.010</u> *	DBE Guidelines	February 29, 2016	F.A.	Both
5.020	TSB Guidelines	(future)	All	Both
<u>5.030</u> *	lowa DOT Letting Process	November 4, 2022	All	Both
	Attachment A - Iowa DOT Pre-Letting Process Flowchart	October 1, 2013	All	Both
	Attachment B – Iowa DOT Post-Letting Process Flowchart	November 27, 2019	All	Both
	Attachment C - Sample Resolution for a County to Delegate Contract Signing in Doc Express	March 4, 2020	All	Both
Section	on 5.1 Local Lettings			
<u>5.100</u>	Local Letting Process – State-aid or Local Funded Projects	November 4, 2022	State,Local	Both
	Attachment A – Sample Bidding Proposal Form (Word)	November 8, 2016	State,Local	Both
	Attachment B – Sample Notice to Bidders Form (Word)	November 8, 2016	State,Local	Both

No.	Subject	Revision Date	Funding	Written To
	Attachment C – Sample Contract Form (Word)	November 8, 2016	State,Local	Both
<u>5.120</u> *	Local Letting Process – Federal-aid	October 1, 2018	F.A.	Both
	Attachment A - Pre-Award Checklist and Certification (Word)	October 1, 2018	F.A.	Both
	Attachment B – Post-Award Checklist and Certification (Word)	October 1, 2018	F.A.	Both
	Attachment C – Local Letting (Federal-aid) Pre-audit Checklist (Word)	October 1, 2018	F.A.	Both
Chap	ter 6 - Construction			
Sectio	n 6.0 General			
<u>6.000</u> *	Construction Inspection	November 21, 2024	All	Both
	Attachment A - Preconstruction Inspection Process Flowchart	December 31, 2015	All	Both
	Attachment B - Construction Inspection Process Flowchart	December 31, 2015	All	Both
	Attachment C - Subcontract Review and Authorization Process - Post Award Flowchart	November 27, 2019	All	Both
	Attachment D - Local Public Agency Construction Contract Administration Guidance	June 12, 2024	All	Both
	Attachment E - Iowa DOT Field Inspection Review Report (Word)	January 26, 2017	All	Both
	Attachment F - Doc Express and Appia Instructions for Local Public Agencies	February 10, 2023	All	Both
	Attachment G – Request for Early Release of Retained Funds (Word)	February 15, 2022	All	Both
	Attachment H – Doc Express Change Order Drawer Signatures and Workflow Steps	November 21, 2024	All	Both
6.020	Reimbursement Requests for Payments	(future)	All	Both
Sectio	n 6.1 Project Close-out and Audits			
	Final Review, Audit, and Close-out Procedures for Federal-aid, Federal-aid Swap, and Farm-to-Market Projects	November 21, 2024	All	Both
	Attachment A – Project Close-out Process Overview Flowchart	March 2, 2021	All	Both
	Attachment B – Final Review and Audit Process Flowchart – Highway or Bridge Construction	March 2, 2021	All	Both
	Attachment C – Final Review and Audit Process Flowchart – Non-highway Construction, DOT Specifications	December 21, 2018	All	Both
	Attachment D – Final Review and Audit Process Flowchart – Non-highway Construction, Non-DOT Specifications	December 31, 2015	All	Both
	Attachment E – Required LPA Project Documentation and Preaudit Checklist (Word)	June 12, 2024	All	Both
	Attachment F – Final Forms Packet Checklist (Word)	December 31, 2020	All	Both
	Attachment G - Doc Express Closeout Drawer Signatures and Workflow Steps	November 21, 2024	All	Both
<u>6.130</u> *	Interest Payment Procedures	December 3, 2007	All	Both
	Attachment A – Sample Interest Payment Information Form	December 31, 2020	All	Both
<u>6.140</u>	Resolution to allow County Engineer to Certify Completion of Work on Construction Contracts	August 28, 2014	All	Counties
	Attachment A – Sample Resolution (Word)	December 3, 2007	All	Counties

### **Chapter 7 – Maintenance**

Section	1 7.0 General
7 020*	Bridge Inspection

Section	n 7.0 General				
<u>7.020</u> *	Bridge Inspections	May 20, 2024	All	Both	
	Attachment A - Bridge Scour Stability Worksheet - Level A Evaluation (Word)	April 24, 2018	All	Both	
	Attachment B - Intermediate Scour Assessment - Level B Evaluations	January 11, 2017	All	Both	
	Attachment C - Intentionally left blank	December 31, 2015	All	Both	
	Attachment D - Scope of Services for NBI Bridge Inspection Services (Word)	April 24, 2018	All	Both	
	Attachment E - Iowa Legal Truck, EV, and Annual Permit Truck Diagrams	June 12, 2024	All	Both	
	Attachment F - Routine Permit Trucks Diagrams	July 18, 2013	All	Both	
	Attachment G - USGS Hydrologic Region Map with Region Descriptions	July 18, 2013	All	Both	
	Attachment H - Unknown Foundations Guidance, Flowchart, Risk Assessment, Worksheet, and Plan of Action (POA) - Level A Evaluation (Word)	April 24, 2018	All	Both	
	Attachment I - Unknown Foundations Flowchart - Level B Evaluation	July 18, 2013	All	Both	
	Attachment J - Quality Assurance Field Review Worksheet (Word)	April 24, 2018	All	Both	
	Attachment K - Nonredundant Steel Tension Member Locations and Conditions for Trusses form (Word)	July 7, 2023	All	Both	
	Attachment L - Nonredundant Steel Tension Member Locations and Conditions for Thru/Two Girders form (Word)	July 7, 2023	All	Both	
	Attachment M - Sample Nonredundant Steel Tension Member Locations and Conditions for Trusses form	July 7, 2023	All	Both	
	Attachment N - Berm Stability Criteria	December 31, 2015	All	Both	
	Attachment O - Highly Erodible Soils	December 31, 2015	All	Both	
Section 7.1 County Road System					
<u>7.110</u>	Maintenance of Secondary Roads at Intersections, Interchanges, and Grade Separations with the Primary Highway System	May 12, 2014	All	Counties	
	Attachment A – Iowa DOT PPM 630.01, Rural Intersection and Destination Lighting	October 11, 2013	All	Counties	
	Attachment B – Iowa DOT PPM 630.03, Interchange and Freeway Lighting	September 15, 2016	All	Counties	
Chapter 8 – Miscellaneous Information					
8.020	Pavement Friction Evaluation Program	January 11, 2017	All	Both	
8.210	Engineering and Traffic Investigations – Speed Limit Study	January 11, 2017	All	Counties	
	Attachment A - Speed Restriction Ordinance (Word)	January 11, 2017	All	Counties	
	Attachment B - Amendment to Speed Restriction Ordinance	January 11, 2017	All	Counties	
	(Word)	, ., <u></u>			
	Attachment C - Resolution for Establishing Speed Limits (Word)	January 11, 2017	All	Counties	
<u>8.240</u>	Iowa DOT Traffic Counts	November 21, 2024	All	Both	

## INTRODUCTION

## Nicole Moore, P.E.

Director

Local Systems Bureau

Iowa Department of Transportation

1

1

# PRESENTATION OVERVIEW

Introductions - DOT Contacts

Purpose & Format

**Breaks & Facilities** 

Website Resources

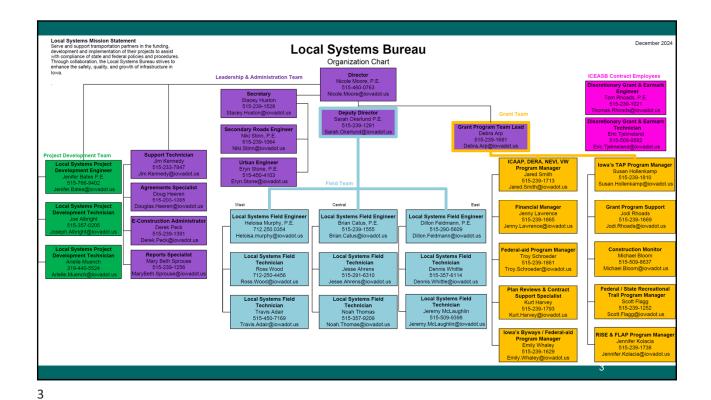
Iowa DOT Role

LPA Role

Consultant Role



2



GRANT TEAM, LOCAL SYSTEMS BUREAU

General Office Information
Systems Planning Bureau Phone: 515-239-1664 www.iowadot.gov/systems_planning

## LOCAL SYSTEMS PDT/FT & GRANT TEAM

## Local Systems - PDT / FT

- Surface Transportation Block Grant Program (STBG)
- Highway Bridge Programs for Cities and Counties
- Highway Safety Improvement Program (HSIP)
- Emergency Relief Program (ER)
- Federal-aid Swap \*
- Various State-aid programs \*
- Farm-to-Market Program (FM) \*
- · Mainly focus on Roadway and Bridge Projects
- \*Not Federal-aid

## Local Systems - Grant Team

- Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP)
- · Federal Recreational Trails Program
- · Iowa's Clean Air Attainment Program (ICAAP)
- Mainly focus on "Small Grants" projects, that are non-highway

.

#### 5

# PURPOSE & FORMAT BREAKS & FACILITIES

- Purpose Provide training on Federal-aid regulations and procedures
  - Federal-aid Training
  - This is not training for Federal-aid Swap; Swap projects have lesser oversight, as they do not utilize Federal-aid or follow the entire Federal-aid process
- Format Many presentations, ask questions as you have them
- Breaks per the agenda, refreshments
- Facilities
- Please silence all phones and computers



## **AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION**

- How many are from:
  - Cities
  - Counties
  - Consulting Firms
  - · Iowa DOT
  - FHWA
  - · Other?
- · How many this is your first Federal-aid Overview Training?
- · How many have done Federal-aid Projects before?

7

7

## **ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES**

#### Iowa DOT Role

- Iowa DOT has a Stewardship & Oversight Agreement with FHWA.
- Advisor provide guidance and assistance to LPAs for successful implementation of their Federal-aid projects
- Monitor responsible to FHWA for administering and overseeing Federal-aid programs. Numerous reviews and approvals of project activities.

#### LPA Role

- Follow the Federal-aid Guide, I.M.s and Funding Agreement
- Professional Engineer signing plans, designing all aspects of the project
- Example: DOT reviews plans to ensure they are consistent with our bidding procedures, but we don't check quantities
- lowa DOT does not conduct an engineering review of the plans as that is the responsibility of the LPA and/or their engineering firm. (not to be confused with DOT Primary Highway within DOT ROW roles/reviews)
- Shall have Person in Responsible Charge (PIRC) as defined in Federal-aid Guide.

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## PERSON IN RESPONSIBLE CHARGE (PIRC)

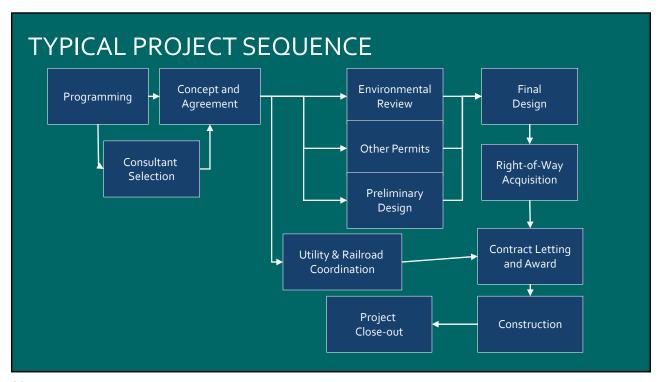
- Federal regulations (23 CFR 635.105 and 23 CFR 172.9(d)(1)) require the LPA to have a full-time employee who is in responsible charge of the project. This person supervises all project administration duties, oversees the work performed by consultants and contractors, and coordinates the development of the project with the lowa DOT.
- These duties may be shared by several people. A single person may also serve as the person in responsible charge for multiple projects.
- For counties and larger cities, this person is typically the county or city engineer; however, they need not be a licensed engineer or architect to be the person in responsible charge.
   For smaller cities that do not have any full-time employees, the mayor or city clerk may serve as the person in responsible charge, with assistance from the lowa DOT Administering Team

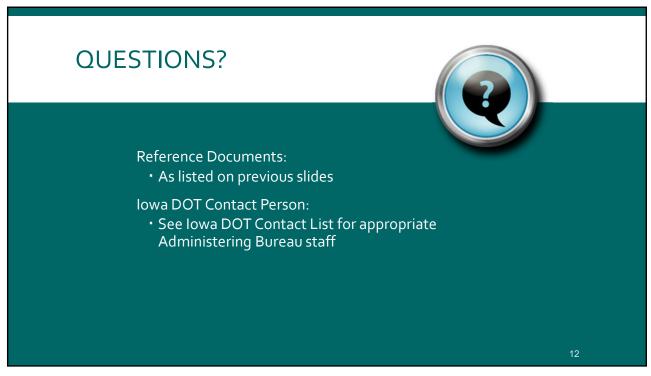
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## **CONSULTANT ROLE**

- · Consultant shall not serve as person in responsible charge (PIRC)
- · Preliminary Engineering Design, Submittals, Permits, Etc as applicable
- Construction Engineering & Contract Administration
  - Inspection
  - Project Documentation
  - Contract Administration
  - Pre-Audit (Project Engineer)
  - Project Closeout
  - Etc. as applicable







Federal Highway Administration

## FEDERAL-AID BASICS

## Sarah Okerlund, P.E.

Deputy Director
Local Systems Bureau
Iowa Department of Transportation

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## PRESENTATION OVERVIEW

Written Guidance (Stewardship & Oversight)

Planning and Programming

**Funding Agreements** 

FHWA Authorization

Reimbursement

Consultant Selection

Roles and Responsibilities Recap



## STEWARDSHIP/OVERSIGHT AGREEMENT

- Section 106 of Title 23, US CFR, requires that the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) and each State enter into an agreement documenting the extent to which the State assumes the responsibility of FHWA under Title 23. The Stewardship/Oversight Agreement formalizes these delegated responsibilities and agreements to address how the Federal-aid highway program will be administered in the State.
- Last Updated in 2024:
  - https://www.fhwa.dot.gov/federalaid/stewardship/agreements/ia.pdf

STEWARDSHIP AND OVERSIGHT AGREEMENT
ON PROJECT ASSUMPTION AND PROGRAM OVERSIGHT
BY AND BETWEEN THE
FEDERAL HIGHWAY ADMINISTRATION,
IOWA DIVISION OFFICE,
AND THE
IOWA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION (IOWA DOT)

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#### WRITTEN GUIDANCE https://iowadot.gov/local\_systems/im/lpa-ims LOCAL SYSTEMS HOME **INSTRUCTIONAL MEMORANDUMS & FEDERAL-AID GUIDE** IIJA INFORMATION FEDERAL-AID PROJECT DEVELOPMENT GUIDE FOR LOCAL PUBLIC AGENCIES CONTACT US The Federal-Aid Project Development Guide for Local Public Agencies, referred to hereinafter as the Federal-aid Guide, provides a concise summary of information and instructions for local public agency (LPA) staff and consultants involved in the planning, development and construction of LPA CONTACT LOCAL/FEDERAL PARTNERS federal-aid transportation projects. Where appropriate, the Federal-aid Guide references the I.M.s and other documents for more detailed informati INSTRUCTIONAL MEMORANDUMS AND FEDERAL-AID GUIDE Federal-Aid Project Development Guide for Local Public Agencies. I.M. TABLE OF CONTENTS NON-FEDERAL-AID PROJECT DEVELOPMENT GUIDE FOR LOCAL PUBLIC AGENCIES LOCAL SYSTEMS EMAILS The Non-Federal-Aid Project Development Guide for Local Public Agencies, referred to hereinafter as the Non-Federal-aid Guide, provides a concise summary of information and instructions for local public agency (LPA) staff and consultants involved in the planning, development and construction of TRAININGS & VIDEOS LPA non-federal-aid transportation projects. Where appropriate, the Non-Federal-aid Guide references the I.M.s and other documents for more detailed information and instructions. PRE-LETTING RESOURCES POST-LETTING RESOURCES Non-Federal-Aid Project Development Guide for Local Public Agencies. DOC EXPRESS AND APPIA INSPECTION WORKSHEETS (EXCEL) SEARCH INSTRUCTIONAL MEMORANDUMS (IMS) COUNTY REPORTS, FUNDING, RESOURCES Type in a key word to search. If searching multiple words or a phrase, use quotes to get the specific phrase search results. For example CITY REPORTS, FUNDING AND RESOURCES WHAT CAN WE HELP YOU FIND? Q GRANT PROGRAMS BID AND QUOTE THRESHOLDS BRIDGE INFORMATION & RESOURCES INSTRUCTIONAL MEMORANDUMS **EQUIPMENT RATES** The IMs provide assistance to LPAs on a wide variety of transportation-related topics. Some IMs supplement the Guide by providing more detailed information or instructions that are applicable to federal-aid transportation projects. Other IMs are applicable to state or locally funded projects. Still others are applicable to all types of projects. If the applicability of an IM is limited by funding or other considerations, this is explained in the FHWA EMERGENCY RELIEF "Contents" section at the beginning of the IM

## WRITTEN GUIDANCE

- Federal-aid Project Development Guide (Federal-aid Guide)
  - · Summary of the Federal-aid process
  - Centralized reference for all other Federal-aid guidance
  - 1 document
  - · 22 pages

Federal-aid Project Development Guide
For Local Public Agencies

January 19, 2024

January 19, 2024

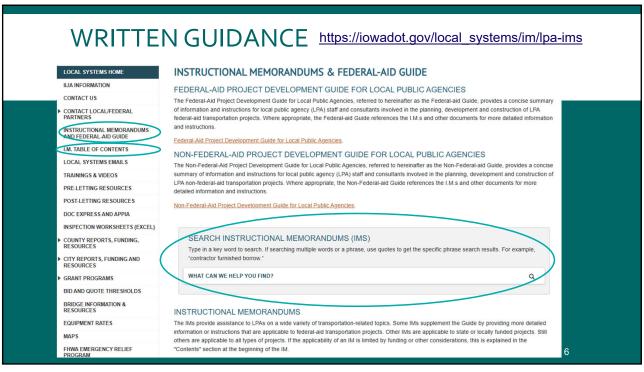
January 19, 2024

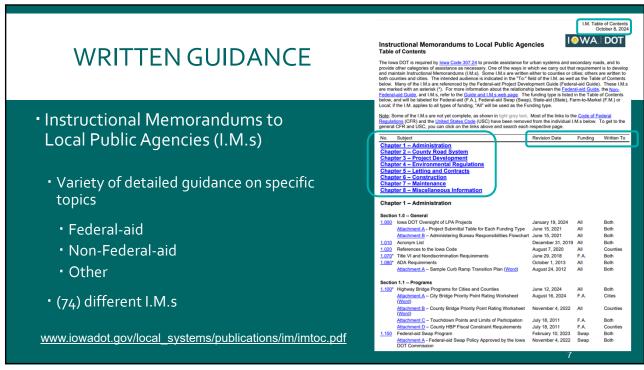
January 19, 2024

https://iowadot.gov/local\_systems/publications/im/federal-aid-guide.pdf

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RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN THE **GUIDE AND LOCAL SYSTEMS I.M.S** LPA Utility Policy for Federal-aid Projects LPA Right-of-way Manual Web pages or other on-line resources Federal-aid Project **Construction Manual** Development Guide Materials I.M.s Standard Instructional Specifications, Details **Memorandums to Local** and Drawings **Public Agencies** 

## FEDERAL-AID FORMULA FUNDS VS GRANTS



## Federal-aid Formula Funds:

- STBG
- HBP (County & City)
- TAP
- ICAAP
- Federal Rec Trails
- Most Earmarks

## Federal-aid Discretionary Grants:

- TIGER/BUILD/RAISE
- BIP
- · SS<sub>4</sub>A
- INFRA/MEGA/RURAL
- PROTECT
- CHBP
- Many more...

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## FEDERAL-AID FORMULA FUNDS



## Federal-aid Formula Funds:

- STBG
- HBP (County & City)
- TAP
- ICAAP
- Federal Rec Trails
- Most Earmarks

#### "Business as Usual":

These Federal Funds are distributed through preestablished formulas to the various states and then to the Cities and Counties through lowa-defined processes. Local Systems I.M.'s and the Stewardship and Oversight Agreement governs processes and procedures with Iowa DOT acting as the "pass through" with oversight responsibilities. Funding Agreements from Field Engineer.

