



COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY

Matthew G. Bevin
Governor

DESIGN MEMORANDUM NO. 02-16

TO: Project Development Managers
Location Engineers
Design Engineers
Design Consultants

FROM: William S. Gulick, P.E., P.L.S. 
Director
Division of Highway Design

DATE: February 29, 2016

SUBJECT: HD-400 Environmental Considerations
HD-500 Permits and Certifications
HD-600 Public Involvement

The rewrite of the KYTC Highway Design Manual is progressing. The proposed chapters, once completed, are being given to the Policy Support Branch, which oversees the development and administration of the Transportation Cabinet's policy guidance manual programs, for editing and formatting. They will also be responsible for officially publishing the new Highway Design Manual when it is complete.

The intent of this Design Memorandum is to release HD-400 "Environmental Considerations", HD-500 "Permits and Certifications", and HD-600 "Public Involvement".

HD-400 outlines the following topics related to environmental considerations and are key components of the project development process.

- Integration of environmental stewardship in the project development process
- Description of various environmental issues
- Description of documentation
- Permits and certifications required in project development



HD-500 provides information concerning Federal and state requirements of KYTC to obtain the appropriate permit and/or certification prior to construction. Permits are required for state and federally funded projects that involve waters of the United States (lakes, rivers, streams, or wetlands) in the Commonwealth of Kentucky. This chapter outlines these permits and certifications, as well as the responsibilities and accountability of the designer and project manager in the permit process. It is critical that the designer and project manager be aware of the types of waterways, potential impacts, and the permit process.

HD-600 provides guidance and procedures on public involvement during the development of a highway project. Public involvement is essential to the development of a project and should begin early in the process and be continuous throughout project development.

The schedule for implementation is as follows. Effective with this memorandum, policy and guidance in HD-400, HD-500 and HD-600 should be utilized for all new project starts or for existing projects that have not advanced beyond the Preliminary Line and Grade stage. Environmental and public involvement activities should reflect the new policy.

Projects that have advanced beyond Preliminary Line and Grade and have an approved environmental document, may continue to use the policy and guidance provided from the previous Highway Design Manual Chapters. However, it is allowable to use any of the information written in this release of HD-400, HD-500 and HD-600 as desired or deemed necessary by the Project Development Manager (PDM).

Effective with this memorandum the subject chapters listed above are released as official policy and guidance. These chapters can be found at the link below:

<http://transportation.ky.gov/Highway-Design/Pages/Highway-Design-Manual.aspx>

Any questions regarding this memorandum should be directed to the Division of Highway Design at (502)-564-3280.

WSG:RKC:jjf