



Federal Lands Highway  
**Project Development  
and Design Manual**



U.S. Department  
of Transportation

**Federal Highway  
Administration**

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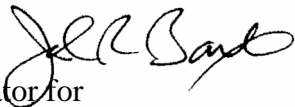
U.S. Department of Transportation

Federal Highway Administration

# Memorandum

Subject: **INFORMATION:** Transmittal 14, Revision to the Federal Lands Highway (FLH) Project Development and Design Manual (PDDM)

Date: February 8, 2008

From: John R. Baxter, P.E.   
Associate Administrator for  
Office of Federal Lands Highway

In Reply Refer To: HFPD-3

To: Federal Lands Highway Division Engineers

**TRANSMITTAL No. 14**

This memorandum transmits the revised PDDM.

DELETE		ADD		DESCRIPTION
Page(s)	Dated	Page(s)	Dated	
Chapters 1 to 11	5/2005	Chapters 1 to 13	3/2008	Complete content revision to all chapters, new chapters on Pavements (Chapter 11) and Right-of-way (Chapter 12).

The WFLHD is adding this change to their web site copy of the PDDM located at <http://www.wfl.fhwa.dot.gov/design/manual/>.

The PDDM is approved for the FLH use through the Federal Lands Highway Office of Program Development. The PDDM has gone through a rigorous review and update by the Functional Discipline Leaders (FDL) and associated cross divisional teams.



The PDDM has been reviewed by the Divisions, certified by the FDLs, assured as valid by the FDL's respective supervising directors and recommended for approval by the Board of Directors.

The PDDM documents the FLH best practices and standards for project development and design to be followed both internally and by our A/E consultants.

The FLH has developed the 2008 PDDM to provide current policies and guidance for the interdisciplinary project development and design related activities performed by FLH Divisions and their consultants. It also serves as a guide for administrators, public officials and others, both within and outside FLH, who are responsible for advancing projects through the project development process.

Begin to explore and follow the manual at <http://www.wfl.fhwa.dot.gov/design/manual/>. Western Federal Lands is charged with maintaining the official link for the PDDM, however a link is provided through any of the Division's internet or intranet sites.

Directors and Branch Chiefs should discuss the PDDM with their staff and reinforce the manual as FLH's policy and guidance for project development and design.

If you have any question, please contact Mr. John Seabrook P.E., PMP, Design and Construction Operation Engineer at (202) 366-9490.

cc: FLH Directors, FLH Functional Discipline Leaders

## PREFACE

Federal Lands Highway (FLH) has developed the 2008 *Project Development and Design Manual (PDDM)* to provide current policies and guidance for the interdisciplinary project development and design related activities performed by FLH Divisions and their consultants. It also serves as a guide for administrators, public officials and others, both within and outside FLH, who are responsible for advancing projects through the project development process.

The purpose of the *PDDM* is to:

- Provide current policies, standards, criteria and guidance for development and design of FLH projects;
- Be easily accessed by internal and external participants in the project development process;
- Be user-friendly with useful navigation and search tools;
- Provide immediate access to approved external references; and
- Be frequently updated to maintain credibility.

A primary goal of the *PDDM* is clarifying what is expected for FLH projects and delivering an end product that meets these expectations. The previous edition of the manual has been converted from a policy/procedures hard copy format manual to a policy/best practices, interactive web-based document with electronic links. Most theory-specific procedures or recommended methods, including computer software, are included in the updated *PDDM* by reference only. This manual is not intended to be a technical “how to” instructional guide.

The *PDDM* is a complete PDF web-based document allowing faster downloading, clearer formatting, word searches through Adobe Acrobat and hypertext links to reference documents and technical information. The manual defines FLH policies, standards and standard practices, criteria, guidance and discretionary expectations for project development.

The FLH Functional Discipline Leaders and their respective teams prepared this edition of the *PDDM*, with assistance from engineering consultants. The FLH Functional Discipline Leaders wish to express their appreciation to all contributors who assisted in the development of this manual, specifically the contributions of the following:

- FLH Division Engineers and Directors,
- FLH Branch Chiefs,
- FLH Staff,
- Materials furnished by other State and Federal agencies,
- Research publications and materials furnished by the private sector,
- Consultants who contributed to the preparation, and
- Federal land management agency partners and other reviewers.

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