



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 16, Revision to the FLH Project Development and Design Manual (PDDM)

Date: December 29, 2014

From: Joyce A. Curtis 
Associate Administrator for
Office of Federal Lands Highway

In Reply Refer To:
HFPD-1

To: Federal Lands Highway Division Directors

TRANSMITTAL No. 16

This memorandum transmits the revised PDDM.

DELETE		ADD		DESCRIPTION
Page(s)	Dated	Page(s)	Dated	
Chapter 10	3/2008	Chapter 10	12/2014	Minor updates throughout, added Section 10.3.8 on Non-Destructive Evaluation.

The updated PDDM with these chapter changes can be accessed at the FLH website located at <http://flh.fhwa.dot.gov/resources/manuals/pddm/>.

If there are any questions, please contact Mr. Richard Seabrook, Design Champion, Office of Program Development, at (202) 366-9490.

cc: FLH Directors, FLH Discipline Champions

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PREFACE

Federal Lands Highway (FLH) has developed the *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 Discipline Champions and their respective teams prepared this edition of the *PDDM*, with assistance from engineering consultants. The FLH Discipline Champions 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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