



# Memorandum

**U.S. Department of  
Transportation**

Office of the Secretary  
of Transportation  
Office of Inspector General

Subject: **INFORMATION:** Audit Announcement –  
Department of Transportation’s Implementation of  
MAP-21 Acceleration of Project Delivery  
Provisions  
Project No. 12M3007M000

Date: November 28, 2012

From: Calvin L. Scovel III  
Inspector General

Reply to  
Attn. of: J-1

To: Deputy Secretary  
Federal Highway Administrator  
Federal Transit Administrator

The Moving Ahead for Progress in the 21st Century Act (MAP-21),<sup>1</sup> enacted in July 2012, is the first long-term surface transportation authorization since 2005, providing \$105 billion for fiscal years 2013 and 2014. Subtitle C of MAP-21 contains key provisions to accelerate the delivery time of surface transportation projects and reduce costs. It directs the Department of Transportation (DOT) to identify and promote reforms that will reduce the time and money required to plan, design, and construct surface transportation projects. According to the Federal Highway Administration, complex federally funded highway projects can take approximately 13 years to complete, from planning through construction. MAP-21 also directs the Office of Inspector General to assess DOT’s efforts to carry out project delivery reforms and prepare an initial report in 2 years, culminating in a final report within 4 years of enactment.

To assess DOT’s project delivery reforms carried out under Subtitle C we plan to conduct a series of audits using a three-phase approach: (1) an immediate baseline scan of DOT’s planned actions, (2) a follow-up audit assessing the status of DOT’s reforms and any other key issues that warrant a detailed review, and (3) a final report assessing DOT’s progress in fully implementing MAP-21’s project delivery reforms.

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<sup>1</sup> Pub.L. 112-141.

Our objectives for Phase 1 are to (1) review the Department's plans to carry out provisions of MAP-21, Subtitle C; (2) assess the status of planned actions; and (3) identify significant challenges that could affect the Department's timely implementation of those plans.

We plan to begin the first phase immediately and will contact your audit liaison to schedule an entrance conference. We will develop specific audit objectives for the second and third review phases as our work progresses. If I can answer any questions or be of further assistance, please contact me at (202) 366-1959 or Joseph Com e, Assistant Inspector General for Highway and Transit Audits, at (202) 366-5630.

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cc: DOT Audit Liaison, M-1  
FHWA Audit Liaison, HAIM-13  
FTA Audit Liaison, TBP-30