Revised LAPM Chapter 12 - Plans, Specifications and Estimate (PS&E)

I. BACKGROUND

On September 30, 2012, the California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) began the use of its 2010 Caltrans Standard Specifications for all projects on the State Highway System (SHS). While its use on projects off the SHS is not mandatory for local agency projects, 2010 Caltrans Standard Specifications have been adopted by a number of local agencies for their projects.

For years, the Caltrans Division of Local Assistance has maintained a “boilerplate” for local agencies to use on their projects off the SHS. This “boilerplate” is regularly updated with changes to Caltrans Standard Specifications and Standard Special Provisions (SSP). In our attempt to update the “boilerplate” to match the changes affected by the adoption of 2010 Caltrans Standard Specifications, we also are aware that not all the local agencies have adopted the 2010 Caltrans Standard Specifications. Some local agencies still use the 2006 Caltrans Standard Specifications. Others use the “Standard Specifications for Public Works Construction” (“Greenbook”). In order to cover all the federal-aid projects regardless of standard specifications a local agency chooses to use, we have developed a new document called “Required Federal Contract Language”, as Local Assistance Procedures Manual (LAPM) Exhibit 12-G. This document contains all the contract provisions required by various federal regulations on federal-aid highway construction projects. For all local agency federal-aid highway construction projects, agencies are required to include the provisions contained in LAPM Exhibit 12-G in their contracts.

The purpose of this Office Bulletin is to introduce this new document “Required Federal Contract Provisions”, LAPM Exhibit 12-G. We are also making other updates to Chapter 12 Plans, Specifications and Estimate (PS&E) of the LAPM as outlined below.

The most significant changes are that LAPM Chapter 12, including Exhibit 12-D PS&E Checklist, has been updated:

- To be consistent with the new LAPM Exhibits 12-G Required Federal-aid Contract Language and 12-H Sample Bid;
- To be consistent with the “May 1, 2012 revised Form FHWA-1273 Required Contract Provisions for Federal-aid Contracts”; 
- To reflect National Highway System, functional classification, value engineering analysis, and other areas as a result of Moving Ahead for Progress in the 21st Century (MAP-21);
- To be consistent with the current Disadvantaged Business Enterprise (DBE) program requirements;

The update is extensive enough to re-issue Chapter 12 in its entirety.

II. POLICY

This change is effective August 12, 2013.

III. PROCEDURE

LAPM Chapter 12 Plans, Specifications and Estimate is replaced in its entirety. The revised chapter is attached to this Office Bulletin.
IV. APPLICABILITY/IMPACTS

Applicable to all local assistance funded infrastructure projects.

Recommended: ____________________________ 8/9/2013
Henry Wells, Committee Chair

Approved: ____________________________ 8/9/2013
Ray Zhang, Chief
Office of Policy Development and Quality Assurance

Attachment: LAPM Chapter 12 *Plans, Specifications and Estimate*