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## PLANNING AND PROGRAMMING



- <u>All</u> Federal-aid projects must be included in the Regional Planning Affiliation (RPA) or Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) Transportation Improvement Program (TIP)
- All TIP projects must be submitted to Iowa DOT for inclusion in the Statewide Transportation Improvement Program (STIP) via the Transportation Program Management System (TPMS)
- Projects cannot receive FHWA Authorization unless funds are programmed in the current TIP / STIP
- Cost estimates must be in Year of Expenditure dollars
- Estimates must be adjusted if moved from one fiscal year to another

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## PLANNING AND PROGRAMMING

## How do county road departments get their projects in the TIP?

- Federal-aid projects included in County 5-year Program will be included in pool of projects to be added to RPA / MPO's TIP
- County promotes project by "submitting" it through TPMS
- RPA / MPO approves the **TIP** and submits it via **TPMS** to the Iowa DOT for inclusion in **STIP**
- County HBP projects do not require RPA/MPO approval, but do pass through the system via the same process

# PLANNING AND PROGRAMMING How do cities or other project sponsors get their projects in the TIP? • Request RPA / MPO include project in TIP and provide necessary project information

- RPA / MPO enters project in  $\ensuremath{\mathsf{TPMS}}$  and  $\ensuremath{\mathsf{TIP}}$ 

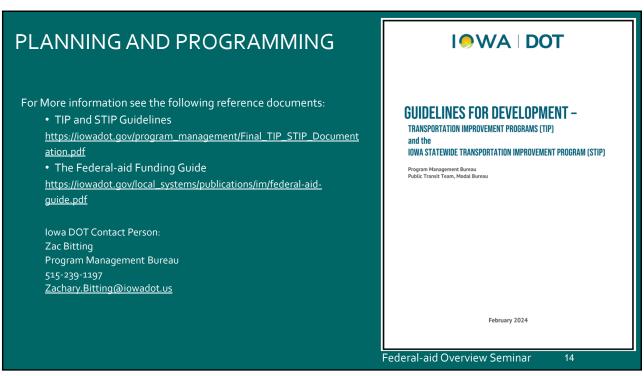
• RPA / MPO approves the **TIP** and submits it via **TPMS** to the Iowa DOT for inclusion in **STIP** 

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RPA or MPO **TIP** 

**STIP** 



## **FUNDING AGREEMENTS**

## IOWA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION Federal-aid Agreement for Funding Type

#### **EXHIBIT 1**

General Agreement Provisions for use of Federal Highway Funds on Non-primary Projects

RECIPIENT: (County/City Name)

Project No.: (Project No.)

Iowa DOT Agreement No: (Agreement No.)

CFDA No. and Title: 20.205 Highway Planning and Construction

- <u>All</u> Federal-aid projects let at Iowa DOT must have an Iowa DOT Federal-aid Agreement.
- Make sure you have a copy of this Funding Agreement and reference it!
- Funding Agreement includes:
  - Project and Contact information
  - Eligible Costs, Match Requirements, and Funding Limits
  - Development, Letting, and Administration Requirements
  - Traffic Control and Public Safety Requirements
  - Potential Schedule Deadlines

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## FEDERAL-AID FUNDING AGREEMENTS - EXHIBIT 1

General Follow State & Follow the Guide Title VI of Civil Title II of ADA Requirements **Federal Laws** and I.M.s Rights Act including: Environmental Disadvantaged **FHWA and DOT** Design and 2 CFR 200.501 Requirements and "Audit Business **Programing and** Consultant other Agreements Requirements" Enterprise (DBE) Authorization Services or Permits Right-of-Way, Contract **Project Close-out** Railroads and Construction Reimbursements **Procurement Utilities** 16

## FHWA AUTHORIZATION

## What is it?

- The most important step in the Federal-aid process
- Obligates Federal funds for a specific project activity
- Obligation is the Federal government's legal commitment (promise) to reimburse the Federal share of a project's eligible costs

## When is it needed?

- Before beginning any work for which Federal reimbursement will be requested
- <u>Cost of work performed before FHWA Authorization is not eligible for</u> Federal reimbursement!

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## **FHWA AUTHORIZATION**

- How is it obtained?
  - LPA requests FHWA Authorization for the specific activity for which reimbursement will be requested
  - Iowa DOT verifies project information and that all necessary reviews and approvals have been completed
    - Accurate project info from the LPA is critical!
  - · Iowa DOT sends request to FHWA
  - If acceptable, FHWA approves request
  - · Iowa DOT provides written notice of FHWA Authorization to LPA

## REIMBURSEMENT

## Prerequisites

- Eligible
  - cost is an allowable expense
- Approved by Iowa DOT
  - review is complete
- Authorized by FHWA
  - funds are obligated

#### Process

- LPA pays costs up-front
- LPA requests reimbursement from lowa DOT
- Iowa DOT reimburses the Federal share of eligible, approved, and authorized costs
- Reimbursements should be requested at least every 6 months, but not more than bi-weekly

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## **CONSULTANT SELECTION**

- I.M. 3.310, Federal-aid Participation in Consultant Costs
  - Consider DBE
  - Document Processes
  - · Example of I.M. needing updated (LSB Grant Team, not SPB)

Contents: This Instructional Memorandum (I.M.) includes guidelines and procedures for a Local Public Agenc (LPA) to select a consultant; request lowa Department of Transportation (Iowa DOT) approval and Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) authorization for Federal participation in consultant costs; and prepare, negotiate, and administer a consultant contract.

With the exception of discretionary federal grants or earmark projects that specifically allow such participation, lowa DOT <u>does not allow</u> Federal-aid participation in consultant costs for LPA projects administered by the Los Systems Bureau, including the following Federal-aid Formula programs: Surface Transportation Block Grant (STBG) Program for roadway and bridge projects, Highway Bridge Programs funded through STBG or the Bridge Formula Program, and Highway Safety Improvement Program (HSIP). If the LPA has been awarded a Federal discretionary grant or earmark that allows or requires consultant costs to be Federal-aid participating or to be credited as "local match", contact the <u>lowa DOT Administering Bureau</u>.

LPA projects administered by the Systems Planning Bureau (SPB), including STBG for trail projects, will be allowed to request participation in consultant costs. Please refer to I.M. 1.000, lowa DOT Oversight of LPA Projects, for more information regarding the Administering Bureaus.

## **CONSULTANT SELECTION**

## General requirements for federally funded consultant contracts

- Selection must be qualifications-based
- Follow all 53 steps in I.M. 3.310, Attachment A
- Includes setting a DBE goal
- Federal-aid for consulting (PE/CE) not available for projects running through the Project Development Team and Field Team (Construction only)
  - Still available for some grants (if applicable) run through the Grants Team
- Iowa DOT review and approval of consultant contract <u>and</u> FHWA authorization is required before incurring costs for which the LPA desires reimbursement
- Sample consultant contract in I.M. 3.310, Attachment D

#### Abbreviated selection process

- May be used if total consultant services will be less than \$250,000
- Consider setting a Disadvantaged Business Enterprise (DBE) goal (Document!)
- At least 3 qualified firms must be considered and document the selection process
- List firms considered and request lowa DOT approval to begin negotiations with firm deemed most qualified

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## FEDERAL AID ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

#### Iowa DOT Local Systems

- Iowa DOT has a Stewardship & Oversight Agreement with FHWA.
- Advisor provide guidance and assistance to LPAs for successful implementation of their Federal-aid projects
- Monitor responsible to FHWA for administering and overseeing Federal-aid programs. Numerous reviews and approvals of project activities.

#### MPO/RPA Role

- Help assist and facilitate funds to LPAs
- Answer LPA questions about funding sources
- Place and activate City projects into TPMS
- Include projects on the TIP
- Update the STIP

#### LPA Role

- Follow the Federal-aid Guide, I.M.s and Funding Agreement
- Professional Engineer signing plans, designing all aspects of the project
- Example: DOT reviews plans to ensure they are consistent with our bidding procedures, but we don't check quantities
- lowa DOT does not conduct an engineering review of the plans as that is the responsibility of the LPA and/or their engineering firm. (not to be confused with DOT Primary Highway within DOT ROW roles/reviews)
- Shall have Person in Responsible Charge (PIRC) as defined in Federalaid Guide.

# TARGETED SMALL BUSINESSES STATE-AID (TSIP, USTEP, CSTEP...)

Not Federal-aid, but an IMPORTANT

- · What is a Targeted Small Business?
- Targeted Small Business required!
  - DOT let project DOT's process covers this requirement
  - Locally let projects
    - Provide the TSB Exhibit found in your Funding Agreement
    - TSB Contract Provision must be included in the bid/contract documents
    - The TSB Pre-Bid Contact Information form is required to be filled out by all bidders
- · Look at your funding agreement
  - Cities share this with your consultant (if applicable)
  - Consultants ask for this from the city (or it is in TPMS, if applicable)



• Refer to I.M. 5.100 https://www.iowadot.gov/local\_systems/publications/im/5100.pdf

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## **QUESTIONS?**

#### Reference Documents:

- As listed on previous slides
- Federal-aid Guide:
  - https://iowadot.gov/local\_systems/publications/im/federal-aid-guide.pdf
- Local Agency I.M. Table of Contents with hyperlinks:
  - https://iowadot.gov/local\_systems/publications/im/imtoc.pdf

Iowa DOT Administering Bureau & Contacts:

- See I.M. 1.000, Iowa DOT Oversight of LPA Projects
  - <a href="https://www.iowadot.gov/local\_systems/publications/im/1000.pdf">https://www.iowadot.gov/local\_systems/publications/im/1000.pdf</a>
- See Iowa DOT Contact List Handout



# DISCRETIONARY GRANTS & EARMARKS

## Tom Rhoads, P.E.

Discretionary Grant & Earmark Engineer

Local Systems Bureau / ICEASB

lowa Department of Transportation

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## PRESENTATION OVERVIEW

Discretionary Grants
Earmarks
Formula Funds
Consultant Selection



## ICEASB - DISCRETIONARY GRANTS & EARMARKS

 Discretionary Grant and Earmark Engineer



Tom Rhoads, P.E.

thomas.rhoads@iowadot.us

515-239-1021

 Discretionary Grant and Earmark Technician

## **Eric Tjelmeland**

eric.tjelmeland@iowadot.us 515-509-9582

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## FEDERAL-AID FORMULA FUNDS VS GRANTS



## Federal-aid Formula Funds:

- STBG
- HBP (County & City)
- TAP
- ICAAP
- Federal Rec Trails
- Most Earmarks

## Federal-aid Discretionary Grants:

- TIGER/BUILD/RAISE
- BIP
- · SS<sub>4</sub>A
- INFRA/MEGA/RURAL
- PROTECT
- CHBP
- Many more...

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## FEDERAL-AID FORMULA FUNDS VS GRANTS



## Federal-aid Discretionary Grants:

- TIGER/BUILD/RAISE
- BIP
- · SS<sub>4</sub>A
- INFRA/MEGA/RURAL
- Many more...

## "Grant Specific Requirements":

All discretionary grants are application based, unique, and come with additional strings (reporting and such) above and beyond typical formula funded Federal-aid projects. Read the Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) carefully. Those additional strings become the grant recipient's responsibility.

Grant awards are based on grant applications. Grant agreements mimic the application, including proposed funding set-ups, schedule, and outcomes. Grant agreements are between the grant recipient and FHWA. In many cases, lowa DOT can serve as a pass-through agency. When this happens, you shall follow standard lowa DOT Federal-aid guidance in addition to any other grant specific requirements.

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## FEDERAL-AID GRANT APPLICATION REMINDERS

- Plan 6-12+ months until costs can begin being incurred after grant award notification
- · Be mindful of Federal-aid programs
  - County and City Bridge programs = Federal-aid
  - STBG to Counties = Federal-aid
  - STBG to Cities through MPO or TMA = Federal-aid
  - STBG to Cities through RPA = Federal-aid Swap
- The above listed funds are to be used for <u>Construction</u> <u>only.</u>



Apply for DOT Grants

Resources to help understand the federal grant-making process and key federal requirements

FHWA Grant Navigator

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## FEDERAL-AID GRANT APPLICATION

## **Examples**

<u>"Non-Federal match"</u> or <u>"local match"</u> included in a grant application becomes <u>federalized</u> and <u>must follow Federal-aid processes and procedures</u>.

 This includes Federal-aid Participation in Consultant Costs, NEPA, Buy America, and Davis Bacon Wages

**Ex. 1:** If Preliminary Engineering (PE) or Construction Engineering (CE) services are included within a RAISE application as a "match" regardless of the funding source, the full Federal-aid RFP process including DBE shall be followed. See I.M. 3.310, Federal-aid Participation in Consultant Costs for additional details.

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## FEDERAL-AID GRANT APPLICATION

## **Examples**

**Ex. 2** If you propose 2 construction projects in the same RAISE application – one funded with a "local match", and the other with the Federal-aid, both projects must be developed as Federal-aid projects per the Federal-aid Guide.

- In these examples, for costs to be eligible as the "local match" they must also be authorized by FHWA <u>before</u> incurring costs.
- Hence, be prepared for a 6-12+ month delay after grant award notification before incurring costs on any activities utilized within the grant application.
- If you mention a local funded element/phase in the write-up that should NOT be considered part of the grant application "local match", be sure to clearly state that.

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## FEDERAL-AID GRANT APPLICATION TIPS

- Carefully and fully read Notice of Funding Opportunities (NOFO)
  - Grant Closing Date for Applications
  - Award Ceiling & Floor
  - · Eligible Applicants & Uses
  - Cost Sharing or Match Requirements
  - · Grant Requirements and Considerations
  - Grant Obligation and Expenditure Deadlines
- Expect 6-12+ months for grant agreement process
- Utilize your resources (FHWA Grant Navigator & Local Systems IIJA Information)
- · Subscribe to www.GRANTS.gov for opportunity updates
- Reach out to others who have been successful



Resources available to public agencies and

other transportation stakeholders

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## FEDERAL-AID GRANT APPLICATION TIPS

- Be careful which phases of a project you include within the application
  - Consider including only Construction phases so design can begin before the grant agreement is signed
  - If only including Planning or a Study, the RFP process can only consider planning services.
- Be mindful of the number of phases and/or project lettings you include within the application
  - All phases must be designed and obligated by the grant obligation deadline.
  - · All grant expenditures, regardless of phase, must be expended by the grant expenditure deadline.
- Keep funding as simple and clean as possible
  - The more complicated the funding, the more complicated your plan divisions will be.
  - Other Federal funds and their required match <u>can not</u> be used as part of your "local match".
- · Take Federal-aid training &/or hire an experienced Team

## GRANT COORDINATION WITH IOWA DOT

- Coordinate with Iowa DOT on Interstates and Primary Highways
  - Reach out to your District Engineer
- The LPA or DOT can choose whether the LPA will be a direct recipient or request to be a "pass-through" with the Iowa DOT.
- Iowa DOT reserves the right to decline the request to be a "pass-through"
- For Letters of Support contact Stu Anderson at stuart.anderson@iowadot.us
  - With your request, please include a summary of the proposed project details, map, lead agency applying for and administering the grant, and the specific grant application you are applying for.
  - Allow up to 5 business days for review and processing.



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## FEDERAL DISCRETIONARY GRANTS

- Application Phase:
- An LPA shall inform the Local Systems Bureau of their intent to submit a grant application.
- LPA shall provide a summary of the application, along with a project timeline and intended funding match.
- If this step is not completed, the lowa DOT will not serve as a pass-through

- · Award Phase:
- If the steps on the left have been completed, the Iowa DOT reserves the right to choose to be a pass through. FHWA always initially assumes Direct Recipient.
- There are benefits to both pass-through and Direct Recipient.
- LPA must submit to Iowa DOT Local Systems Bureau, a project timeline, so Iowa DOT can assess whether we think the timeline is reasonable and achievable
- Sometimes, time frames listed in grant applications are more optimistic than realistic. If
  that is the case, the Iowa DOT will likely not be able to serve in a pass-through role, as the
  DOT can't take on risks that the project will not make its milestones.
- We have guidelines, deadlines, and rules in place for various reasons; all our I.M.s and procedures have been vetted through FHWA and follow Federal and State laws and regulations.
- Our deadlines listed in our I.M.s are requirements that are cognizant of the amount of time it takes to review various small- or large-scale projects. As noted in the I.M.s, a lot of the timelines are considered to be minimums.

## RAILROAD GRANT COORDINATION

## Modal Transportation Bureau, Rail Team

#### Planning for a project

It is suggested that any applicant interested in applying for a federal discretionary grant that includes a study or project that impacts a railroad, that the applicant start communicating with the railroad and other affected stakeholders early and not wait until the grant NOFO (Notice of Funding Opportunity) is published. There is no guarantee that the project you want to apply for will be supported by the railroad.

#### Why is it important to request a letter of support when applying for a grant?

The federal agencies review discretionary grant applications and part of their process is to determine if the projects have stakeholder support. Since these grants are so competitive, the reviewers of railroad related applications will look to see if the Railroad and/or State DOT support the project.

#### How much advance notice ahead of application submission should an applicant give when asking for a LOS?

Railroads – Minimum 30 days and provide the railroad with the project narrative when requesting the LOS, for their review lowa DOT - Minimum 5 business days, provide the narrative, project must be supported by the railroad before we will provide a LOS

#### Who do you submit your request to?

- Railroads see the DOT's website for a contact at each railroad https://iowadot.gov/iowarail/pdfs/general.pdf
- Iowa DOT Amanda Martin <u>amanda.martin@iowadot.us</u>

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## CONSULTANT SELECTION

- Full selection process
  - Required if total consultant services will exceed \$250,000
  - Form a selection committee
  - Establish evaluation criteria and a DBE goal
  - Prepare and send a Request for Proposal (RFP) to prospective firms (not required to be on DOT list)
  - Evaluate proposals and conduct interviews if needed
  - Determine most qualified firm
  - Evaluate good faith effort of most qualified firm to meet DBE goal
- For more information, see I.M. 3.310, Federal-aid Participation in Consultant Costs
  - Follow and document process using Attachment A,
     Federal-aid Consultant Selection Checklist

## **NEPA CLEARANCE**

## **NEPA through FHWA**

- When Iowa DOT is a pass-through, this starts with submittal of your Concept Statement
- Includes Section 4(f) Process
  - Requires governmental agencies to minimize impacts to Parks, Recreational Areas, Historic Properties and Wildlife Refuges
- See <u>I.M. 4.020</u>, NEPA Process

## NEPA through another Federal Agency

- NEPA is not the same under all Federal Agencies, as different sections of the Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) govern different Federal Agencies.
- Please note, NEPA through the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers does not include Section 4(f).

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## **QUESTIONS?**

#### **Reference Documents:**

As listed on previous slides

## Iowa DOT Contact Person:

 See Iowa DOT Contact List for appropriate Administering Team staff



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# IN-KIND CONTRIBUTIONS & LOCAL LETTINGS

## Debra Arp

Grant Team Leader

Local Systems Bureau

Iowa Department of Transportation

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## PRESENTATION OVERVIEW

In-Kind Contributions
Local Lettings
Consultant Selection



## **IN-KIND CONTRIBUTIONS**

## What is an in-kind contribution?

- Non-cash donation to the project by a third party
  - A "Third party" can be any entity <u>except</u> the Iowa DOT or the local agency receiving Federal funds from the DOT
  - Examples: private individuals or companies, non-profit organizations, civic or service groups, or another local agency
- The value of the contribution may be credited towards the non-Federal share of project costs
  - Purpose is to reduce or eliminate the cash outlay required of the LPA

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## IN-KIND CONTRIBUTIONS

#### What may be counted as in-kind?

- Property (right-of-way)\*
- Materials\*\*
- Equipment\*\*
- Labor and / or professional services\*\*
- \* Only allowed for projects administered by Local Systems Grant Team
- \*\* Allowed only for Transportation Alternatives Set-aside (TAP) and Federal Recreational Trails projects

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## IN-KIND CONTRIBUTIONS

## When can contributions be made?

- Materials, equipment, and labor / services may not be incorporated or begin until after FHWA Authorization of the contribution
- Property may be donated any time during project development (within reason)

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## **IN-KIND CONTRIBUTIONS**

## How is in-kind approved?

- LPA requests use of in-kind
  - Must include documentation to support the amount requested based on fair market-value
- Systems Planning reviews request
- Systems Planning requests FHWA approval and notes in-kind in FMIS document
- FHWA authorizes in-kind contribution
- Systems Planning notifies LPA of approved amount and LPA may accept donation

## How is in-kind applied toward the non-Federal share?

• DOT reimburses LPA for Federal share of total costs (in-kind + reimbursable costs) following confirmation that the in-kind donation has been received or performed

## **IN-KIND CONTRIBUTIONS**

## How is in-kind work verified?

- LPA documents in-kind completed to-date as part of reimbursement request
- DOT verifies work during construction or at the time of final audit
- If not all in-kind work is performed, the final reimbursement will be adjusted



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## LOCAL LETTINGS

## Only allowed on a <u>few</u> project types

## Advantages

- Statewide Urban Design and Specifications (SUDAS) or local specifications may be used
  - Subject to Iowa DOT review and approval
  - SUDAS Division 1 may not be used
- Let under your own schedule
- Establish your own contract period

## LOCAL LETTINGS

## Disadvantages

- Must satisfy Federal bid requirements
- Must have a bidding process meeting Federal requirements
- Must follow pre- and post-award checklists
- Iowa DOT review of bid documents requires additional time

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## **CONSULTANT SELECTION**

- I.M. 3.310, Federal-aid Participation in Consultant Costs
  - Consider DBE
  - Document Processes
  - · Need new screenshot after we update I.M. (LSB Grant Team, not SPB)

Contents: This Instructional Memorandum (I.M.) includes guidelines and procedures for a Local Public Agency (LPA) to select a consultant; request lowa Department of Transportation (Iowa DOT) approval and Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) authorization for Federal participation in consultant costs; and prepare, negotiate, and administer a consultant contract.

