



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



U.S. Department
of Transportation

**Federal Highway
Administration**

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PDDM MODIFICATION APPROVAL

Discipline: Project Management and Highway Design

Section / Subsection(s): Chapter 1, Subsection 1.1.3 Federal Lands Management of Risk, 1.1.5 Revisions and Updates, and various references and corrections throughout.

Reason for modification: Chapter 1 modifications includes updated risk guidance for R09 and R10, SHRP2, modification and approval process, and abbreviations and definitions related to 3D modeling.

Expected consequences: The updated Chapter will provide current and consistent guidance to all FLH staff.

Modification Text:

See PDDM Chapter 1 attached.

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ALAN T TEIKARI Digitally signed by ALAN T TEIKARI
DN: c=US, o=U.S. Government, ou=FHWA FHWAsterlingVA,
ou=DOT FHWAsterlingVA, cn=ALAN T TEIKARI
Date: 2017.11.16 15:02:38 -05'00'

FLH Discipline Champion

11/16/2017

Date

Approval: The above described modification(s) is approved for immediate implementation:

LAURIN R LINEMAN

Digitally signed by LAURIN R LINEMAN
DN: c=US, o=U.S. Government, ou=FHWA
FHWAsterlingVA, ou=DOT FHWAsterlingVA,
cn=LAURIN R LINEMAN
Date: 2018.02.08 14:52:32 -05'00'

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Date

CURTIS R SCOTT

Digitally signed by CURTIS R SCOTT
DN: c=US, o=U.S. Government, ou=DOT FHWA LakewoodCO,
ou=FHWA FHWA LakewoodCO, cn=CURTIS R SCOTT
Date: 2018.02.06 10:31:22 -07'00'

Director, CFL Office of Project Delivery

02/06/2018
Click to enter date.
Date

**EDWARD S
HAMMONTREE**

Digitally signed by EDWARD S HAMMONTREE
DN: c=US, o=U.S. Government, ou=FHWA
FHWA LakewoodCO, ou=DOT FHWA LakewoodCO,
cn=EDWARD S HAMMONTREE
Date: 2018.02.06 09:12:23 -08'00'

Director, WFL Office of Project Delivery

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Digitally signed by SCOTT T JOHNSON
DN: c=US, o=U.S. Government, ou=FHWAHQ, ou=DOT
Headquarters, cn=SCOTT T JOHNSON
Date: 2018.02.08 15:09:04 -05'00'

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Discipline: Design (Survey)

Section / Subsection(s): Chapter 5, Section 5.4.6

Reason for modification:

Added new Section 5.4.6 to describe the use of Unmanned Aircraft Systems (UAS) on FLH projects. Minor link updates made to rest of chapter.

Expected consequences:

The new section provides policy guidance for the use of UAS preparing FLH to take advantage of new technology.

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| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <u>Highway Design/Project Dev. Branch Chiefs</u> | <input type="checkbox"/> <u>Project Management Branch Chiefs</u> |
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**STEPHEN C
CHAPMAN**

FLH Discipline Champion

Digitally signed by STEPHEN C
CHAPMAN
Date: 2018.06.20 12:39:06 -07'00'

6/20/2018

Date

Approval: The above described modification(s) is approved for immediate implementation:

LAURIN R LINEMAN

Digitally signed by LAURIN R LINEMAN
DN: c=US, o=U.S. Government, ou=FHWA FHWAsterlingVA,
ou=DOT FHWAsterlingVA, cn=LAURIN R LINEMAN
Date: 2018.07.19 13:22:44 -04'00'

Chief of Engineering, Eastern Federal Lands

7/19/2018

Date

BRIAN M. KOZY

Digitally signed by BRIAN M. KOZY
Date: 2018.07.19 11:11:50 -06'00'

Chief of Engineering, Central Federal Lands

7/19/2018

Date

**EDWARD S
HAMMONTREE**

Digitally signed by EDWARD S
HAMMONTREE
Date: 2018.07.19 10:05:07 -07'00'

Chief of Engineering, Western Federal Lands

7/19/2018

Date

SCOTT T JOHNSON

Digitally signed by SCOTT T
JOHNSON
Date: 2018.07.19 14:09:37 -04'00'

Director, Office of Program Development

Date

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Discipline: Design

Section / Subsection(s): Chapter 12 – Right-of-Way and Utilities

Reason for modification: Chapter 12 has been updated to amend new program requirements; update technical references for regulations, manuals, websites, etc.; revise process flow charts; correct and clarify grammar and other miscellaneous revisions.

Expected consequences: The updated Chapter will provide current and consistent guidance to all Survey, Mapping Right-of-Way, Utilities and Highway Design staff.

Modification Text:

See PDDM Chapter 12, attached.

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ALAN T TEIKARI

Digitally signed by ALAN T TEIKARI
DN: c=US, o=U.S. Government, ou=FHWA FHWAsterlingVA,
ou=DOT FHWAsterlingVA, cn=ALAN T TEIKARI
Date: 2017.11.17 13:16:43 -05'00'

FLH Discipline Champion

11/17/2017

Date

Approval: The above described modification(s) is approved for immediate implementation:

LAURIN R LINEMAN

Digitally signed by LAURIN R LINEMAN
DN: c=US, o=U.S. Government, ou=FHWA
FHWASterlingVA, ou=DOT FHWASterlingVA, cn=LAURIN R
LINEMAN
Date: 2018.02.23 10:38:12 -05'00'

Chief of Engineering, Eastern Federal Lands

Click to enter date.
Date

**CURTIS R
SCOTT**

Digitally signed by CURTIS R SCOTT
DN: c=US, o=U.S. Government, ou=DOT
FHWALakewoodCO, ou=FHWA
FHWALakewoodCO, cn=CURTIS R SCOTT
Date: 2018.02.26 07:57:08 -07'00'

Chief of Engineering, Central Federal Lands

Click to enter date.
Date

**EDWARD S
HAMMONTREE**

Digitally signed by EDWARD S HAMMONTREE
DN: c=US, o=U.S. Government, ou=FHWA
FHWALakewoodCO, ou=DOT FHWALakewoodCO,
cn=EDWARD S HAMMONTREE
Date: 2018.02.23 07:57:00 -08'00'

Chief of Engineering, Western Federal Lands

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DN: c=US, o=U.S. Government, ou=FHWAHQ,
ou=DOT Headquarters, cn=SCOTT T JOHNSON
Date: 2018.02.26 08:48:22 -05'00'

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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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