

## *HSIP 23 CFR Part 924 Final Rule – What does it mean?*

### WHY WAS 23 CFR 924 UPDATED?

SAFETEA-LU significantly strengthened the HSIP, doubling its size to approximately \$1B per year and moving it from a "set-aside" to a core stand-alone program. The purpose of this final rule is to revise Part 924 to incorporate changes to the Highway Safety Improvement Program (HSIP) that resulted from the Safe, Accountable, Flexible, Efficient Transportation Equity Act: a Legacy for Users (SAFETEA-LU), as well as to reflect changes in the overall program that have evolved since the FHWA originally published 23 CFR Part 924.

### WHAT HAS BEEN UPDATED?

The final rule uses the same structure as the previous rule and includes these significant modifications from the previous rule:

- **924.1 Purpose** – Now includes evaluation, which was an existing element of the program that was originally omitted from this section.
- **924.3 Definitions** – Adds 17 definitions using terms from 23 U.S.C. 148 as a basis and clarified/corrected some terms that were included in the existing regulation.
- **924.5 Policy** – Changes the objective of the program from reducing crashes to significantly reducing the occurrence of and the potential for fatalities and serious injuries resulting from crashes on all public roads.
- **924.7 Program Structure** – Adds new SAFETEA-LU program elements such as the SHSP requirement and the High Risk Rural Roads Program (HRRRP) set-aside.
- **924.9 Planning** – Includes detail relating to data quality, improving data systems, and data analysis.
- **924.11 Implementation** – Incorporates elements that address how the funding is spent such as the HRRRP set aside, the 10% flex provision, leveraging funding resources, and federal share details.
- **924.13 Evaluation** – Shifts the focus from project evaluation to program evaluation.
- **924.15 Reporting** – Incorporates the new reporting requirements from SAFETEA-LU such as the HRRRP and the 5% and shifted some of the project related reporting to program reporting. In addition, states may now define their one year reporting window.

### WHEN DOES THE NEW REGULATION BECOME EFFECTIVE?

January 23, 2009

### WHO NEEDS TO KNOW ABOUT THIS AND HOW CAN I HELP?

- Share this information with your safety partners.
- Let them know that this new regulation is merely the formal mechanism to incorporate updates in HSIP and for modifying the law to follow Section 148 as prescribed in SAFETEA-LU.
- Brief them on the updates, and be there to help answer questions.

### WHERE CAN I FIND OUT MORE INFORMATION?

The final rule, including the preamble language describing the changes since the Notice of Proposed Amendments as well the new regulation, can be viewed at:

<http://edocket.access.gpo.gov/2008/pdf/E8-30168.pdf>.

The new regulation will also be on the Office of Safety's website in the near future.

### WHO DO I ASK FOR HELP?

Contact Erin Kenley at FHWA's Office of Safety: [erin.kenley@dot.gov](mailto:erin.kenley@dot.gov), 202-366-8556

