




Memorandum

U.S. Department of
Transportation

Office of the Secretary
of Transportation
Office of Inspector General

Subject: INFORMATION: Audit Announcement -
FHWA Efforts To Improve Operational Efficiency
Project Number: 13M3003M000

Date: January 14, 2013

From: Joseph W. Comé 
Assistant Inspector General
for Highway and Transit Audits

Reply to
Attn. of: JA-40

To: Federal Highway Administrator

The Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) is responsible for overseeing about \$75.2 billion that will be provided to the States in fiscal years 2013 and 2014 for investments in infrastructure projects. FHWA's mission is to improve mobility on our Nation's highways. According to FHWA's strategic plan, its primary focus is on improving highway system performance, particularly its safety, reliability, effectiveness, and sustainability. To accomplish its mission and oversee States' use of Federal highway funds, FHWA has a workforce of about 3,000 staff distributed across headquarters, 52 State Division Offices, and other smaller field activities.

In recent years, Congress and the Administration have increased calls on Federal agencies to improve accountability in their operations and ensure efficient use of resources in a tight fiscal environment. In FHWA's current strategic plan, a primary goal is related to "corporate capacity"—ensuring organizational resources are optimally deployed to meet today's and tomorrow's missions. Therefore, we plan to review FHWA's efforts to improve operational efficiency. Our objective will be to assess the status of significant actions FHWA has taken or planned to ensure that agency resources are efficiently used to meet current and future missions as it relates to corporate capacity.

We plan to begin the audit in January and will coordinate with your audit liaisons to schedule an entrance conference. We will conduct our work at the Department and other related sites as needed. If I can answer any questions, please contact me at (202) 366-5630 or Wendy Harris, Program Director, at (202) 366-2794.

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cc: FHWA Audit Liaison, HAIM-13
DOT Audit Liaison, M-1