

Memorandum

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To: DEPUTY DISTRICT DIRECTORS, Construction
DEPUTY DIVISION CHIEF, Structure Construction
CONSTRUCTION MANAGERS
SENIOR CONSTRUCTION ENGINEERS
RESIDENT ENGINEERS

Date: June 24, 2021

File: Division of Construction
CPD 21-12



From: RAMON HOPKINS, Chief
Division of Construction

Subject: **FEDERAL HIGHWAY ADMINISTRATION RISK-BASED PROJECT INVOLVEMENT**

The Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) has notified the California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) of changes to their risk-based project involvement process as attached. These changes seek to more effectively utilize resources in assisting Caltrans and local public agencies in the efficient and effective delivery of the Federal-aid Program.

The revised risk-based project involvement will identify certain federal-aid projects for which FHWA's involvement will be defined and documented in project stewardship and oversight plans. Caltrans Construction staff must be aware of these customized project stewardship and oversight plans and adhere to their terms.

As part of changes to the risk-based project involvement process, all Projects of Division Interest (PoDIs) have been retired and this terminology will no longer be used. Affected sections in the *Construction Manual* will be revised accordingly in future manual changes.

The FHWA will also continue program assessment for threat and opportunity risks through programmatic inspections and compliance spot checks. While these reviews may be part of programmatic assessments, construction staff is reminded that individual project sanctions may result if issues are observed. As with any authorized audits or reviews, Construction staff is expected to fully assist and participate in such evaluations.

Construction staff administering federal-aid projects are reminded that the FHWA transportation engineers are a valuable resource to be consulted on federal-aid issues including potential reimbursement eligibility of change order work. Below is a link to FHWA's directory of project delivery transportation engineers by district/region:

<https://www.fhwa.dot.gov/cadiv/directory.cfm>

DEPUTY DISTRICT DIRECTORS, Construction et al.

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If you have questions or comments regarding this directive, contact Ken Darby, Division of Construction, at Ken.Darby@dot.ca.gov or (916) 764-6929.

Attachments:

1. Revision to FHWA Risk-Based Project Involvement