With the exception of discretionary federal grants or earmark projects that specifically allow such participation, lowa DOT <u>does not allow</u> Federal-aid participation in consultant costs for LPA projects administered by the Lo Systems Bureau, including the following Federal-aid Formula programs: Surface Transportation Block Grant (STBG) Program for roadway and bridge projects, Highway Bridge Programs funded through STBG or the Bridge Formula Program, and Highway Safety Improvement Program (HSIP). If the LPA has been awarded a Federal discretionary grant or earmark that allows or requires consultant costs to be Federal-aid participating or to be credited as "local match", contact the <u>lowa DOT Administering Bureau</u>.

LPA projects administered by the Systems Planning Bureau (SPB), including STBG for trail projects, will be allowed to request participation in consultant costs. Please refer to I.M. 1.000, lowa DOT Oversight of LPA Projects, for more information regarding the Administering Bureaus.

## **QUESTIONS?**

## For More Information

- Reference Documents:
  - I.M. 5.120, Local Letting Process Federal-aid
  - I.M. 3.050, In-Kind Contributions
  - I.M. 3.310, Federal-aid Participation in Consultant Costs

## Iowa DOT Contact Person:

• Debra Arp

Phone: 515-239-1681

Debra.Arp@iowadot.us

 Or contact the appropriate Iowa DOT Program Manager from the "Iowa DOT Contact List" handout



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## **CIVIL RIGHTS**

Tracey Bradley, Compliance Officer
Amy Weerheim, AA/EEO Officer & ADA Coordinator
Civil Rights Bureau
Iowa Department of Transportation



## TITLE VI

## Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 (and other related laws and regulations)

- Prohibits discrimination on the basis of race, color, or national origin. Other
  Nondiscrimination statutes that afford legal protection. These statutes include
  Section 162(a) of the Federal Highway Act of 1973 (sex); Age Discrimination Act
  of 1975 (age), or Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973/Americans with
  Disabilities Act of 1990 (disability).
- Applies to all programs and activities of an agency that receives any type of Federal financial assistance; even those programs and activities of an agency that are not Federally funded
- State law includes several other protected classes, such as sexual orientation

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## **TITLE VI**

## Compliance actions

- Educate staff
- Prepare and execute a Title VI Plan or Agreement and provide a copy to the Iowa DOT
- Execute a Standard Title VI Assurance and provide a copy to the Iowa DOT
- Include the Standard Title VI Assurances in contracts, deeds, and permits as appropriate
- Include notification of non-discrimination in all solicitations for bids or requests for proposals
- Recognize and respond to the needs of individuals with Limited English Proficiency (LEP)
- · Have a process to respond to complaints

4

## **TITLE VI**



## For more information:

I.M. 1.070, Title VI and Nondiscrimination Requirements

DOT Title VI web site

 $\frac{https://iowadot.gov/civilrights/Title-VI/What-is-}{Title-VI-Program}$ 



## Iowa DOT Civil Rights Bureau

515-239-1304 Nikita Rainey, Director Steve Kerber, Civil Rights Compliance Officer Tracey Bradley, Civil Rights Compliance Officer

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## **ADA: TITLE II**

- Pedestrian facilities must be made accessible to persons with a disability – applies to:
  - new construction, unless structurally impracticable
  - alterations to existing facilities, to the maximum extent feasible
- Maintenance work does <u>not</u> trigger ADA requirements but, installing ramps where there currently are none is still recommended
- Accessibility improvements are not required if they would create an unsafe condition

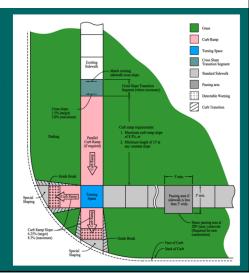


## **ADA**

## What is "accessible"?

Designed and constructed in accordance with ADA requirements in Iowa DOT and SUDAS Design Manuals

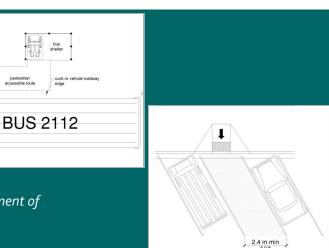
Sidewalks - Part 12A
Bicycle Facilities - Part 12B
Iowa SUDAS Design Manual
www.iowasudas.org



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## ADA: ACCESSIBILITY COMMON TYPES

- ☐ Accessible Route
- □ Parking Spaces
- ☐ Door, Doorways and Gates
- □ Ramps
- ☐ Curb Ramps
- □ Source: <u>www.ADA.gov</u>, U.S. Department of Justice, Civil Rights Division



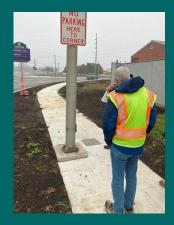
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# ADA: ALTERATION

What is an "alteration"?

"An alteration is a change that affects or could affect the usability of all or part of a building or facility. Alterations of streets, roadways, or highways include activities such as reconstruction, rehabilitation, resurfacing, widening, and projects of similar scale and effect."

Iowa DOT Design Manual, Section 12A-2 and DOJ DOT Joint Technical Assistance1 on the Title II of ADA - Civil Rights | Federal Highway Administration



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# ADA: RESURFACING

Resurfacing is an alteration that triggers the requirement to add curb ramps if it involves work on a street or roadway spanning from one intersection to another, and includes overlays of additional material to the road surface, with or without milling. (defined June 28, 2013)

**Iowa DOT Design Manual,** Section 12A-2, Sec.D at: www.iowadot.gov/design/dmanual/12A-02.pdf

Technical Assistance

www.fhwa.dot.gov/civilrights/programs/doj\_fhwa\_ta.cfm

Glossary of Terms of many surface treatments www.fhwa.dot.gov/civilrights/programs/doj\_fhwa\_ta\_glossary.cfm

# **ADA: EXAMPLES**

Examples where it may not be "technically feasible" to provide full compliance:

- Right-of-way availability
- Underground structures
- Adjacent developed facilities
- Drainage limitations
- Impacts natural or historic features
- Underlying terrain
- Street grades that exceed the crosswalk cross slope maximums



Federal-aid Overview Seminar

1:

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# **ADA: EXCEPTIONS**

### **Documenting Exceptions:**

- LPAs must provide a certification with supporting documentation to the lowa DOT for all Federal-aid projects and all other projects let by the DOT
- Must be signed by a registered professional engineer or architect licensed in lowa
- Must identify the specific locations where full compliance cannot be achieved
- Must provide specific reasons why full compliance cannot be achieved
- Must be retained until the facility is made compliant

# **ADA**

### **Transition Plan**

- Required if existing pedestrian facilities in the public right-of-way are not accessible
- Curb Ramp Transition Plan Requirements
  - Prioritized inventory of ramps to be completed
  - Schedule for completion
  - Source(s) of funding
  - Contact information of responsible official

### For more information:

- I.M. 1.080, ADA Requirements
- Iowa DOT Design Manual
- <a href="https://iowadot.gov/design/design-manual">https://iowadot.gov/design/design-manual</a>

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### 13

# **QUESTIONS?**



- Reference Documents:
  - As listed on previous slides
  - Forms referenced in this Overview Training may be found at: https://forms.iowadot.gov/BrowseForms.aspx
- · Iowa DOT Contact Person:
  - See Iowa DOT Contact List for appropriate Administering Bureau staff

# PROJECT PROGRAMMING

# Niki Stinn, P.E.

Secondary Roads Engineer

Local Systems Bureau

Iowa Department of Transportation

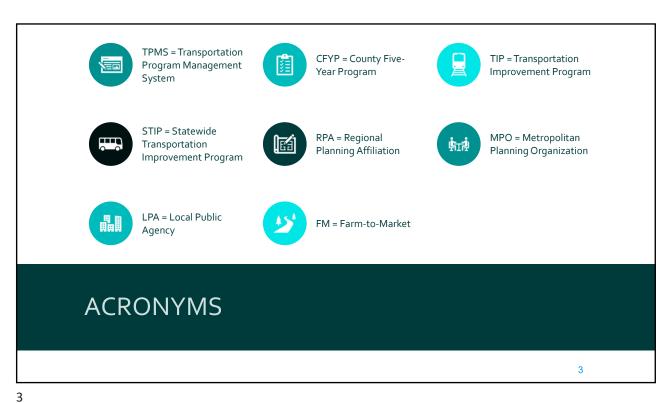
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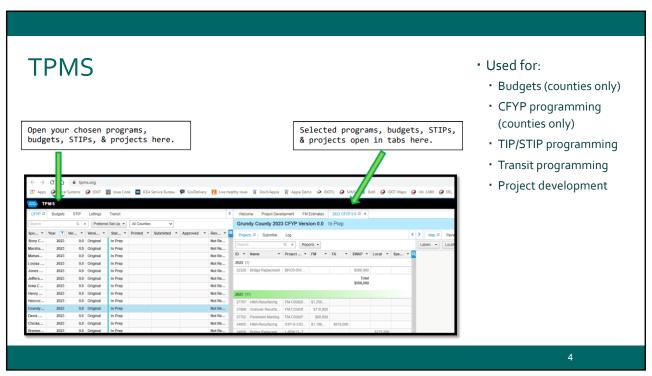
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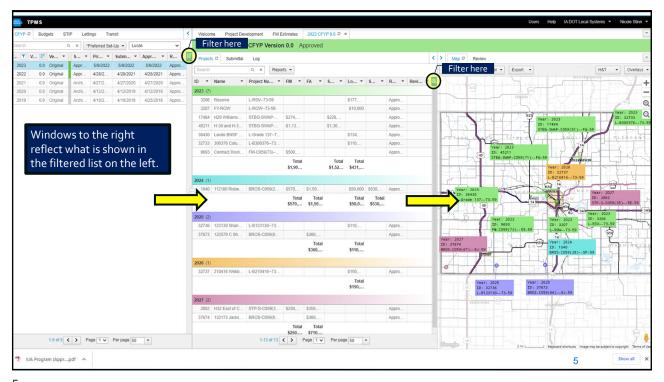
# PRESENTATION OVERVIEW

TIP/STIP Programming
STIP Revision Process
CFYP/STIP – Entry of Project Details









# TIP/STIP PROGRAMMING

6

# Required annually from all lowa MPOs/RPAs 4-year document Includes all locally sponsored projects expected to use Federal-aid and/or Swap Subject to available funding levels (STBG/TAP targets & HBP funding) Requires board approval and opportunity for public comment

Includes all locally sponsored projects expected to use Federal-aid and/or Swap over the next four years 4-year document **STATEWIDE** TRANSPORTATION **IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM** Compilation of all MPO/RPA TIPs – includes LPA and DOT (STIP) projects Updated annually with approval coinciding with beginning of federal fiscal year - Oct 1st All Federal-aid projects MUST be included in the STIP. Swap projects included also. 8

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# CREATING PROJECTS FOR THE TIP/STIP

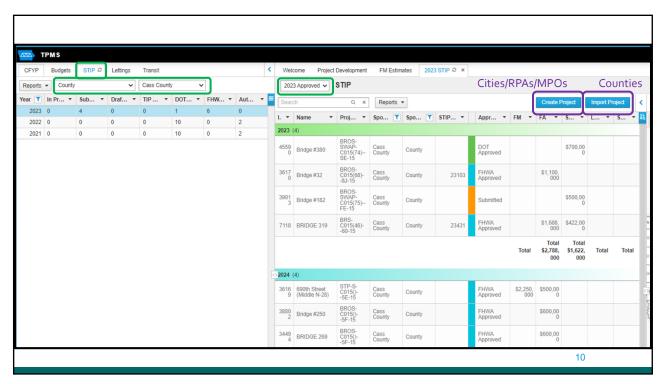
### Counties

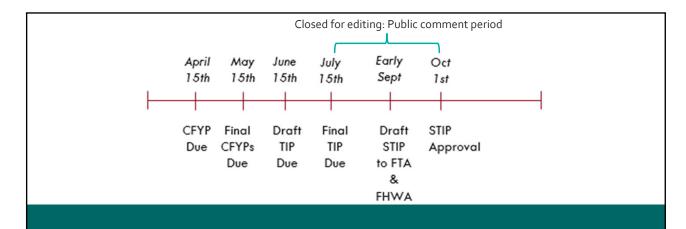
- CFYP is 1<sup>st</sup> step in developing TIP for each RPA/MPO
- All programming/project entries <u>and revisions</u> must originate in CFYP
  - CFYP entries populate draft TIP/STIP
  - Program projects in the state FY of the letting May not agree w/ STIP
  - May need to move project to correct STIP year once letting date is established
- County Budget & CFYP Instructions provided on Local Systems website
  - https://iowadot.gov/local\_systems/publications/co unty\_bp\_instructions.pdf

### All LPAs Except Counties

- Direct coordination with RPAs/MPOs to include projects
- Project entries made directly in TIP

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# STIP DEVELOPMENT TIMELINE

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# STIP REVISIONS

- · Counties: Revisions must originate in CFYP via resolution or amendment
  - Requires approval by Board of Supervisors and Local Systems
  - CFYP revisions/amendments sync to STIP
  - Communicate with RPA/MPO to ensure everyone is on the same page Public hearing may be required for RPA/MPO
- · Cities: Revisions made directly in the STIP Communicate with RPA/MPO
- Revisions necessary when:
  - HBP Estimated federal share exceeds the amount of Federal-aid programmed in STIP by > 15%
    - See <u>I.M. 3.700, Attachment B</u>
  - STBG/Other Estimated federal share exceeds the amount of Federal-aid programmed by > 30%
  - Change in scope and/or project description
  - Change in letting date alters federal fiscal year of funding authorization
- Revisions need to be completed prior to final plan turn-in
  - Plan ahead! Revision process and public hearings take time!

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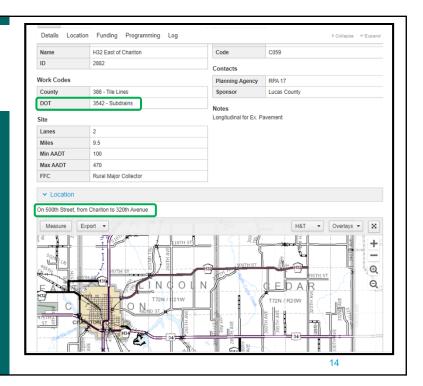
# CFYP / STIP – ENTRY OF PROJECT DETAILS IN TPMS

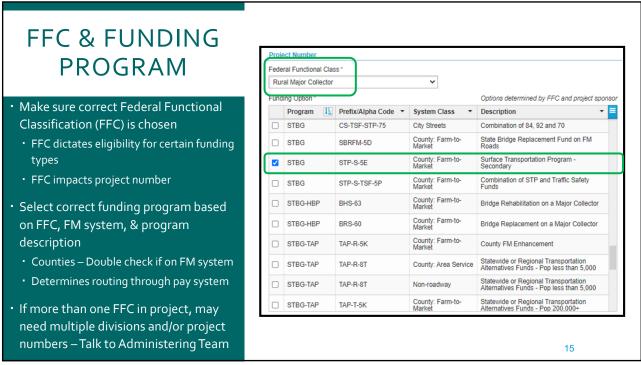
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# WORK CODE & LOCATION DESCRIPTION

- Select correct DOT work code
- Work codes transfer to bidding proposal/contract
- Avoid being too specific in location description
  - Do NOT use exact distances
  - Location description formatting quidance found in:
    - County Budget & CFYP Instructions
    - I.M. 3.020, Concept Statement Instructions
  - Location description ≠ Map notes
  - Ensure correct endpoints are chosen on map Snap linework and points





Funding **FUNDING** ☐ FM Transfer Year\* Type\* Subtype/Program<sup>3</sup> Amount\* **SOURCES** 2025 FM \$ 2000000 Regional Subtype/Program Year \* Type " Amount 1 Select correct funding sources \$ 1000000 2025 FA Regional • Ensure 80/20 match if applicable • Check "Regional" box if funding is Total Funding \$3,000,000 subject to RPA/MPO approval Funding ☐ FM Transfer HBP Year Туре Subtype/Program 2026 SWAP SWAP-HBP \$ 250000 Regional On-system (Major Collector & higher) • 80% Federal-aid HBP & 20% Swap HBP Year\* Type\* Subtype/Program\* Off-system (Minor Collector & Local) 2026 ~ HBP \$ 1000000 Regional • 100% Federal-aid HBP Remove Funding transfers to TIP/STIP for approval Total Funding \$1,250,000 16

# **QUESTIONS?**



### Reference Documents:

- County Budget & CFYP Instructions:
   <a href="https://iowadot.gov/local-systems/publications/county-bp-instructions.pdf">https://iowadot.gov/local-systems/publications/county-bp-instructions.pdf</a>
- I.M. 3.700, Attachment B: https://www.iowadot.gov/local\_systems/publications/im/3700b.pdf
- I.M. 3.020, Concept Statement Instructions: https://www.iowadot.gov/local\_systems/publications/im/3020.pdf

### Iowa DOT Contact Person:

• See lowa DOT Contact List for appropriate Administering Team staff

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# **ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW**

Location and Environment
Bureau

Iowa Department of Transportation

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# ENDANGERED SPECIES ACT SECTION 7

Location and Environment Bureau lowa Department of Transportation

2

# SECTION 7 PURPOSE

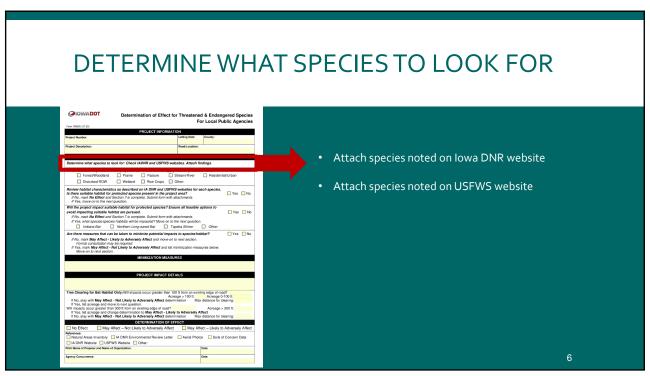
- Promote the conservation of endangered and threatened species
- Ensure Federal actions will not:
  - Jeopardize a species
  - Destroy or adversely modify critical habitat

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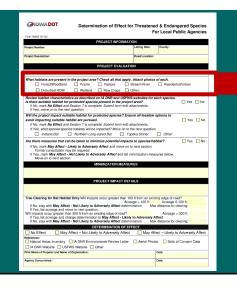
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INSTRUCTIONAL MEMORANDUMS To Local Public Agencies	<b>CIOWA DOT</b>	<b>⊘</b> IOWA <b>DOT</b>	Determination of Effect for 1	Threatened & Endangered Speci For Local Public Agenci
To: Counties and Cities	Date: July 7, 2023	Form 700005 (07-42)		FOI LOCAL PUBLIC Agenci
From: Local Systems Bureau	I.M. No. 4.110		PROJECT INFORMATION	•
Subject: Threatened and Endangered Species		Project Number:	L	Letting Date: County:
Contents: This Instructional Memorandum (IAI) Nucleis guidelines a (LPA) sunderstand and comply with the equipments of the justice (LPA) sunderstand and comply with the equipments of the justice lated spacies and critical habitatis on projects. Section 7 of the Act, called "Leaf to the control of the Act, called "Leaf to the control of the Act, called "Leaf to the control of the Act, called "Leaf to the Act, called "Leaf to	ed Species Act (ESA) as it applies to its ed "Inferagency Coperation" is the legal to the existence of any federally pitions", is the mechanism for all non- for compliance with 571 lowa int and Animal Species. Section 7	What habitats are present Forest/Woodland	PROJECT EVALUATION to look for: Check IADNR and USFWS websits t in the project area? Check all that apply. At the Prairie Pasture Street	tes. Attach findings. ttach photos of each. eam/River Residential/Urban
This I.M. also includes the following attachments:		☐ Disturbed ROW	■ Wetland ■ Row Crops ■ Other	AC.
Attachment A - Threatened and Endangered Species Process for N Attachment B - Threatened and Endangered Species Process for F Attachment C - Avoidance and Minimization Measures for Threaten	ederal-aid Projects Flowchart	Is there suitable habitat for	istics as described on IA DNR and USFWS wo or protected species present in the project ar ad Section 7 is complete. Submit form with attact ext question.	rea? Yes 🔲 N
Acronyms  BA - Blological Assessment BMP - Best Management Practices CE - Categorical Exclusion DNR - Department of Natural Resources		avoid impacting suitable If No, mark No Effect as If Yes, what species/spe	itable habitat for protected species? Ensure habitat are pursued. Ad Section 7 is complete. Submit form with attac- ticles habitats will be impacted? Move on to the r	☐ Yes ☐ h chments. next question.
DOE - Defermination of Effect for Threatened and Endangered Sper (2003) DOI - 100 -	cies for Local Public Agencies (Exm	If No, mark <b>May Affect</b> - Formal consultation in	- Not Likely to Adversely Affect and list minin	ext section. imization measures below. S
Introduction				
The purpose of the ESA is to conserve the cooxystems or which three and to allow conserve and recover fisted species. Under the law, species reprovided protection and regulated by the USFWS.  Section 10 of the ESA applies to non-Federal-sid projects and, f. warran from the USFWS for the taking of a threatened or endangered species. USACE is needed, the USACE will consult with USFWS on behalf of threaten the consequence of the USACE is needed.	isted as either threatened or endangered ted, allows the LPA to secure a permit However, when a 404 Permit from the	If No, stay with May Affe If Yes, list acreage and i Will impacts occur greater t If Yes, list acreage and i	ect - Not Likely to Adversely Affect determinal	e > 100 ft: Acreage 0-100 ft: ation Max distance for clearing: Acreage > 300 ft: Adversely Affect ation Max distance for clearing:
For Federal-aid projects, Section 7 of the ESA is the mechanism by wh actions taken will not jeopardize the continued existence of a listed spe- modification of critical habitat. This is achieved through consultation will informal consultation or formal consultation.	cies or result in the destruction or adverse	References:   Natural Areas Inventory   IA DNR Website		May Affect – Likely to Adversely Affe
A list of federally listed threatened and endangered species in Iowa can	be found on the USFWS Midwest Region	Print Name of Preparer and Name	e of Organization:	Date:
website. A list of State threatened and endangered species can be fou	nd in 571 IAC Chapter 77, Endangered	Agency Concurrence:		Date:
Page 1 of 4				The second secon





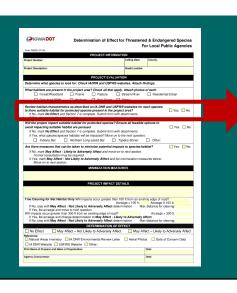
# WHAT HABITATS ARE PRESENT IN THE PROJECT AREA?



- Check boxes for habitat types
- Provide photographs



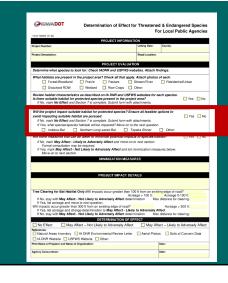
# IS THERE SUITABLE HABITAT IN THE PROJECT AREA?



- Do the habitats in the project area align with habitats for any species in the county?
- Iowa DNR and USFWS have pages that describe suitable habitat for each species.



# WILL THE PROJECT IMPACT SUITABLE HABITAT?

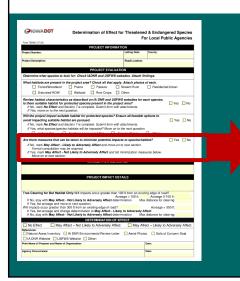


- Will the project impact habitat identified for the previous question?
- If yes, what species/species' habitat?
- Every effort to <u>avoid</u> impacting any suitable habitat should be taken.

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# ARE THERE MEASURES TO MINIMIZE IMPACTS?



- Minimization is tailored to species being impacted
  - Winter tree clearing Bats
  - In-stream date restrictions Topeka Shiner

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### **AVOIDANCE VS MINIMIZATION**

### Avoidance ≠ Minimization

- Avoidance = no impact
  - Example: We narrowed the shoulder width to avoid needing to clear trees for the project.
- Minimization = ensuring impacts are not detrimental to species/habitat
   Example: We will clear trees during the inactive season for bats October 1 to March 31.
- <u>Mitigation</u> = even with minimization efforts, mitigation is sometimes required and coordinated with USFWS.

Example: Trees will be cleared between October 1 and March 31; however, if trees will be cleared more than 100 feet from the edge of pavement then mitigation is required by USFWS through the Programmatic Biological Opinion for Transportation Projects in the Range of the Indiana Bat and Northern Long-eared Bat.

Mitigation ratio is based on the amount of forest cover in the county: <30% forest cover is 1:1.75, >30% forest cover is 1:1.5.

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# NORTHERN LONG-EARED BAT RANGE



# TRICOLORED BAT RANGE



# SECTION 7 TASK COMPLETION

- The Protected Species team will issue a "Task Completion" memo
- The NEPA team will issue a "Clearance" memo

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# **QUESTIONS?**



- Reference Documents:
  - I.M. 4.110, Threatened and Endangered Species
- Iowa DOT Location and Environment Bureau Contacts
  - Districts 1, 4, 5 Jill Garton
  - Districts 2, 3, 6 Brock Struecker
  - · Statewide Local Projects Beth Kramer

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# SECTION 106 OF THE NATIONAL HISTORIC PRESERVATION ACT OF 1966

Cultural Resources Team
Location and Environment Bureau
lowa Department of Transportation

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# **SECTION 106 PURPOSE**

- Promote consideration of Historic Preservation
- Provides criteria to establish significance
- Requires:
  - Consultation with Stakeholders (including SHPO)
  - "Reasonable Opportunity" for the ACHP to Comment









## ARCHAEOLOGICAL & HISTORIC SURVEYS



Surveys may be required for any right of way or easement needs impacted by earthmoving activities or other unique situations



Notify our bureau about any changes affecting the impact area



Our bureau can help find qualified archaeologists and historians



Our bureau, University of Iowa staff, or private firms can provide <u>advice</u> regarding the need for an archaeological or historical survey

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# **CONSULTATION**

- 36 CFR 800 requires consultation (often extensive) with various stakeholders (e.g., SHPO, Tribes/Nations, Historic Preservation Commissions, Historical Societies, the public. Etc.
- Official submittals for consultation on FHWA funded projects must go through the DOT
- The extent of consultation depends on the resource and the potential for impacts
- SHPO staff can provide additional advice
  - Example: discuss how to rehab historic buildings

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# CONSULTATION

- Expect extended consultation when historic properties are present
- Get to know your local stakeholders (Historic Preservation Commissions, Historical Societies)
- Expect to meet with, listen to, and work to address concerns of stakeholders when discussing an Adverse Effect
- Stakeholders are critical to the Section 106 process

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# SHPO has 30 days after receipt of an official submittal to complete a review SHPO comments are just one step in Environmental Concurrence process National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) requires evidence of Section 106 compliance

# TRANSPORTATION ALTERNATIVES PROGRAM (TAP)

- TAP projects cannot have an adverse effects to historic properties
- Historic preservation enhancements review begins with review of the concept/application
- Historic Structures applying for enhancement funds for rehabilitation must be listed in or eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places
- For unevaluated structures, consult with SHPO and complete lowa Structural Inventory Form available on State Historical Society website
- Historic building restorations or rehabilitations must follow the Secretary of Interior Standards for Historic Preservation
  - · Plan note should reference Standards
- SHPO reviews plans for rehabilitation of historic structures

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### **ADVISORY Initiate Section 106 Process** Establish undertaking Identify appropriate SHPO/THPO \* No undertaking/no potential COUNCIL to cause effects Plan to involve the public Identify other consulting parties **FLOWCHART** Undertaking is type that might affect historic properties **Identify Historic Properties** Determine scope of efforts Identify historic properties No historic properties affected Evaluate historic significance Historic properties are affected Assess Adverse Effects Apply criteria of adverse effect No historic properties adversely affected Historic properties are adversely affected **Resolve Adverse Effects** Memorandum of \* Agreement Continue consultation FAILURE TO AGREE ■ COUNCIL COMMENT

# HISTORIC BRIDGES & I.M. 4.120

- Unique to 2023 through 2025, it will be necessary to complete either a historical bridge assessment or an intensive historical evaluation for bridges 45-years in age or older. Currently, both of the previous statewide historic bridge surveys are out of date, and not being accepted by lowa SHPO. Per 36 CFR 800, identification of historic properties is the responsibility of the agency or their applicant. The historical bridge assessment or intensive historical evaluation are different levels of investigation that result in different products. If the LPA has questions about the appropriate level of effort/product they should contact the designated cultural resources manager for their transportation district within LEB. The historical bridge assessment is a desktop effort that will look at the historic context of the bridge, provide some appropriate documentation and will conclude with the SOI qualified historian making an assessment of the need for intensive survey. A key to the scope of the historical bridge assessment is that the completion of an lowa Site Inventory Form is not required. Generally, these efforts do not involve field work by the SOI qualified historian, but they will likely involve the exchange of specific information about the bridge, or other similar bridges from the LPA to the SOI qualified historian.
- Conversely, the intensive historical bridge evaluation will require field time, as well as visits to local archives or institutions that repose historical documents by the SOI qualified historian or associated staff. The intensive historical bridge evaluation also requires the completion of a robust historical context and an lowa Site Inventory Form. This level of documentation should be consistent with lowa SHPO's draft *Guidelines for Historic Architectural Survey in lowa*. The lowa Highway Research Board and the lowa DOT are leading efforts to complete our 3<sup>rd</sup> generation statewide historical bridge survey that is anticipated to be completed in late 2025. Once completed, individual bridge assessments or intensive historical evaluations for most bridges in the state should not be required.

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# SECTION 106 TASK COMPLETION

- The Cultural Resources team will issue a "Task Completion" memo
- The NEPA team will issue a "Clearance" memo

# FOR MORE INFORMATION

### References:

- I.M. 4.120, Cultural Resource Regulations
- Section 106 Regulations 36 CFR Part 800 (16 U.S.C.)
- Advisory Council website <u>www.achp.gov/usersguide.html</u>
- SHPO website www.iowaculture.gov/history/
- Iowa Code Section 314.24

31

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# QUESTIONS?

Iowa DOT Contacts:

Janee Becker (for Districts 1 and 3) 515-233-7820
Janee Becker (a) jowadot us

Jeff Bacon (for District 2 and District 6) 515-233-7819

<u> Jeff.Bacon@iowadot.us</u>

Jacob Woodcock (for Districts 4 and 5) 515-239-1035

<u>Jacob.Woodcock(a) iowadot.us</u>

Brennan Dolan (Team Lead / Tribal Liaison) 515-239-1795

Brennan.Dolan@iowadot.us



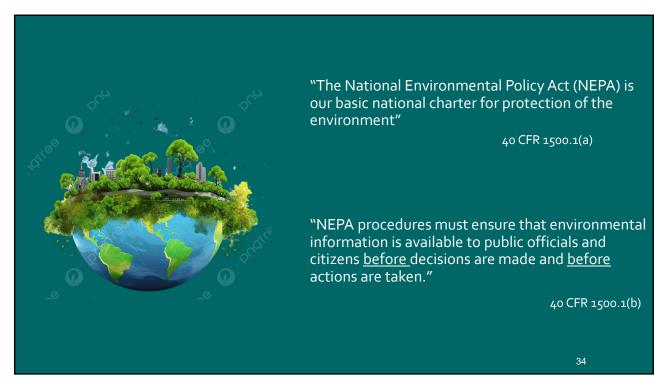
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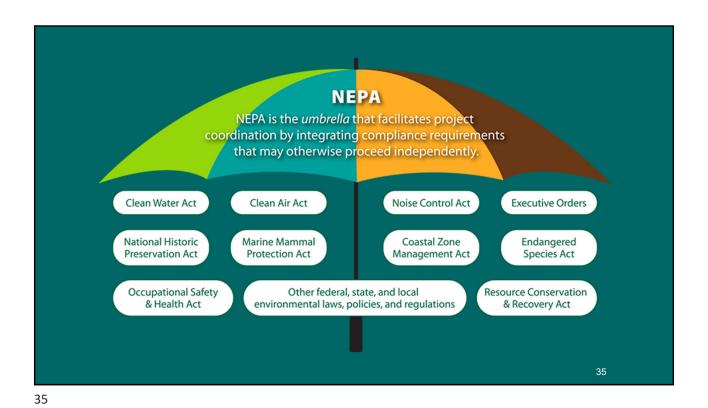
# NATIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL POLICY ACT (NEPA) & SECTION 4(f)

Mackenzie Rosenboom Location and Environment Bureau Iowa Department of Transportation

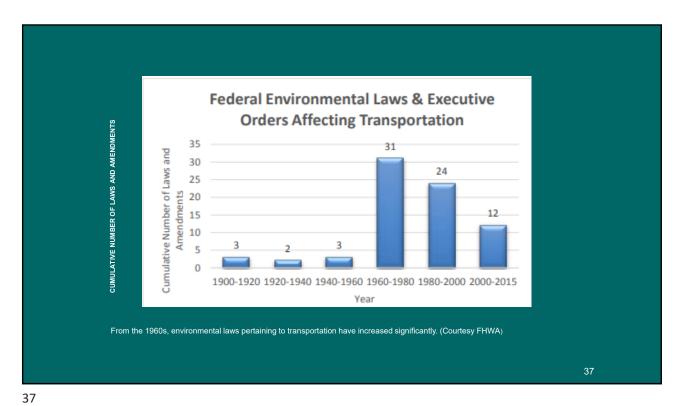
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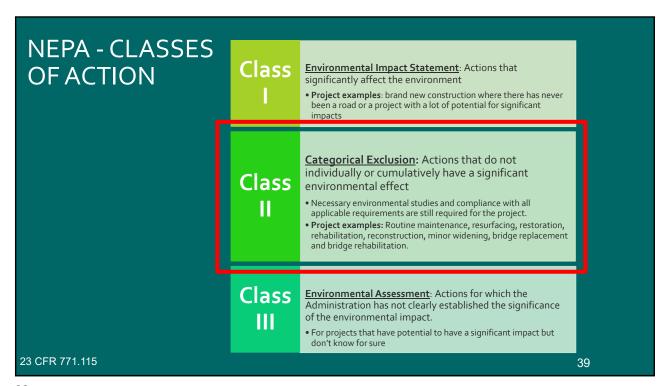




**CODE OF FEDERAL REGULATIONS** 40 CFR Ch. V - Council on 23 CFR § 771 -**Environmental Impact Environmental Quality** and related procedures (CEQ), Part 1500-1508 Establishes policy • Supplements 40 CFR Ch. V, Part 1500-1508 Sets goals • Process for highway and Provides means for public transportation carrying them out projects 36







Purchase of vehicles by the applicant where the use of these vehicles can be accomm
Track and Railbed maintenance and improvements when in existing ROW
Purchase and installation of operating or maintenance equipment to be located withi
Promulgation of rules, regulations and directives
Deployment of electronics, photonics, communications or information processing use
Projects within existing Operational ROW
Projects within existing Operational ROW  < 5 mil or < 30 mil (feg \$ 4.5% b) talcom) (check with FHD A lowa Division for cur
Localized geotechnical and other investigation to provide information for preliminary
Environmental restoration and pollution abatement actions
Modernization of a highway by resurfacing, restoration, rehabilitation, reconstructi
Highway safety or traffic operations improvement projects including, ramp metering
Bridge rehabilitation, reconstruction, replacement or the construction of grade sep
Purchase, construction, replacement, or rehabilitation of ferry vessels
Rehabilitation or reconstruction of existing ferry facilities that occupy substantially th
Transportation corridor fringe parking facilities
Construction of new truck weigh stations or Rest Areas 40

# **CATEGORICAL EXCLUSION (CE)**

- Do not have significant impacts:
  - on planned growth or land use for the area;
  - on relocations of people;
  - on <u>natural, cultural, recreational, historic</u> or other resources;
  - on air, noise, or water quality;
  - on travel patterns;
  - either individually or cumulatively.

23 CFR 771.117

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# PROGRAMMATIC AGREEMENT FOR CATEGORICAL EXCLUSIONS

- Projects subject to 23 CFR 771.117 (c) and (d) lists
- Established procedures to expeditiously and efficiently process certain actions
- Iowa DOT certify that projects meet the criteria set forth in the agreement
- This allows Iowa DOT to clear projects on FHWA's behalf
- Majority of projects will fit under the programmatic agreement BUT certain impacts may jump it to a CE and require FHWA review and signature
  - E.g., may affect for T&E, historic resource found, excess ROW, relocations
- Reviewed after 5 years recent version dated April 2019
  - · Has been sent to FHWA for signature, requesting a 5-year extension

# **CE PROCESS:**

Countersigned	Programmatic
Submit Concept to Iowa DOT	Submit Concept to Iowa DOT
NEPA classification concurrence with FHWA is required	NEPA classification concurrence with FHWA is not required
Sponsor provides results of <b>environmental studies</b> and agency coordination	Sponsor provides results of <b>environmental studies</b> and agency coordination
Agency consultation (if needed) is completed by lowa DOT and Project Sponsor	Agency consultation (if needed) is completed by Iowa DOT and Project Sponsor
Project sponsor will work with NEPA Manager to complete CE form summarizing the results.	Iowa DOT will complete the Environmental Review Summary and project certification.
The CE form is countersigned by FHWA lowa Division and lowa DOT.	
lowa DOT will notify the project sponsor when the memorandum is signed and mark the project cleared in TPMS/PSS.	Iowa DOT will notify the project sponsor when certification is complete and mark the project cleared in TPMS/PSS.

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# NEW COUNTERSIGNED CE PROCESS



NEPA Manager will fill out the CE form based on the information received to date and send to Project Sponsor

CE form will have comment boxes, and a guidance document will be sent along to aid in completing the form



Project Sponsor will need to review, revise, update, and send back to NEPA Manager

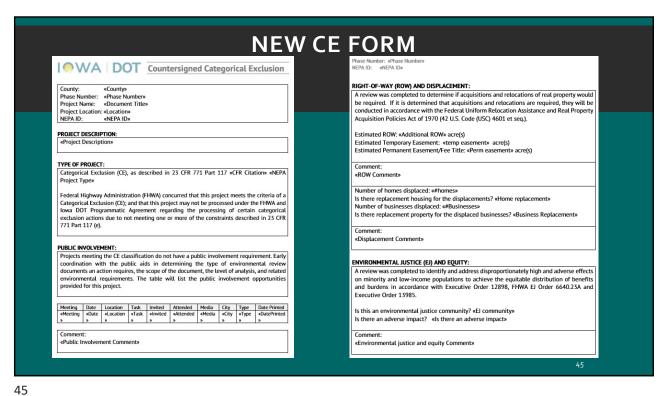


NEPA Manager will review and reach out if additional information is needed

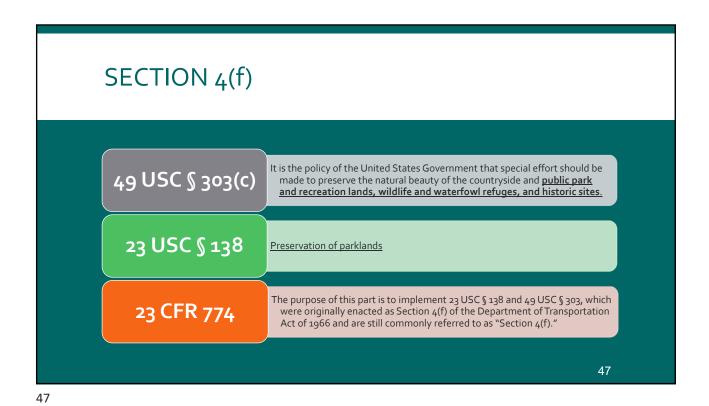


Once the CE has all the necessary information, it will be sent for signature

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# **NEPA COMPLETION STATISTICS CLASSIFICATION MONTHS** PCE 5 \* CE 13 \*Plan for more time





# OFFICIAL WITH JURISDICTION (OWJ)



#### <u>Park, Recreational and Refuge</u> <u>Facilities:</u>

Individual(s) given responsibility for managing the facility. (i.e., City Park Director, USACE, County Conservation Board, etc.)

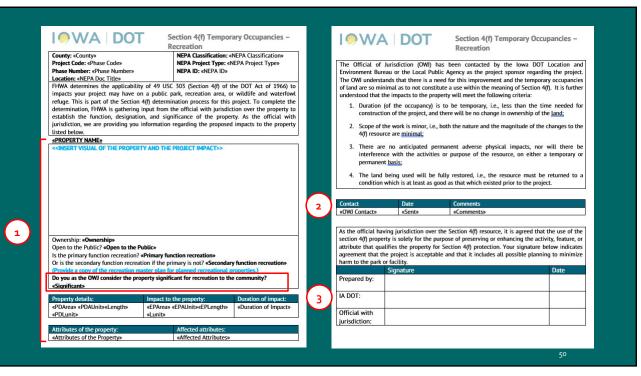


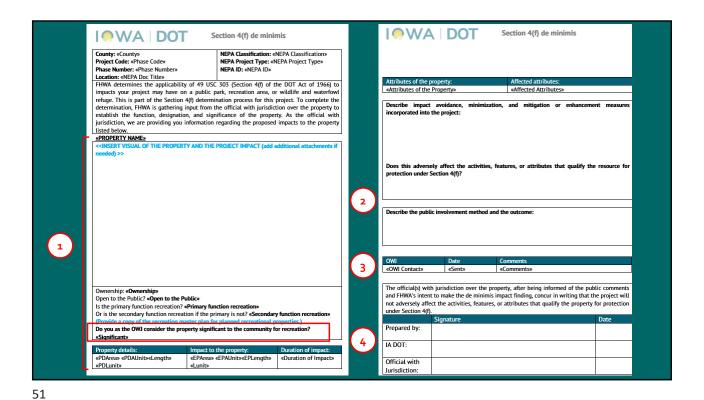
#### **Historic Properties:**

State Historical Preservation Office

10

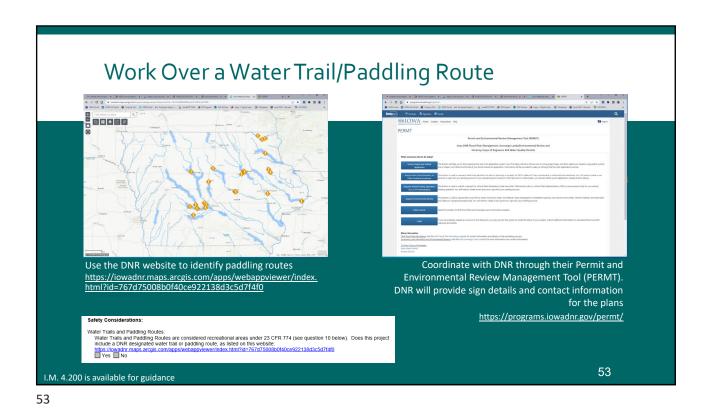
49





WORK OVER A WATER TRAIL/ PADDLING ROUTE

Replacement Bridge Superstructure New structures widening replacements structures Superstructure Deck Bridge strengthening over/in the waterway and replacements removal within approximately 20 feet of the bank. 52



## National Resource Conservation Service (NRCS) Land

tle 7—Agriculture Part 650

#### What is it?

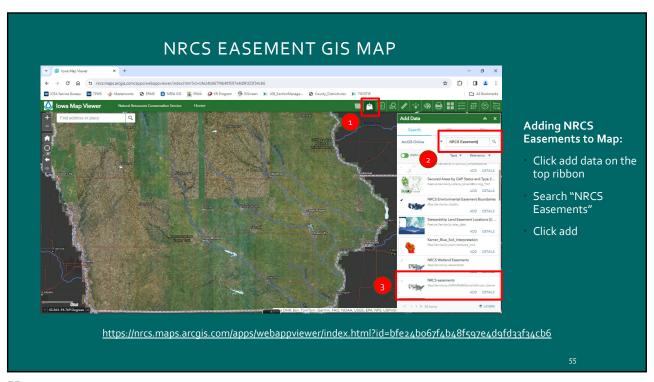
- Part of the U.S. Department of Agriculture
- Offer technical and financial assistance to integrate conservation practices into croplands, grazing lands, forests, urban farms and other land uses
- Farmers can apply to put unfarmable land into NRCS conservation land

#### How it functions?

 Offer conservation programs to help agricultural producers address natural resource concerns while strengthening their operations

#### Why we want to avoid it?

- They have their own process that must be followed which includes their own NEPA review in addition to FHWA requirements
  - Their process adds <u>years</u> on the timeline greatly affect your schedule
- If you make a modification of the easement for your project, you're responsible for finding that mitigation land



# NEPA CLEARANCE

## KEY ITEMS FOR NEPA CLEARANCE

- Show estimated work limits both permanent and temporary easements. <u>Include all areas of potential disturbance</u>
- Complete Determination of Effect Form for T&E
- Complete Determination of Effect for Cultural Resources
- Complete Section 4(f) reviews and determinations
  - Provide impacts or use of any land that is currently a park
  - Complete DNR PERMT for paddling routes (if applicable)
  - Coordination with all OWJ of Parks Plus properties

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## **IOWA DOT NEPA SECTION CONTACTS**

Mackenzie Rosenboom – Districts 1, 2, 3, 4

\*\*ICEASB Employee

515-239-1258

Mackenzie.Rosenboom@iowadot.us

Chris Schwake – District 6

515-233-7876

Christine.Schwake@iowadot.us

Pedro Leanos – District 5

515-233-7768

Pedro.Leanos@iowadot.us

DeeAnn Newell - NEPA Team Lead

515-239-1364

DeeAnn.Newell@iowadot.us

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## QUESTIONS?



Reference Documents:
• I.M. 4.020, NEPA Process

23 CFR 771 & 774
www.environment.fhwa.dot.gov/index.asp

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# INITIAL PROJECT DEVELOPMENT

## Niki Stinn, P.E.

Secondary Roads Engineer

Local Systems Bureau

Iowa Department of Transportation

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1

# PRESENTATION OVERVIEW

Project Scheduling

**Funding Agreement** 

**Concept Statement** 

**Project Tracking & Activation** 

Schedule Items & Submittals

Funding & Plan Divisions

Engineer's Estimate & Funding

Transfer of Information for Contracts



#### PROJECT SCHEDULING

- Typical sequence of project activities
  - Step 1: Consultant Selection
  - Step 2a: Funding Agreement
  - Step 2b: Concept Statement
  - Step 3: Preliminary Plans
  - Step 4: Environmental Concurrence
  - Step 5: Right-of-way Acquisition
  - Step 6: Check and Final Plans
  - Step 7: Letting
  - Step 8: Construction

Covered in this presentation

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## PROJECT SCHEDULING

#### For more information:

- See Federal-aid Guide, Section 3
- See I.M. 3.000, Federal-aid Project Scheduling
  - Type 1: PCE w/ no ROW
  - Type 2: PCE or Indiv. CE, Minor ROW
  - Type 3: EA, Moderate ROW
  - Type 4: EIS, Significant ROW
- See I.M. 3.010, Project Development Submittal Dates and Information

4

	Project [	Developm	ent Critic	al Path D	ates	
F	ederal-aid an	d Non-Federa	l-aid Major an	d Minor Type	Projects	
Federa	al-aid/Primary Pr	ojects		All Projects		
Concept : Major (1 year)	Minor (9 months)	Preliminary Plans	Check Plans	Final Plans, PDC, All other Reg'd Docs	Letting Date	Year
01/16/24	04/16/24	07/16/24	09/03/24	10/15/24	01/22/25	
02/20/24	05/21/24	08/20/24	10/01/24	11/19/24	02/18/25	
03/19/24	06/18/24	09/17/24	11/05/24	12/17/24	03/18/25	
04/16/24	07/16/24	10/15/24	12/03/24	01/21/25	04/15/25	
05/21/24	08/20/24	11/19/24	01/07/25	02/18/25	05/20/25	
06/18/24	09/17/24	12/17/24	02/04/25	03/18/25	06/17/25	2025
07/16/24	10/15/24	01/21/25	03/04/25	04/15/25	07/15/25	25
08/20/24	11/19/24	02/18/25	04/01/25	05/20/25	08/19/25	
09/17/24	12/17/24	03/18/25	05/06/25	06/17/25	09/16/25	
10/15/24	01/21/25	04/15/25	06/03/25	07/15/25	10/21/25	
11/19/24	02/18/25	05/20/25	07/01/25	08/19/25	11/18/25	
12/17/24	03/18/25	06/17/25	08/05/25	09/16/25	12/16/25	
01/21/25	04/15/25	07/15/25	09/02/25	10/21/25	01/21/26	
02/18/25	05/20/25	08/19/25	10/07/25	*11/11/2025	02/17/26	
03/18/25	06/17/25	09/16/25	11/04/25	*12/9/2025	03/17/26	
04/15/25	07/15/25	10/21/25	12/02/25	01/20/26	04/21/26	
05/20/25	08/19/25	11/18/25	01/06/26	02/17/26	05/19/26	
06/17/25	09/16/25	12/16/25	02/03/26	03/17/26	06/16/26	2026
07/15/25	10/21/25	01/20/26	03/03/26	04/21/26	07/21/26	26
08/19/25	11/18/25	02/17/26	04/07/26	05/19/26	08/18/26	
09/16/25	12/16/25	03/17/26	05/05/26	06/16/26	09/15/26	
10/21/25	01/20/26	04/21/26	06/02/26	07/21/26	10/20/26	
11/18/25	02/17/26	05/19/26	07/07/26	08/18/26	11/17/26	
12/16/25 *Date revised to a	03/17/26 account for holida	06/16/26 ys	08/04/26	09/15/26	12/15/26	

PROJECT DEVELOPMENT CRITICAL PATH DATES

These dates are rigid!

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## STEP 1: CONSULTANT SELECTION

- Only allowed for certain types of projects
  - Grant Team
  - Discretionary Grants & Earmarks, depending on what was included in application
- Not allowed for standard highway/bridge projects (STBG/HBP)
- Additional information on the consultant selection process covered in prior presentations

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### What is it?

- A written agreement between the Iowa DOT and LPA
- Discretionary grant agreements written by US DOT - typically take <u>minimum</u> of 9-12 months.
- Outlines the responsibilities of each party and the applicable Federal requirements
- Identifies funding sources and amounts
  - Funding limit (hard limit) specified in the agreement for most programs (STBG, HSIP, TSIP, TAP, etc.)
  - HBP funding amount is estimate only (capped for cities but not counties)

•STEP 2A: FUNDING AGREEMENT

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## When should it be completed?

- As early as possible, typically just before or after Concept Statement submittal
- No later than Check Plan stage
- Before incurring any costs in which the LPA requests reimbursement, communicate with your LS Field Engineer or Grant Manager
- FHWA authorization required for <u>all</u> participating costs <u>prior</u> to incurring expense

•STEP 2A: FUNDING AGREEMENT

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## STEP 2B: CONCEPT STATEMENT

- Concept Statement for Local Systems Bureau Federal-aid Projects (Form 517001)
  - Updated June 2024 (Always use the most recent form)
- Purpose
  - Initiates project development
  - Provides LPA contact information
  - Defines the scope of the project
  - Determines project description, which must match CFYP/STIP programming
  - Helps determine the level of environmental review and documentation required
  - Helps determine which permits and / or agreements may be needed
  - Documents proposed design (checked to ensure criteria are met) & design exceptions

a

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## STEP 2B: CONCEPT STATEMENT:

USES BY VARIOUS BUREAUS

- Submit Concept Statement to Administering Bureau
  - · Teams:
    - Project Development: Jenifer Bates, Joe Albright, & Arielle Muench
    - Grant: Scott Flagg, Susan Hollenkamp, Jennifer Kolacia, Troy Schroeder, Jared Smitch, & Emily Whaley
    - Discretionary Grants/Earmarks: Tom Rhoads & Eric Tjelmeland
  - Perform general review for completeness
  - Review proposed design elements
- Location and Environment Bureau
  - Reviews to determine level of archeological/ cultural/historical/environmental impacts and documentation required
  - Starts NEPA determination process The more information provided, the better
- Right-of-Way Bureau
  - Used for information
  - Identifies which projects have right-of-way needs

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## STEP 2B: CONCEPT STATEMENT

- Additional documents necessary to submit with the Concept Statement
  - DOE, Determination of Effect (Form 760005) required
  - ROW Map
  - Additional justification and assessments needed for design and NEPA evaluations
- For more information:
  - I.M. 3.020, Concept Statement Instructions
  - I.M. 4.110, Threatened and Endangered Species
  - I.M. 4.120, Cultural Resource Regulations for historic bridge assessment guidance
  - I.M. 4.200 Water Trails and Paddling Routes
  - Other Environmental Information

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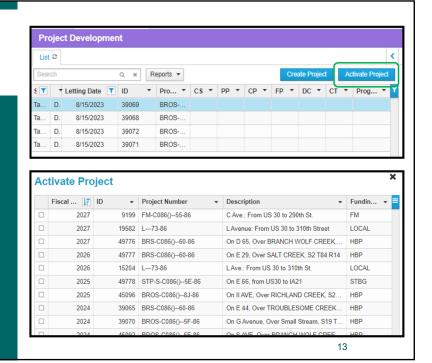
11

## PROJECT TRACKING IN TPMS

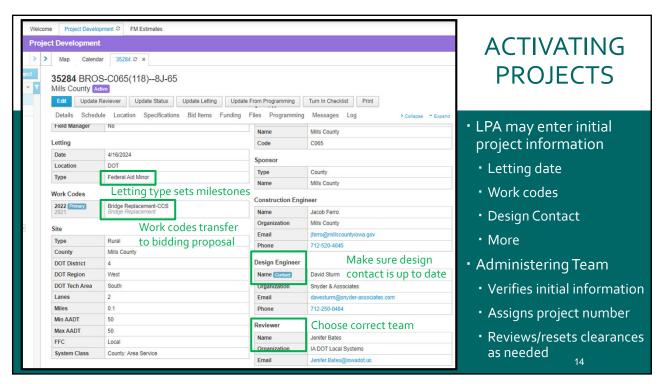
- · What is the Transportation Program Management System (TPMS)?
  - On-line system provided by the Iowa County Engineers Association (ICEA)
     Service Bureau
  - Includes:
    - County Budgets and 5-year Programs
    - Federal-aid TIP / STIP data
    - Project Development data
    - Transit programming
  - Available to DOT, LPA, regional planning, and consultant personnel

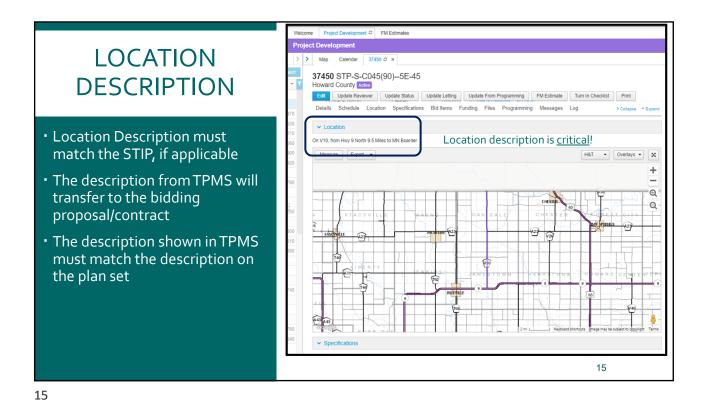


- County projects and city projects in STIP - Use "Activate Project" rather than "Create Project"
  - "Activate" pulls project from programming
  - "Create" results in a detached project
- STIP = "Record of Truth"
  - Activate from STIP record unless there is a good reason to do otherwise
- Counties: Can activate project from draft CFYP
- Cities: Contact Project Development staff for help activating projects



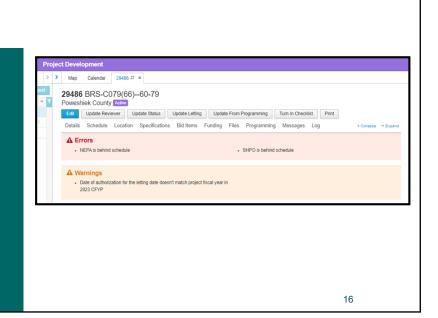
13

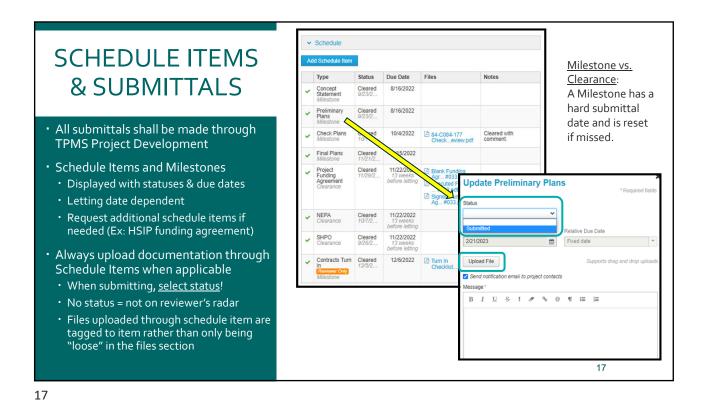




WARNINGS & ERRORS

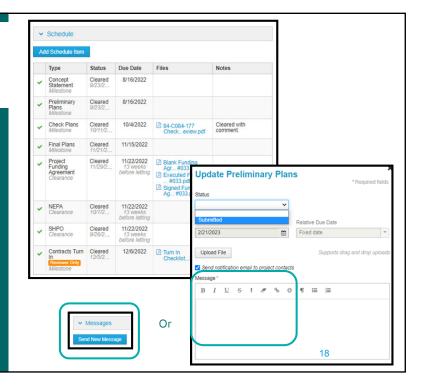
- Errors = Showstoppers
- Warnings = Warrant attention but will not stop letting





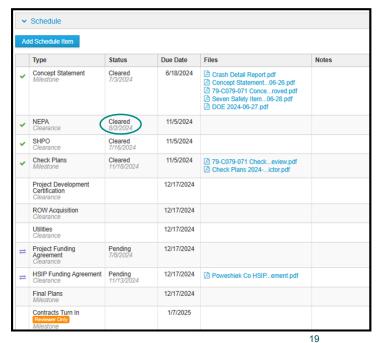
SCHEDULE ITEMS & SUBMITTALS

- Use "Message" in submittal item to send message to reviewers
  - Submittal line message only sent to project contacts
  - If message should go to more than project contacts, un-check "Send notification email to project contacts" box and send message from the Messages section
- Use "Messages" at bottom of project screen to send messages not linked to a schedule item



## **CLEARANCES**

- Iowa DOT marks submittals "cleared" when appropriate
- · ROW, Utilities, etc. generally marked cleared at PDC submittal
- If the correspondence didn't happen through TPMS, it didn't happen at all!



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## **FUNDING & PLAN DIVISIONS**

- Divisions used for various reasons
  - Funding applicability or exclusions (required)
  - Locational tracking
    - · Separate routes on one plan set
    - Jurisdictional splits
  - · Internal accounting differentiations, often necessary for cities
- Plan divisions must be based on like funding
- Each division should only contain items with identical funding sources
  - Example: Some contract items are eligible for HSIP, but not all
  - Separate divisions needed for HSIP eligible items and non-HSIP eligible items
- If independent tracking of the divisions is desired when funding is same/shared between divisions, make it clear to Project Development staff
  - · Communicate funding for each division right away!
  - · Ask the Project Development staff to assign separate funding categories on the funding turn-in worksheet (internal only)

\*Use fewest # of divisions possible while still separating by funding applicability

\*Road & bridge items on separate sheets must be combined into a single tabulation.

> \*\* Set up divisions in TPMS to mirror plans!

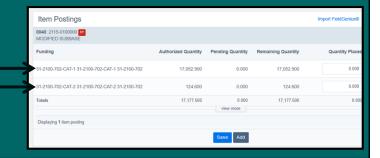
## TRACKING IN APPIA VS. PLAN/CONTRACT SETUP

#### **Totaled divisions**

- Retain their funding package information for tracking in Appia...
  - Automatically if funding differs
  - Only if communicated to Project Development when funding is the same/shared
- Caveat
  - <u>Capped funding sources split between</u> <u>multiple divisions are very hard to</u> accommodate
  - Capped funding shared across divisions will require some manual adjustment of fund limits in Appia as project progresses
  - Best not to separate out tracking for items subject to a shared, capped funding source

#### Non-totaled divisions

- Will be separate sections on the bidding proposal/contract
- Will be assigned individual funding packages in Appia

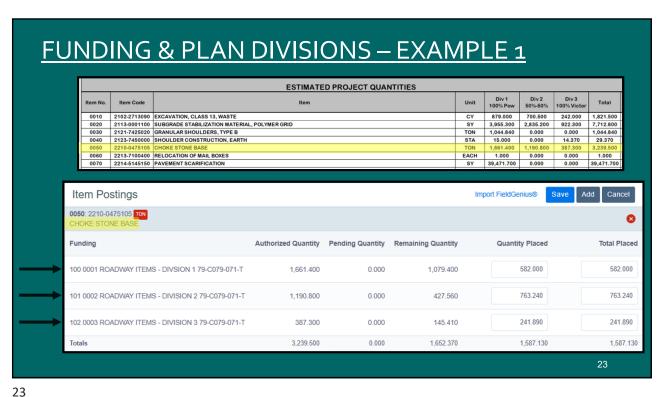


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## **FUNDING & PLAN DIVISIONS – EXAMPLE 1**

ESTIMATED PROJECT QUANTITIES								
Item No.	Item Code	Item	Unit	Div 1 100% Pow	Div 2 50%-50%	Div 3 100% Victor	Total	
0010	2102-2713090	EXCAVATION, CLASS 13, WASTE	CY	879.000	700.500	242.000	1,821.500	
0020	2113-0001100	SUBGRADE STABILIZATION MATERIAL, POLYMER GRID	SY	3,955.300	2,835.200	922.300	7,712.800	
0030	2121-7425020	GRANULAR SHOULDERS, TYPE B	TON	1,044.840	0.000	0.000	1,044.840	
0040	2123-7450000	SHOULDER CONSTRUCTION, EARTH	STA	15.000	0.000	14.370	29.370	
0050	2210-0475105	CHOKE STONE BASE	TON	1,661.400	1,190.800	387.300	3,239.500	
0060	2213-7100400	RELOCATION OF MAIL BOXES	EACH	1.000	0.000	0.000	1.000	
0070	2214-5145150	PAVEMENT SCARIFICATION	SY	39,471.700	0.000	0.000	39,471.700	

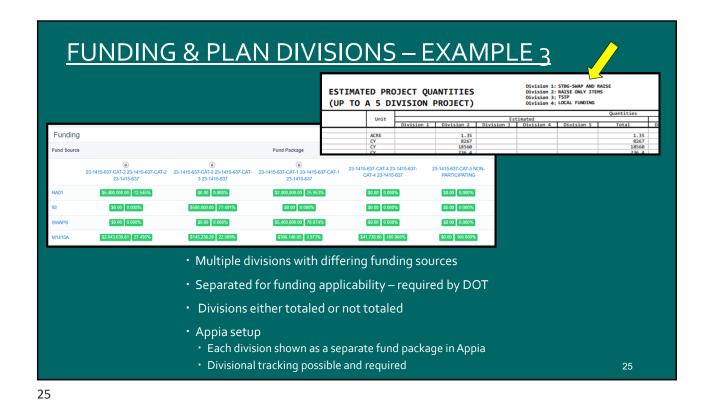
- Multiple divisions with same funding
- Separated for location tracking/jurisdictional purposes divisions not needed by DOT
- All divisions totaled
- Appia setup choices for this example
  - Separate tracking for each division
    - · Applicable fund package (division) selected when making item posting
    - $\underline{\mathsf{If}}$  LPA communicates desire to track divisions to Project Development
  - Divisions not used
    - All quantities will be combined into one funding package
    - · Default if LPA does not specify the desire for divisional tracking



## **FUNDING & PLAN DIVISIONS – EXAMPLE 2**

	TOTAL ESTIMATED QUANTITIES : 454'-0 x 30'-0 P.P.C.B.								
					IVISION I	- BRIDG	Ε	DIVISION II -GRADING	
REF. NO.	CODE NO.	ITEM	UNIT	2 ABUTS	2 PIERS	SUPER	SUBTOTAL	SUBTOTAL	TOTAL
1	2101-0850001	CLEARING AND GRUBBING	ACRE	-	-	-	-	0.4	0.4
2	2102-2710070	EXCAVATION, CLASS 10, ROADWAY AND BORROW	CY	-	-	-	-	1,855	1,855
3	2102-2710090	EXCAVATION, CLASS 10, WASTE	CY	-	-	-	-	15,983	15,983
4	2104-2710020	EXCAVATION, CLASS 10, CHANNEL	CY	-	-	-	20,670	-	20,670
5	2105-8425015	TOPSOIL, STRIP, SALVAGE AND SPREAD	CY	-	-	-	-	2,600	2,600
6	2115-0100000	MODIFIED SUBBASE	CY	-	-	-	-	315	315
7	2121-7425020	GRANULAR SHOULDERS, TYPE B	TON	-	-	-	-	245	245
8	2123-7450020	SHOULDER FINISHING, EARTH	STA	-	-	-	-	10.15	10.15
9	2301-0690210	BRIDGE APPROACH, TWO LANE	57	-	_	-	-	453.8	4518

- · Multiple divisions with same funding
  - Road & bridge
  - Both divisions eligible for same funding
  - One funding source has a cap (limit)
- Separated for design purposes divisions not needed (or desired) by DOT
- Divisions totaled
- Appia setup for this example
  - · LPA should not request divisional tracking because doing so would cause a split funding limit
  - · Do not want multiple funding packages / divisions to track



## PLAN DIVISIONS – TOTALING VS. NOT TOTALING

\*This guidance available in <u>I.M. 3.700 (Check & Final Plan Guidelines)</u>, Attachment A

\*If multiple divisions, 2 options:

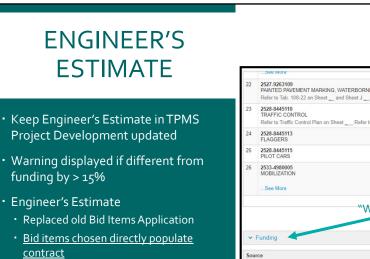
- Total Column
  - TPMS Supplemental Descriptions should be same across divisions
  - Quantities for all divisions combined into 1 section on contract.
  - LS items total 1.0 (equal or by ratio)
- NO Total Column
  - Each division remains separate on contract
  - Each LS item = 1.0

- Total when desired to combine items into same section on bidding proposal/contract
- Do not total if desired to have separate sections on bidding proposal/contract
- If separate sections are desired (not totaled), add supplemental descriptions to bid items in TPMS
  - When bid items transfer to the Contracts Bureau, quantities across divisions are summed into one quantity in the bidding proposal/contract unless a supplemental description is added to each occurrence of the duplicated item.
  - Masterworks doesn't know whether there is a total column or not in the plans or whether a bid item is unique without a supplemental description.
- Make the project development staff aware of <u>all</u> of your funding sources <u>at or before</u> Check Plan stage. Failure to do so may result in re-doing plans!!!

All will be ok if you tell the Project Development staff these two things:

- 1. Each of your funding sources and what items they apply to
- 2. How you want the divisions to be set up on the contract

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Avoid entering quantities to 3<sup>rd</sup> decimal

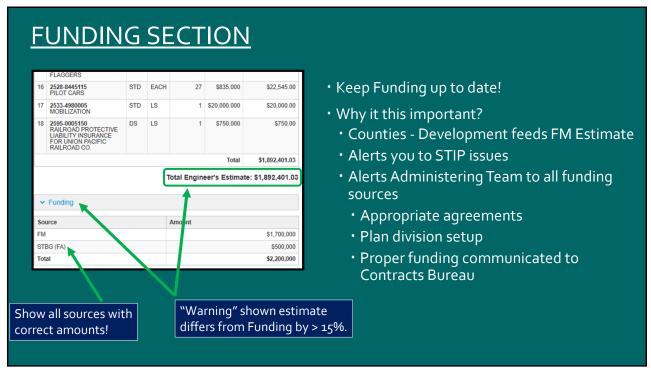
place - causes issues with rounding of

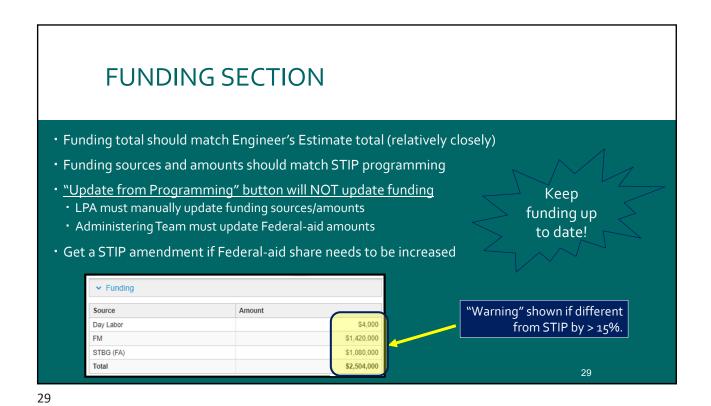
Use divisions specific to funding sources
Entries should match plans exactly

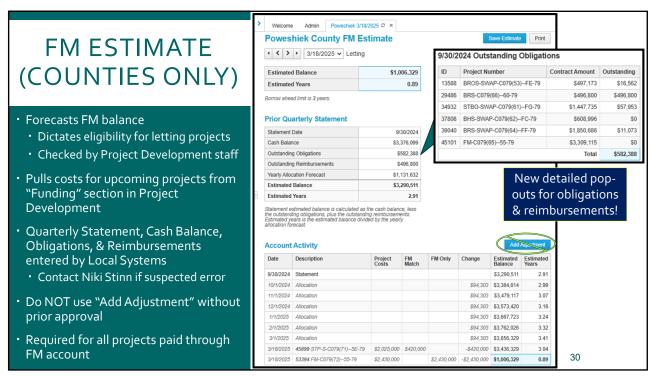
extended prices

\$12,730.56 2527-9263109
PAINTED PAVEMENT MARKING, WATERBORNE OR SOLVENT-BASED STD STA 715.2 \$17.800 STD LS \$7,920,000 \$7,920.00 Refer to Traffic Control Plan on Sheet \_\_\_.Refer to Traffic Control Plan on sheet C.2 STD EACH 100 \$566,500 \$56 650 00 \$42,350.00 EACH \$847.000 \$45,782.000 STD \$2 033 404 11 "Warning" shown if different Total Engineer's Estimate: \$2,033,404.11 from Funding by > 15%. \$1,000,000 STBG (FA) \$1,000,000 \$2,000,000 27

27







#### PROJECT TRACKING IN TPMS

#### **Automated Monitoring**

#### TPMS alerts users if:

- Letting date is inconsistent with CFYP/STIP programming
- Funding differs from STIP
- Engineer's estimate differs from funding
- Bridge is not on QBL
- Too many bridges or too many HBP \$ are programmed (in CFYP only)

#### **Electronic File Management**

- Built-in messaging tool shall be used to make project submittals, check on status, mark clearances, and track correspondence
- Electronic files can be uploaded, downloaded, and stored for future reference (Concept Statement, project plans, agreements, permits, etc.)
- Must upload document to applicable submittal line

#### Managing Letting Dates

- Check TPMS Development for realistic letting dates!!!
- TPMS will automatically push letting back if milestone deadline is missed
- Do NOT simply allow the system to push the project
- Local Systems will move nonprogressing projects

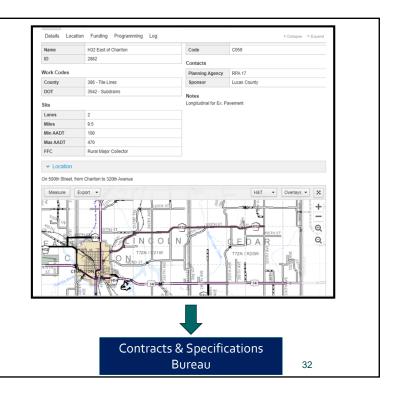
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# TRANSFER OF INFORMATION TO CONTRACTS

Real-time data synchronization with lowa DOT's Masterworks System provides data to Contracts Bureau

- Project number
- Work codes (contract type)
- Engineer's Estimate
  - Bid Items
  - Quantities
  - · Plan division information
  - Supplemental descriptions
- · Location description
- Funding source information
- Specifications
- Design contacts for bidding questions



#### CONTRACT TIME AND FREE WINTER WORK

- Specify requested time requirements and contract limitations by the Turn-in date
- Check "Contract Time and Free Winter Work Report"
  - Distributed by Contracts Bureau ≈ 1 ½ months prior to letting
  - · Contact Contracts Bureau if previously specified limitations are incorrect
- · Changes are possible! Work with Estimator in Contracts.
- Time constraints should be accurate and as-intended prior to bidding in order to avoid post-letting adjustments.
- Incorrect time setup shall not be used as an excuse to "forgive" days later.



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## PROJECT TRACKING IN TPMS

For project development support, contact the Administering Team.

For TPMS support or to request access to TPMS contact:

Brian Moore, Executive Director ICEA Service Bureau 515-244-0779
Brian.Moore@iceasb.org
www.tpms.org

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## **QUESTIONS?**

#### Reference Documents:

• As listed on previous slides

### Iowa DOT Contact Person:

 See Iowa DOT Contact List for appropriate Administering Team staff



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## **OTHER PERMITS**

## Eryn Stone, P.E.

Urban Engineer

Local Systems Bureau

Iowa Department of Transportation

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# PRESENTATION OVERVIEW

Iowa DOT Hydraulic & Structural Reviews 404 Permit Iowa DNR Floodplain Permit NPDES Storm Water Permit Work on Iowa DOT Right-of-Way



## IOWA DOT HYDRAULIC REVIEWS

When is a hydraulic review required?

- 1. For all projects on the NHS
- 2. For Federal-aid bridge or culvert projects with any of the following criteria:
  - The proposed structure is in an area where the 100-year (1% annual chance) flood water surface elevations have been determined by a detailed Flood Insurance Study (FIS)
  - The proposed structure has a smaller opening size than the existing structure
  - The proposed structure is a culvert that is replacing an existing bridge

If a Hydraulic Review is not required, an LPA may request a review by the Iowa DOT Bridges and Structures Bureau

For more information, see I.M. 3.500

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#### When is a If a Structural Structural Review Review is not required? required, an LPA • For all projects on the NHS may request a review by the Iowa **IOWA DOT** • For Federal-aid bridges DOT, Bridges and that use a non-Structures Bureau **STRUCTURAL** standard design **REVIEWS Structural Reviews** For more only for **non**information, see **standard** bridge <u>I.M. 3.500</u>. designs

## **404 PERMITS**

#### Why is a permit required?

- Impacts to water resources are governed by Section 404 of the Clean Water Act and its associated regulations, as administered by:
  - U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (Corps)
  - Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)
  - Iowa Department of Natural Resources (Iowa DNR)

#### When is a permit required?

- If any fill or dredged material will be placed in Waters of the United States (WUS)
- WUS include all waters, impoundments of waters, or tributaries of waters, such as lakes, rivers, streams (including intermittent streams), mudflats, sandflats, wetlands, sloughs, prairie potholes, wet meadows, or natural ponds

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## **404 PERMIT RESOURCES**

- US Army Corps of Engineers Index of 2021 Nationwide Permits, Conditions, District Engineer's Decision, Further Information and Definitions
  - https://usace.contentdm.oclc.org/utils/getfile/collection/p16021coll7/id/20099
- · Iowa DOT Nationwide Permit Guidance:
  - Found under Pre-Letting Resources on the Local Systems Bureau website
  - https://iowadot.gov/local\_systems/pdfs/Nationwide-Permit-Guidance.pdf

## **404 PERMITS**

#### What type of permit is required?

- Nationwide Permits (NWP)
  - Activities can be approved subject to certain conditions and limitations
  - Impacts to WUS < 0.5 acres</li>
- Regional Permits
  - Used for activities that exceed the NWP, but don't require an Individual Permit
  - o.5 acres < usually impacts to WUS < 1.0 acres
- Individual Permits
  - Activities that cannot be approved under either an NWP or Regional Permit
  - Usually impacts to WUS > 1.0 acres

For more information, see I.M. 4.130, 404 Permit Process

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## IOWA DNR FLOODPLAIN PERMITS

#### Why is a permit required?

• 567 Iowa Administrative Code (IAC), Chapters 70-72 requires the Iowa DNR to regulate certain activities in the floodplain

## When is a permit required? I.M. 4.150

- Bridges, culverts, or roads that cross a stream
  - Rural 100 sq. miles drainage
  - Urban 2 sq. miles drainage
- Channel changes
- Bank stabilization activities
- · Levees, dams, ponds, excavation, or stockpiling in the floodplain

For more information, see I.M. 4.150, Iowa DNR Floodplain Permits and Regulations

### **IOWA DNR NPDES STORM WATER PERMITS**

#### Why is a permit required?

- The Clean Water Act requires the EPA and Iowa DNR to administer the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES)
- NPDES restricts the discharge of sediment or other pollutants resulting from construction activities

#### When is a permit required?

- Construction projects that disturb > 1.0 acre
- Ground is disturbed if exposed to the erosive forces of wind or water
- Maintenance activities and resurfacing, restoration, or rehabilitation (3R) projects may be exempted

For more information, see I.M. 4.140, Storm Water Permits

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## WORK ON IOWA DOT RIGHT-OF-WAY



## QUESTIONS?



Reference Documents:
As listed on previous slides

Iowa DOT Contact Person:
See Iowa DOT Contact List for appropriate
Administering Bureau staff

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# DESIGN AND PLAN REVIEWS IOWA DOT LETTINGS

Jenifer Bates, P.E.

Project Development Engineer

Local Systems Bureau

Iowa Department of Transportation

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# PRESENTATION OVERVIEW

Major Project Milestones

**Concept Statement** 

**Design Guidelines** 

**Design Exception Process** 

**Preliminary Plans** 

Check and Final Plans

PDCs, PIFS, and all the other things

Project Development Takeaways



## **MAJOR PROJECT MILESTONES** Funding Concept Preliminary agreement Programming Plans Statement with Iowa DOT ROW **NEPA Final Plans Check Plans** Purchasing Clearance Project Construction Close-out

<b>PROJECT</b>	<b>DEVELOPMENT</b>
I.M. 3.010	

- <u>MINIMUM</u> timeframe of 1 year that is for a project that is not complicated
- Consider potential complications:
  - · NEPA
  - Other Permits
  - Railroad
  - Utilities
  - ROW timelines
- Dates in I.M. control if different than TPMS
- Must submit all required info by the critical path date to keep your letting

Project Developm	ent Critical Path Dates
Federal-aid and Non-Federa	-aid Major and Minor Type Projects

Concept Statement				Final Plans,		
Major (1 year)	Minor (9 months)	Preliminary Plans	Check Plans	PDC, All other Reg'd Docs	Letting Date	Year
01/16/24	04/16/24	07/16/24	09/03/24	10/15/24	01/22/25	
02/20/24	05/21/24	08/20/24	10/01/24	11/19/24	02/18/25	
03/19/24	06/18/24	09/17/24	11/05/24	12/17/24	03/18/25	
04/16/24	07/16/24	10/15/24	12/03/24	01/21/25	04/15/25	
05/21/24	08/20/24	11/19/24	01/07/25	02/18/25	05/20/25	
06/18/24	09/17/24	12/17/24	02/04/25	03/18/25	06/17/25	2025
07/16/24	10/15/24	01/21/25	03/04/25	04/15/25	07/15/25	25
08/20/24	11/19/24	02/18/25	04/01/25	05/20/25	08/19/25	
09/17/24	12/17/24	03/18/25	05/06/25	06/17/25	09/16/25	
10/15/24	01/21/25	04/15/25	06/03/25	07/15/25	10/21/25	
11/19/24	02/18/25	05/20/25	07/01/25	08/19/25	11/18/25	
12/17/24	03/18/25	06/17/25	08/05/25	09/16/25	12/16/25	
01/21/25	04/15/25	07/15/25	09/02/25	10/21/25	01/21/26	
02/18/25	05/20/25	08/19/25	10/07/25	*11/11/2025	02/17/26	
03/18/25	06/17/25	09/16/25	11/04/25	*12/9/2025	03/17/26	
04/15/25	07/15/25	10/21/25	12/02/25	01/20/26	04/21/26	
05/20/25	08/19/25	11/18/25	01/06/26	02/17/26	05/19/26	
06/17/25	09/16/25	12/16/25	02/03/26	03/17/26	06/16/26	2026
07/15/25	10/21/25	01/20/26	03/03/26	04/21/26	07/21/26	26
08/19/25	11/18/25	02/17/26	04/07/26	05/19/26	08/18/26	
09/16/25	12/16/25	03/17/26	05/05/26	06/16/26	09/15/26	
10/21/25	01/20/26	04/21/26	06/02/26	07/21/26	10/20/26	
11/18/25	02/17/26	05/19/26	07/07/26	08/18/26	11/17/26	
12/16/25	03/17/26	06/16/26	08/04/26	09/15/26	12/15/26	
ate revised to	account for holida	ys				

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#### **CONCEPT STATEMENT**

- Purpose: outline project scope and provide information needed to complete project review
- Every project is unique and there is no one form that can fit every situation so provide as much detail as you can to help us help you
- We are using this form to make sure you are using the correct design standards and that the correct Bureaus are reviewing/approving information throughout the project development process



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### **CONCEPT STATEMENT**

- Always use the <u>most recent version</u> of the concept statement form (517001)
- What constitutes a Revised concept
- Which STIP Year? Federal Fiscal year project will be authorized
- What if I don't know my borrow site yet
  - Use "not yet determined" as a last resort because Location and Environment will need the location of the borrow site in order to clear the project
- Water Trails and Paddling Routes are considered recreational areas under 23 CFR 774
- Please submit a map with anticipated ROW needs and project limits Cannot clear without this
- Also cannot clear the Concept Statement without the DOE (Form 760005)

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#### **CONCEPT STATEMENT**

#### Cultural Resources

- A Cultural Resources Evaluation (CRE) will be required if the project involves any ground disturbance. If no ground disturbance, a Cultural Resources Assessment (CRA) should be considered. (These can be submitted with or after the concept statement.)
- The University of Iowa can provide a CRE to determine whether a Phase I Survey is required. The service is free. Blane Nansel is the contact to request an evaluation.

#### University of Iowa Cultural Resources Evaluation

Blane H. Nansel, RPA email: Blane-Nansel@uiowa.edu

Cultural Resources Specialist phone: (319) 384-0729

Office of the State Archaeologist 700 Clinton Street Building The University of Iowa

lowa City, IA 52242-1030 <a href="http://archaeology.uiowa.edu">http://archaeology.uiowa.edu</a>

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# CONCEPT STATEMENT DESIGN GUIDELINES

#### **RURAL**

- Design Aids Tables (Aids)
   I.M. 3.210
- AASHTO Guidelines Tables (Guides)- I.M. 3.210
- Design Aids are preferred; AASHTO tables may be used if explanation is provided why Aids can't be used

#### **URBAN**

- Statewide Urban Design and Specifications (SUDAS) Chapter 5 Roadway Design - I.M.
   3.215
- Use "Preferred" tables; "Acceptable" tables may be used if explanation is provided why "Preferred" can't be met

## RESURFACING, RESTORATION, or REHABILITATION (3R)

- 3R Tables I.M. 3.220
- Rural Table based on project impact and design volume ADT
- Urban Table based on roadway classification and number of lanes
- 7 Safety Considerations <u>must be</u> <u>addressed</u> for all 3R projects (including urban projects)

Design exception (I.M. 3.260) is required if AASHTO/Acceptable/3R Criteria cannot be met

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## **DESIGN GUIDELINES**

I.M. 3.230 TRAFFIC BARRIERS (GUARDRAIL & BRIDGE RAIL)

- Provides guidelines to determine the need for guardrail at roadway bridges and culverts and upgrading bridge barrier rails
- For Federal-aid projects, the FHWA will participate in guardrail, including all 4 corners of a bridge, if desired by the LPA
- Guardrail shall be upgraded when bridge barrier rail is upgraded

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## DESIGN GUIDELINES ALL HIGHWAY PROJECTS

I.M. 3.240 Clear Zone
Guidelines provides values for
rural roadways based on
design speed, traffic volume
and foreslopes

Clear Zone Tables in SUDAS
Chapter 5, Section 5C-1
provide preferred/acceptable
values for <u>urban roadways</u>
based on design speed, traffic
volume, and foreslopes

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## DESIGN GUIDELINES BICYCLE AND PEDESTRIAN FACILITIES

- Chapter 12 SUDAS/Design Manual
  - Both contain the same guidance
  - Guidance is based on the AASHTO Guide for the Design of Bicycle Facilities
  - Design exception required if the AASHTO design values can't be met
- · Plans should include signing and pavement markings per MUTCD Part 9 "Traffic Control for Bicycle Facilities"
- Be aware of ADA requirements affecting shared use facilities
- As per I.M. 3.700, Sheets that detail the curb ramp designs <u>shall be</u> provided according to the Iowa DOT Road Design Manual, Section 1F-18
- Accessibility Exceptions Certification
  - Certification Form 517118 must be prepared and submitted
  - Include supporting documentation as appropriate

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## DESIGN PROCESS EXCEPTION – I.M. 3.260

- · Request as soon as the need is discovered
- Not all exceptions require the full process Read the I.M.
- The full process includes:
  - Analyzing crash data
  - Calculating benefit / cost (B/C) ratio (I.M. 3.250)
- Additional Resource Section 5.4 of the Federal-aid Project Development Guide

# INTERACTIVE CONCEPT STATEMENT – FUTURE IMPROVEMENT

- Coming in late 2025:
- Enhancement to TPMS Project Development
- · Concept Statement that will be Interactive that ICEASB is working on
- Smart Concept

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#### PRELIMINARY PLANS

### Purpose

- Present preliminary proposed design information
- Provide additional information for environmental review
- Indicate anticipated project impact limits and right-of-way needs
- Provide preliminary bridge/culvert information
- Provide needed information for Hydraulic Reviews
- Provide needed information for Roundabout Reviews

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#### PRELIMINARY PLANS - I.M. 3.400

- Projects that include improvements to the Primary Highway System and that will be maintained by the Iowa DOT
- Federal-aid projects administered through the Local Systems Bureau Grant Team
- For all other projects administered through the Local Systems Bureau: Federal-Aid, Federal-Aid Swap, State-aid, and Farm-to-Market projects that include any of the following:
  - 1) Projects needing a hydraulic review, according to I.M. 3.500, Bridge or Culvert Plans
  - 2) Projects involving the construction of roundabouts
  - 3) Projects involving Railroad Crossings within or immediately adjacent to the project limits
  - 4) Projects where extending the limits of participation meet special considerations as shown in I.M. 1.100, Attachment C "Touchdown Points and Limits of Participation"
- If not required, may still be submitted and reviewed upon request

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## PRELIMINARY PLANS

#### Preparation – All Projects

- Use I.M. 3.400 Attachment B (Preliminary Plan Checklist)
  - Iowa DOT plan format is recommended
  - lowa DOT standard road, bridge, and culvert plans may be referenced; modified standards must be included in the plan set
  - Use of Iowa DOT design details (typical sections, tabulations, etc.) is strongly recommended

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#### PRELIMINARY PLANS

I.M. 3.400 Attachment B (checklist) - helps address key items, including:

- Project Limits: STIP description and location, NEPA clearance,
- Typical Sections: Design elements, clear zone, etc.
- Project Divisions and Total/No Total column
- Right of Way: Existing/proposed, TCE
- Horizontal alignment & Vertical profile data
- Sidewalk/trail access and proposed ADA improvements
- Utilities
- Railroads





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#### **PRELIMINARY PLANS**

Checklist is required for Grant Team projects -Highly encouraged for others

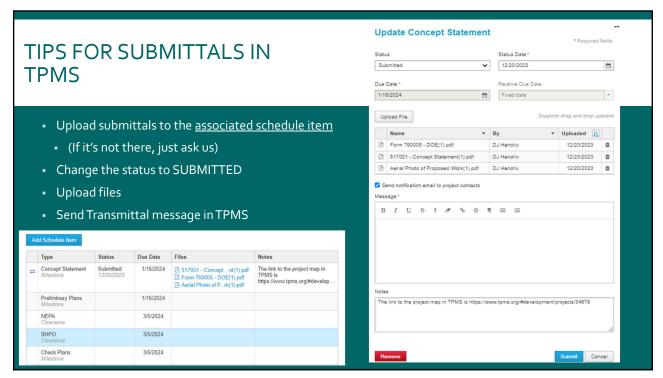
#### <u>Preparation – Structural Projects</u>

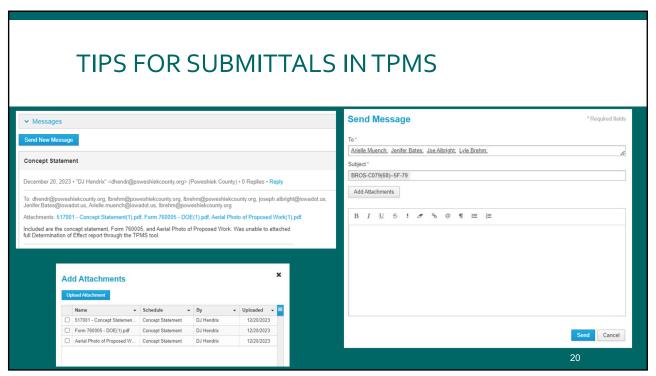


Also use I.M. 3.500 Bridge or Culvert Plans

- Design Guidelines & Checklist
  - Design year flood
  - Clearances for bridges and roadways above flood elevations
- Is a Hydraulic Review needed
  - Yes if project involves a reduced structure opening, the existing bridge is being replaced with culvert, or located in Flood Insurance Study area
  - If yes, submit Hydraulic calculations and Form 517002 -Hydraulic Design for Bridges as per I.M. 3.500

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# PRELIMINARY PLANS

#### Review – Iowa DOT

- Local Systems Administering Team
  - Compare with STIP and Concept Statement
- Bridges and Structures hydraulic review
- Roundabout reviews
- Railroad reviews
- Location and Environment further environmental review
- Traffic and Safety, Design, District design/permit staff primary system impacts

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#### **CHECK PLANS**

#### Purpose

- Obtain an acceptable set of Final plans for letting through the Iowa DOT
- To compare bid items with those entered into TPMS

#### Guidelines

- Both check and final plans are <u>required</u> for all projects let through the DOT
- DOT specifications & bid items must be used
- Do not reference SUDAS specifications

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#### **CHECK PLANS**

- Should be **100% COMPLETE** and address all comments from any previous reviews
- Are they BIDDABLE and CONSTRUCTABLE? (Note: we are not your QA/QC check!)
- LPA shall not complete final design without NEPA clearance and therefore, <u>DOT cannot review</u> without NEPA clearances!! (Note: SHPO, T&E, and NEPA all have to be cleared)



BETTER PLANS = BETTER BIDS

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#### **CHECK PLANS**

#### <u>Preparation – All Projects</u>

- Address comments from Preliminary Review, Hydraulic Review and Roundabout Review if they were required
- Use I.M. 3.700 Check and Final Plans & Attachments (REQUIRED to submit)
- ADA Curb Ramps DOT plan sheets, including Tab 113-10 or 10A, SHALL be used as per I.M. 3.700, Att B
- Make sure you have divisions appropriately set up to reflect funding
- Make sure addressing Pedestrian Facilities during Construction in your Traffic Control information
- Topsoil requirements, Erosion Control, Salvaged Materials, and bid items requiring method of measurement and basis of payment are common issues



# CHECK PLANS

#### <u>Preparation – Structural Projects</u>

- Also Use I.M. 3.500 Bridge or Culvert Plans and Attachment A
  - Standard Design DOT Bridge/Culvert Standards
  - Non-Standard Design modified standards or custom details
  - Bridge fund participation limits, shop drawings, etc.
  - Centerline section, situation plan, sounding data, etc.
  - Existing Structure: materials, disposal, etc.

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#### **CHECK PLANS**

#### Special Provisions (SP) – as needed

- Used to modify existing or create new specifications (like to incorporate SUDAS specs)
- SP number is assigned after project turn-in
- Must address five areas of interest
  - Description of work
  - Material requirements
  - Construction methods/procedures
  - Method of measurement
  - Basis of Payment
- Submit in Word format, not PDF
- For more information:

https://www.iowadot.gov/specifications/requirements/RequirementsforSubmittingSpecialProvisions.pdf

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#### **CHECK PLANS**

#### **Structural Reviews**

Structure projects – as per I.M. 3.500 Bridge or Culvert Plans

- Structural review is required if:
  - Structure is on National Highway System (NHS) structural calculations for in-depth review
  - Non-standard design is used plans only for cursory review

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#### **CHECK PLANS**

#### Submittals

- Verify NEPA has been cleared <u>BEFORE</u> uploading Check Plans
- Upload submittals to the Check Plan schedule item in TPMS
- Change the status to SUBMITTED
- Upload all files, including any draft Special Provisions (SP) and Public Interest Findings (PIF)
- Add applicable Developmental Specification (DS) to the project in TPMS
- Update your funding in TPMS and check that project is programmed correctly (STIP year, project limits, funding types/amounts)
  - Note: Federal-aid sources/amounts can only be updated by the Administering Team
- Send Transmittal message in TPMS

#### CHECK PLANS - BABA \$500,000 WAIVER

- New I.M. 3.740 "Build America Buy America (BABA) waiver for Federal Financial Assistance less than \$500,000
- If the Federal-aid is less than \$500,000, and the LPA wants to waive BABA requirement, then let us know at Check Plan Stage. We will communicate with Contracts & Specifications, and add a Proposal Note:
- "Article 1107.06, B of the Standard Specifications does not apply to this contract, as the total Federal financial assistance for this project is less than \$500,000."
- · Caveats:
  - When determining BABA applicability, the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) defines a "project" to be the scope of work within a NEPA document.
  - Two separate \$250,000 Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP) Set-Aside awards from a Regional Planning Affiliation (RPA) in two consecutive fiscal years for the same project scope.
  - · A \$150,000 TAP Set-Aside award from an RPA and a \$350,000 Federal Recreational Trails Program (FRT) award for the same project.

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#### **BID ITEMS/ESTIMATE IN TPMS**



- Make sure all bid items are entered in TPMS <u>prior to submitting Check</u>
   Plans
- Use the Tool in TPMS Development to enter all the bid items, quantities & estimated unit prices (this is the Engineer's Estimate used by Contracts)
- Check Engineer's Estimate vs. STIP/Programming
  - For HBP projects and any other program that doesn't have a STIP limit, if the estimated Federal share in the cost estimate exceeds the amount of Federal-aid programmed in the STIP by more than 15%, the project will not be submitted for letting unless a STIP amendment or modification can be completed before the 1st Tuesday, 1 month prior to letting

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#### FINAL PLAN SUBMITTAL

#### **SUBMITTAL ITEMS:**

- Final Plan set (fully signed)
- Highlighted plan set marked up to show changes made since the Check Plans were approved or email with list of changes if minimal
- Notify us if any Bid Items changed in TPMS
- Project Development Certification form (signed)
- USACE permit (bridge/culvert projects)
- Cover letter contract time, tied projects
- Special Provisions (if applicable)
- Public Interest Finding (if applicable, see I.M. 3.720)

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#### FINAL PLAN SUBMITTAL

Should be 100% complete and <u>address all comments</u> from check plan review

#### What do we check for

- Check plan comments addressed
- Plan quantities = Bid Items in TPMS
- STIP and CFYP programming
- HSIP and HBP cost estimates
- FM worksheet
- Public Interest Finding



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#### FINAL PLAN SUBMITTAL - PDC

#### Project Development Certificate (PDC) - required

- Confirms letting process may begin for project
- LPA certifies railroad, utility, work on primary roadway, right of way, environmental and cultural resources, and Title VI assurances are all clear
- Right of Way Bureau review may be needed
- Fully executed PDC must be on file with Contracts before advertising for bids
- For more information, see I.M. 3.710, Project Development Certification Instructions

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#### FINAL PLAN SUBMITTAL - PIF

#### Public Interest Finding (PIF) – as needed

- Grants an exception for an established policy or rule
- May only be used for <u>certain</u> conditions
  - Condition may be temporary (e.g., required project clearance is missing) or permanent (e.g., proprietary items are specified)
  - Temporary conditions must be resolved before project will be advertised for letting
- For more information, see I.M. 3.720 Public Interest Findings

#### FINAL PLAN SUBMITTAL - OTHER THINGS

- US Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) Permit
- Iowa DNR Floodplain Permit– as needed
- If USACE 404/401 and/or lowa DNR permit is required, a copy must be on file with lowa DOT for use by bidders
- Submit with check plans, if possible, but final plans at the latest if its needed; otherwise, PIF is required
- National Pollution Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) Permit as needed
- If <u>individual</u> NPDES permit is required, a copy must be on file with DOT for use by bidders
- Need is determined by Iowa DNR
  - e.g., Outstanding Iowa Waters locations

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#### FINAL PLAN SUBMITTAL - OTHER THINGS

#### Railroad Requirements

- Railroad agreements are required when work is performed within a railroad's right-of-way
- Depending on the Railroad, either a Developmental Specification or a Special Provision will be needed – the Railroad Information Sheets summarize current requirements for each Railroad
- Railroad insurance bid items may or may not apply. Reminder:
   Railroad Flaggers are not a bid item
- For more information, see I.M. 3.670 Work on Railroad Right-of-Way
   8 I.M. 3.680, Federal-aid Projects Involving Railroads



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# PROJECT TURN-IN

- If all final plan submittal items are deemed acceptable, these materials are submitted to Contracts & Specifications Bureau for the requested lowa DOT letting
- Reminder no additional funding can be added after projects are turned in for letting
- BidX questions when you receive these questions, please respond and answer the questions in a timely manner and <u>hit reply-all</u> to the email



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#### **QUESTIONS?**

?

Jenifer Bates, P.E.

Local Systems Project Development Engineer

Jenifer.Bates@iowadot.us

(515) 766-9402

Joe Albright

Local Systems Project Development Technician

Joseph Albright @iowadot.us

(515) 357-0205

Arielle Muench

Local Systems Project Development Technician

Arielle Muench@iowadot us

(319) 440-5524

For Grant Team Projects, reach out to the Program Project Manager

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#### **RIGHT-OF-WAY**

#### Rick W. Skinner

Right of Way Bureau

Iowa Department of Transportation

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# PRESENTATION OVERVIEW

When do State/Federal Regulations Apply?

Before the ROW Process Begins

The Valuation Process

**Basic Acquisition Policies** 

The Relocation Process

**Parcel Closing** 

**Property Management** 

Project Development Certification, Sections 4 & 5



#### WHEN DO STATE/FEDERAL REGULATIONS APPLY?

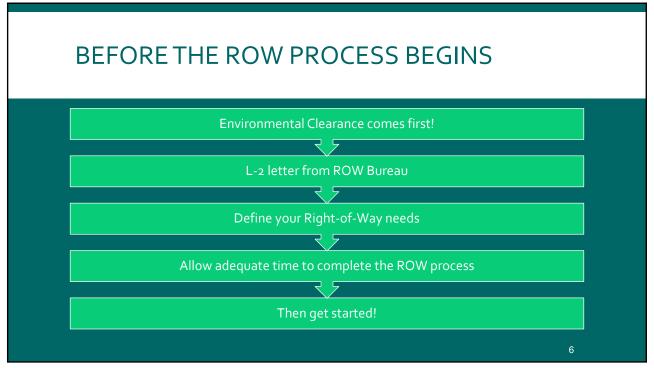
- When there are Federal funds in any portion of the project, even if there are no funds in ROW, the Uniform Relocation Assistance and Real Property Acquisition Act of 1970, as amended (Uniform Act) apply. Effective June 3, 2024, there are significant amendments.
- 761 Iowa Administrative Code Chapter 111 adopts the Uniform Act as Iowa Code when State of Iowa funds are in any portion of the project.
- If your project is locally funded, the following Takings Clause of the Fifth Amendment still applies: "Nor shall private property be taken for public use, without just compensation."

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# EFFECTIVE JUNE 3, 2024- AMENDMENTS TO 49 CFR PART 24 THE UNIFORM RELOCATION ASSISTANCE AND REAL PROPERTY ACQUISITION ACT (UNIFORM ACT)

- Key Highlights:
- Updated Definitions "comparable replacement dwelling", "DSS dwelling", "displaced person"
- · Notices and Electronic Signatures ability to use services other than the US Postal Service, must document, FHWA approval (email)
- Adjustment of Limits and Payments to ensure that payments remain fair and adequate
- Voluntary Acquisitions specific conditions have been delineated for transparency and fairness
- Appraisal Waivers ARE IN TRANSITION ask <u>before</u> you proceed
- Conflict of Interest Provisions enhanced guidelines particularly in higher-value negotiations
- · Temporary Relocations consolidated information to provide comprehensive support during temporary displacements
- Nonresidential Payments new limits
- · Residential Move Reimbursement now five methods of payment to provide flexibility
- · Replacement Housing Payments new limits





#### THE VALUATION PROCESS

#### WAIVER VALUATION PROVISION OR APPRAISAL?

#### **Uncomplicated Parcels**

Waiver Valuation Provision: (Compensation Estimates) Great, if used correctly!

- Prepared by Acquisition Agent
- Simple, minor, low value, uncomplicated
- Still, Under \$10,000 and caps at \$25,000, IDOT
- New WV limits if your agency has an FHWA approved ROW Manual
- Agency official determines "Offer of Just Compensation"
- Start negotiations immediately

#### **Complicated Parcels**

Appraisal:

- Parcel value is not a factor
- Appraiser must hold a State license
- Qualified for the specific assignment
- Competent reviewer, must hold a State license
- Agency official determines "Offer of Just Compensation"
- Send full copy to owners
- 10 day wait to start negotiations

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#### KEY ELEMENTS OF THE VALUATION PROCESS

Appraisal or Waiver Valuation

Review Appraisal

Fair Market Value Determined

Agency Approval and "Offer of Just Compensation"

This is the Offer that is presented to the Property Owner

Public Law 91-646, as amended Title II, Section 301

8

#### **BASIC ACQUISITION POLICIES**

#### Start ASAP

- Notice of intent to acquire sent to property owner
- Offer of Just Compensation established prior to meeting with the owner (Waiver Valuation or Appraisal)
- Remember, the property owner has 10 days to review the <u>Appraisal</u> before negotiations can start
- Prompt written Offer to Purchase with a Summary Statement

t 49 CFR, Appendix A, Sec. 24.102



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#### NEGOTIATION, DO NOT FORGET Avoid conflicts of interest -Document the negotiations "Record of Contact" - the new guidelines for Waiver first rule of ROW, if it is No coercive actions Valuations more than not written down it did \$15,000 with FHWA not happen approval 90 Day Notice To Move for Payment before possession parcels with Relocation 49 CFR, Appendix A, Sec. 24.102

#### RELOCATION PAYMENTS AND SERVICES

#### **RESIDENTIAL**

**New Limits** 

**Advisory Services** 

Fixed or Actual Moving Costs

Replacement Housing Payments

#### **NON-RESIDENTIAL**

**New Limits** 

**Advisory Services** 

Fixed or Actual Moving Costs

Business Re-establishment Expenses

Related Nonresidential Expenses

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#### It is the responsibility of the LPA to:

#### PARCEL CLOSING

Pay just compensation; waiver valuation, appraised or negotiated value for the parcel

Prepare a closing statement and deed or easement/s

Satisfy any encumbrances and secure proper releases

Pay the property owner's incidental expenses for the transfer of title

Make payment to the property owner PRIOR TO POSSESSION

49 CFR 24.106

#### PROPERTY MANAGEMENT

Manage the parcel/s until the construction project begins

After the project has been completed (closed), then dispose of any excess or unused Right-of-Way

If you have excess Right-of-Way, then you will need a disposal process:

- First, follow Iowa Code 306.23
- I.C. 306.23 states that the agency must offer back any excess or unused ROW parcel to whom it was acquired from at the current approved appraised value
- I.C. 306.23 applies to any ROW acquisition that you, the LPA, has made when you have the Right of Eminent Domain, whether used or not
- After the provisions of I.C. 306.23 have been met, the disposal process is by your LPA policy

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# PROJECT DEVELOPMENT CERTIFICATION (PDC) SECTION 4 & 5

#### You, the LPA, certifies:

- 1. All ROW processes are in compliance with Federal and State regulations
- 2. The ROW is clear
- 3. The agency has possession of all necessary property rights (Permanent and Temporary)

#### Remember: Acquired = The Citizen Has Been Paid

#### **Exceptions:**

- Condemnation the commendation hearing must be scheduled two weeks prior, and funds must be deposited, prior to letting
- 2. Relocation payments and services may continue after the letting
- 3. PIF is not a "get out of jail free card"

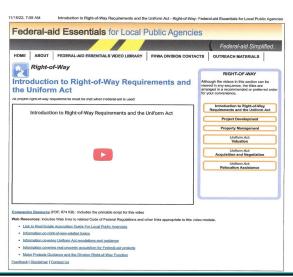
# RIGHT- OF- WAY NOW CLEARED FOR LETTING



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#### FHWATUTORIAL LINK:

GOOGLE: FEDERAL-AID ESSENTIALS FOR LOCAL PUBLIC AGENCIES



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#### **ROW BUREAU CONTACTS**

Statewide- Rick Skinner

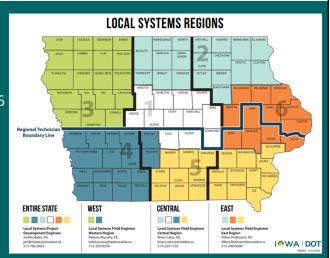
Rick.skinner@iowadoot.us 515-290-3196

Districts 1 & 5- Joe Guckert

<u>Joseph.guckert@iowadot.us</u> 515-239-1976

Districts 2 & 6- Sandy Sells Sandy.sells@iowadot.us 515-239-1731

Districts 3 & 4- Matt Buttz <u>Matthew.buttz@iowadot.us</u> 515-239-1157



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#### **QUESTIONS?**

#### Reference Sources:

Local Systems I.M. 3.600- Right –of-Way Acquisition

https://www.iowadot.gov/local\_systems/publications/im/3600.pdf

Right-of-Way Brochures and Manuals

https://iowadot.gov/rightofway/Brochures-and-Manuals

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#### **UTILITIES & RAILROADS**

Eryn Stone, P.E.

Urban Engineer
Local Systems Bureau
Iowa Department of Transportation

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# PRESENTATION OVERVIEW

**Utility Relocations** 

Railroads

Buy America – Utility and RR Work



# UTILITY RELOCATIONS

#### **Utility Accommodation Policies**

- Requires utilities to obtain permit from agency with jurisdiction of the roadway (City/County/State etc.)
- Policies and permits specify the conditions that will allow utilities to be in the right-of-way
- Utilities inside the right-of-way must relocate at their own expense if required by the transportation project
- Specifies other administrative procedures associated with obtaining a permit

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#### **UTILITY RELOCATIONS** Reimbursement of Utility ation Costs for utility relocations which The STBG program r ha. authority to pay; fo the LPA is obligate example: operty in wh he utility has a Project require by fee title or c interest (i.e., o ies by priva easement) Needs approval the MPO or RPA Rules for projects on tate or Primary High /s are different (governed by 5

#### UTILITY RELOCATIONS

#### Coordination with Utilities

- Be pro-active and cooperative
- Recommended "best practices" in I.M. 3.640
- Utilities must be notified of the project, Iowa Code Section 318.9
  - Provide information early and often! go-day lowa Code Requirement
  - Each project is different, lead times will vary
  - Provide copies of plans as early as possible design phase
- Utility Coordination Meeting, Iowa Code Section 306.47
  - During all phases of design concept through check plans
  - All utilities within project limits or corridor shall be invited
  - <u>Iowa One Call Design Request System</u>
- Recommendations
  - Ample notice for meetings, project schedule updates, plan changes etc.
  - Allow utilities to be involved in your projects from the start
  - Regular meetings with each utility provider to discuss upcoming projects and timelines
  - Help them, help you

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### UTILITY RELOCATIONS

#### For more information:

- I.M. 3.640, Utility Accommodation and Coordination
- Non-primary Utility Policy

https://www.iowadot.gov/local\_systems/publications/lpa\_utility\_policy.pdf

Primary Utility Policy

https://www.legis.iowa.gov/docs/ACO/chapter/761.115.pdf https://iowadot.gov/rightofway/pdfs/UtilityPolicy.pdf

Utility Accommodation web page

 $\frac{https://iowadot.gov/rightofway/utility-accommodation-and-coordination \#50439614-accommodation}{}$ 

Utility Coordination & District Utility Coordinators

 $\frac{https://iowadot.gov/rightofway/utility-accommodation-and-coordination\#50439615-coordination}{}$ 

# RAILROADS — ITEMS TO REMEMBER Notification Agreements Specifications RR Protective Insurance

#### **RAILROADS – NOTIFICATION & AGREEMENT**

#### Notification of Railroad

- Provide notice as early as possible
- Describe the proposed work (and provide updates later if this changes)
- Request an agreement
- Attach a copy of the project plans
- See Railroad Information Sheets for LPA's, linked in <u>I.M.</u> 3.670
- Talk to Local Systems staff or Jenifer Bates for guidance
- Railroad contacts and profiles on the  $\underline{\mathsf{DOT}}$  website



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# Railroad Information Sheets have the most current info for each RR Every RR project needs a specification Developmental Specification • Union Pacific Railroad – DS-23064 • Canadian National Railroad - DS-23047 • Canadian Pacific Railway – DS-23056 • Burlington Northern and Santa Fe (BNSF) Railway - DS-23057 Special Provision • All Other Railroads • lowa Northern Railway (IANR) • lowa Interstate Railroad

# RAILROADS: ELIGIBLE COSTS

#### **Eligible Railroad Costs**

#### Construction

- Either by Railroad forces or private contractor
- Relocated Railroad signals
- Flagging costs not paid directly by LPA's Contractor

#### Right-of-way

 Eligible only if transportation project requires replacement Railroad facilities

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# RAILROADS: INELIGIBLE COSTS

#### <u>Costs Ineligible for Participation:</u>

- Additional length of bridge provided if certain clearances are exceeded, unless an exception is approved:
  - Horizontal Clearance > 20'-0" (6.1 m)
  - Vertical Clearance > 23'-4" (7.1 m)
- Additional length of bridge provided for future tracks, unless they are in the Railroad's 5-year plan

#### RAILROAD - BID ITEMS

#### Do not include

#### Do not include a bid item for RR Flaggers

(RR flagger costs are included in the standard spec)

#### Include

Include Bid Items for Insurance for each Railroad (shown in <u>RR Info Sheets</u>)

#### Insurance

For Insurance in excess of allowable \$2M/\$6M, check with Administering Team

(Insurance bid item will be Federal-aid non-participating unless approved beforehand)

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#### RAILROADS - I.M.S

#### For more information:

- <u>I.M. 3.670</u>, Work on Railroad Right-of-Way
- <u>I.M. 3.680</u>, Federal-aid Projects Involving Railroads
- Railroad Information Sheets

Build America Buy America (BABA): Utility & RR Work Buy America requires the use of domestic iron and steel products in Federal-aid projects

Effective Oct 1, 2012, MAP-21 expanded the reach of these requirements. IIJA further expanded these requirements to include construction materials, now called BABA.

If one contract utilizes Federal-aid, then all contracts within the project, as defined by the NEPA document, are subject to BABA

Applies regardless of who pays

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If utility relocations or RR work are eligible for Federal-aid, then BABA applies

Agreements for eligible utility relocations and RR work must include the BABA provisions

Failure to include these provisions or comply with BABA may jeopardize Federal funding for the entire project!

BABA - UTILITY & RR WORK

#### **QUESTIONS?**



Reference Documents:
As listed on previous slides

Iowa DOT Contact Person:
Local Systems Bureau
Eryn Stone
515-450-4103
Eryn.Stone@iowadot.us

# FEDERAL-AID CONTRACT LETTING AND AWARD

Ed Kasper, P.E.

Assistant Director
Contracts and Specifications Bureau
Iowa Department of Transportation

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# PRESENTATION OVERVIEW

Federal Requirements
Project Design Preparation
Contract Time
The Letting Schedule
Addendums
Contract Award Process
Subcontract Authorizations

# FEDERAL REQUIREMENTS

Iowa DOT standard language includes:

- Buy America
- Non-collusion affidavit
- Non-discrimination affidavit
- Lobbying Certification
- Certification of Non-segregated facilities
- Exclusion of debarred contractors

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#### FEDERAL REQUIREMENTS

FHWA - 1273

**Specification Document** 

- Nondiscrimination
- Davis Bacon Wages
- Subcontracting
- Other federal requirements
- Attached to each contract

#### **DBE**

Disadvantaged Business Enterprise (DBE)

- DOT assigns contract goal (if any)
- Contractor submits commitment with bid
- DOT evaluates bidder's Good Faith Effort
- LPA assures changes are PREapproved by Civil Rights Bureau

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#### DAVIS/BACON PREDETERMINED WAGE RATES

Contracts & Specifications Bureau Assigns

Applies to CONTRACTS

LPA REVIEWS
WEEKLY
PAYROLLS!

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# PROJECT DESIGN PREPARATION

- Use standard documents to reduce contractor risk
   & contract costs
  - Standard Plan format and tabulations
  - Standard Bid Items
    - Don't make standard bid items incidental
  - Standard Specifications
  - Readily available materials
    - Proprietary materials require proper documentation

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#### **CONTRACT TIME**

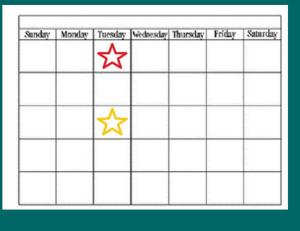
- Offer bidders scheduling flexibility
- Opening Defined duration
- Use Start Date

Window of time to start, Contractor may start earlier

- Approximate Start Date
- Liquidated Damages
- **LPA Review Contract Time Report**

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# THE LETTING SCHEDULE REMEMBER TUESDAYS

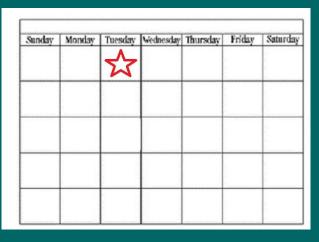


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1ST TUESDAY TWO MONTHS BEFORE LETTING

-CONTRACTS PLAN TURN IN-



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## 1<sup>ST</sup>TUESDAY TWO MONTHS BEFORE LETTING -CONTRACTS PLANTURN IN-

Complete and final plan

Completed Project Development Certification

Request any special letting considerations

Special Provisions if needed

Public Interest Findings (PIF) if needed

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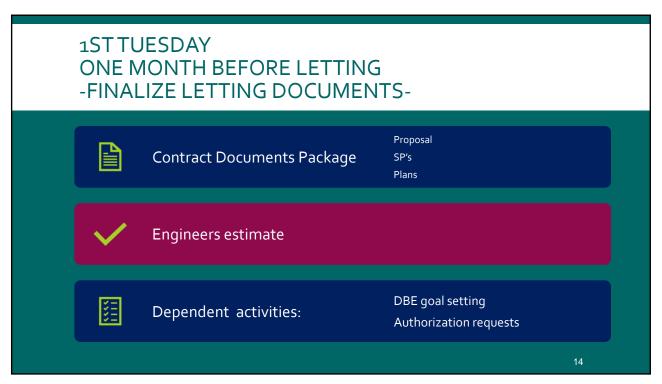
## Project Information In TPMS

- Location/Route
  - On proposal, contract, reports
- Bid Items & Quantities
  - Matches plan
- Cost Estimate
- Supplemental Specifications SS's
- Developmental Specifications DS's

1ST TUESDAY
TWO MONTHS
BEFORE LETTING

CONTRACTS PLANTURN IN

# 1ST TUESDAY ONE MONTH BEFORE LETTING -FINALIZE LETTING DOCUMENTS Sunday Monday Tuesday Wednesday Thursday Friday Saturday



## **FHWA AUTHORIZATION**

LPA estimate within 15% of STIP program amount

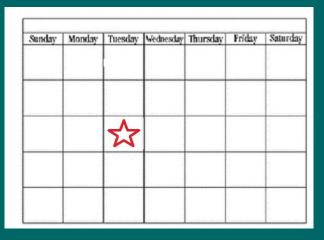
# Federal-aid Limits

- Design consistent with program
- Risk loss of federal aid

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## 3RD TUESDAY ONE MONTH BEFORE LETTING -ADVERTISEMENT-



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## 3RD TUESDAY ONE MONTH BEFORE LETTING -ADVERTISEMENT-

Contract Documents Released

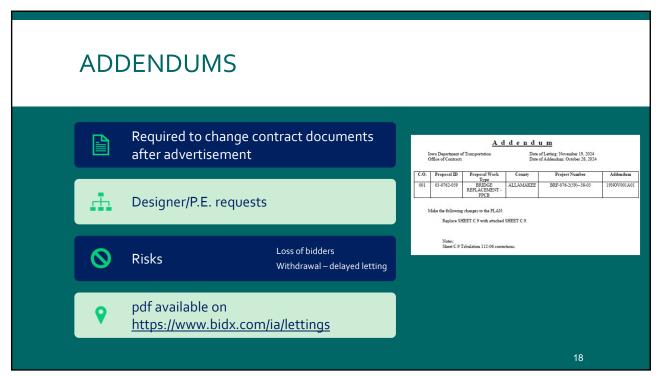
Review proposals and plans at: <a href="https://iowadot.gov/contracts/plans-and-estimation-proposals">https://iowadot.gov/contracts/plans-and-estimation-proposals</a>

All questions thru Bidx Q &A: <a href="https://www.bidx.com/ia/main">https://www.bidx.com/ia/main</a>

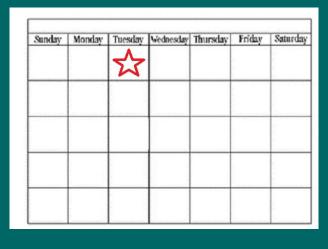
All changes by addendum

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## 1ST TUESDAY LETTING MONTH -LETTING CLEARANCES-



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# 1<sup>ST</sup>TUESDAY – LETTING MONTH

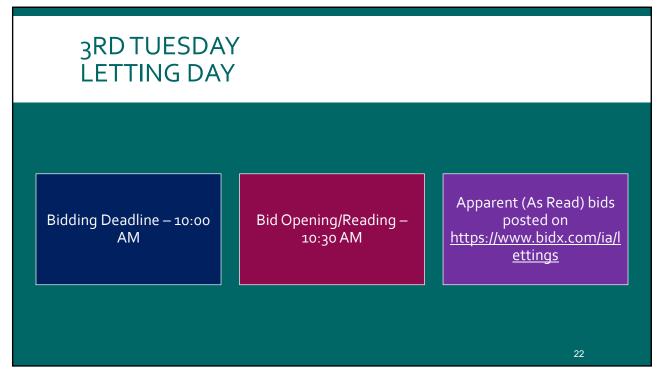
- Project should be clear for letting
  - ROW secured
  - Condemnations held
  - Agreements signed
  - Regulatory permits issued

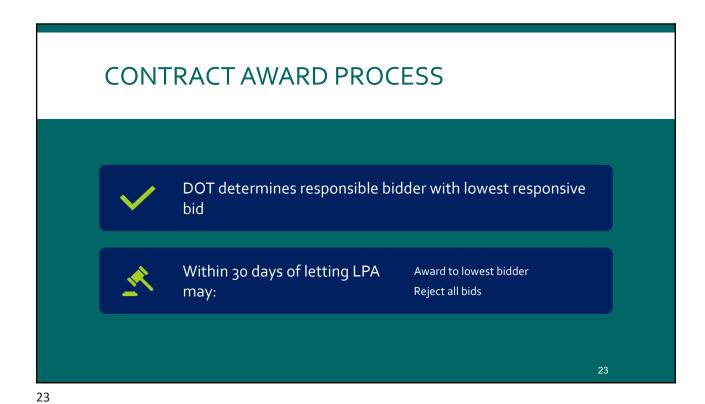
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Sunday Monday Tuesday Wednesday Thursday Friday Saturday

ARD TUESDAY —

LETTING DAY





Doc Express
 Electronic file exchange and management
 Local Systems Instructions
 https://iowadot.gov/local\_systems/Post
 Letting-Resources/Doc-Express-and-Appia
 Derek Peck, Local Systems Bureau
 Derek.peck@iowadot.us
 515-239-1391

#### **CAUTIONS** 02 04 03 Don't reject a Don't delete Don't negotiate Don't modify bid reasonable bid with contractor before execution substantial (10%) in hopes of prior to DOT of the contract portions of the getting a better award contract to get bid within budget concurrence

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## **CONTRACT AWARD - LOW BID DETERMINATION**

- Time (A+B) Article 1112 Standard Specifications
- Best Value (A-D) DS-23003
- Added Options DS-23002
- I.M. 3.730, Innovative Contracting Procedures

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# SUBCONTRACTOR AUTHORIZATION

- Required for work not performed by prime
  - (except material supply & trucking)
- Required for all DBE commitments
- Contractor Submits to DOT at contract award
- Contractor Submits to Project Engineer during construction. PE 70/30% & EEO/AA Policy
- Sales Tax Exemption Certificates
- EEO Posting
- SiteXchange Application
- <a href="https://iowadot.gov/contracts/lettings/subcontracting.pdf">https://iowadot.gov/contracts/lettings/subcontracting.pdf</a>
- Article 1108.01 of Standard Specifications

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## **RESOURCES**

- I.M. 5.030, Iowa DOT Letting Process
- Contracts and Specifications Bureau: https://iowadot.gov/contracts/contracts-home
  - Letting Guidelines
  - Bid Tabs
  - Plans and Proposals
- Bidx Iowa DOT homepage:

#### http://www.bidx.com/ia/main

- · Create Free Account
- Addenda
- Eligible Bidders
- As Read Bids

## **RESOURCES**

Contracts and Specifications Bureau

**Contact Persons:** 

PDC's & Funding

Jason Miller

515-239-1071

jason.miller@iowadot.us

Contract Award Processing

Mary Thompson

515-239-1415

mary.thompson@iowadot.us

Plan content, contract periods, proposals

Districts 1, 2, and 3

Krandel Jack

515-239-1546

krandel.jack@iowadot.us

Districts 4, 5, and 6

Stacy Ryan

515-239-1274

stacy.ryan@iowadot.us

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## **RESOURCES**

Contracts and Specifications Bureau
 Contact Persons:

Letting Process – Award Procedures

Mark Dunn

515-239-1414

mark.dunn@iowadot.us

Subcontracting Travis Bakken

515-239-1414

travis.bakken@iowadot.us

• Ed Kasper

515-239-1959

edward.kasper@iowadot.us

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# TOP THINGS TO REMEMBER FROM TODAY

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## Read the Guide and applicable I.M.s

The Federal-aid Project Development Guide (Guide) and the Instructional Memorandums to Local Public Agencies (I.M.s) are all available on-line at:

www.iowadot.gov/local\_systems/publications/im/lp
a\_ims

To locate all available written guidance, refer to the Guide and the I.M.s, then to the other documents referenced by the Guide or I.M.s.

2

## **CONTACT YOUR ADMINISTERING TEAM**

Unless specifically noted otherwise, the Iowa DOT Administering Team is the primary point of contact for all project submittals and requests for information (see Iowa DOT Contacts List for appropriate offices and staff members).



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### Make sure the project is programmed properly

In order to authorize Federal funds for any project activities, your project must be included in the appropriate Regional Planning Affiliation (RPA) or Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) Transportation Improvement Program (TIP), and the Statewide Transportation Improvement Program (STIP). Funds must be programmed in the Federal Fiscal Year(s) in which FHWA Authorization for the project activities will occur.

# Use TPMS

If you aren't a user, sign-up when you get back to your office. If you have signed-up, use the system to verify the project is correctly programmed, track progress, make submittals, and communicate with the lowa DOT.

For more information, contact Brian Moore of the ICEA Service Bureau at 515-244-0779 or brian.moore@iceasb.org

**USE** 

**TPMS** 

# PROJECT DEVELOPMENT SUBMITTALS

Know what, how & when to submit items in TPMS

Refer to I.M. 3.010, Project Development Submittal Dates and Information, for instructions concerning several important milestones in the project development process.

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Submit the Concept Statement Early

The best way to get your project off to a good start is to submit a Concept Statement as early as possible. For more information, refer to I.M. 3.020, Concept Statement Instructions.

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# Coordinate early with Railroads and Utilities

Projects involving railroad crossings will require additional development time. Plan ahead and contact the railroad as early as possible. For more information, refer to I.M. 3.670, Work on Railroad Right of Way, and I.M. 3.680, Federal-aid Projects Involving Railroads.

Early utility coordination is also vital. Notify potentially affected utilities early and often. For more information, refer to I.M. 3.640, Utility Accommodation and Coordination, and I.M. 3.650, Federal-aid Participation in Utility Relocations.

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## NEPA CLEARANCE THEN FINAL DESIGN

## Don't start final design too soon

Do not begin final design activities until after NEPA Clearance has been obtained.

Development of Check Plans is considered a final design activity.

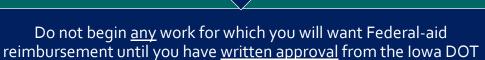


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## **FHWA AUTHORIZATION**

Request and verify receipt of FHWA Authorization

that FHWA Authorization has been received. If in doubt, check it out!



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# USE THE CHECKLISTS IN THE I.M.S

The Checklists in the I.M.s are very helpful.

Please use them

We can tell if they weren't used



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# **THANK YOU**

- As we transitioned back to Federal-aid, we very much appreciate your patience, diligence and cooperation.
- Thank you to the Local Systems Bureau for all the presentations.
- Thank you to the other DOT Bureaus for the presentations.
- Thank you to the FHWA as our continued partners.
- Thank you to all for attending and learning!

# QUESTIONS?

#### Reference Documents:

As listed on previous slides

## Iowa DOT Contact Person:

 See Iowa DOT Contact List for appropriate Administering Team staff

